

**The Standing Committee on Political Affairs of
the Asian Parliamentary Assembly
4th -7th July, 2011
Seoul, Republic of Korea**

(Address of **Honorable Asso. Prof. Tassana Boontong, Leader of the Thai Delegation**, during the session 2 of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly – APA)

Honorable Mr. Kim Sung Gon, Chairperson of the APA
Standing Committee on Political Affairs
Honorable Mr. Mohammad H. Nejad-Hosseinian, Secretary
General of the APA
Distinguished Delegates,
Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my great honor and very pleasure to be here with all of your honorables and to represent the Thai delegation at the APA Standing Committee on Political Affairs.

First of all, I would like to thank His Honorable Mr. Kim Sung Gon for your remarkable role as the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Political Affairs, concurrently, I would like to congratulate to Your Honorable Mohammad H. Nejad-Hosseinian, Secretary General of the APA for his devotion and his great work to the organization.

On behalf of the Thai Delegation, I would like to thank the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea for the warm welcome, hospitality and generous gesture extended to all of us since our arrival in Seoul.

From November 2006 the APA has developed itself to be one of the most significant inter-parliamentary organizations in Asia. And with harmony and concord attempt of the APA member countries, I strongly believe that the APA will be able to achieve its principles, goals, and objectives to enhance understanding and strengthen great cooperation for each and every one of us as well as enhancing the organization networks and alliances to the inter-parliamentary organizations.

Mr. Chairperson,
Honorable,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

For four years, we have assembled in Tehran, Jakarta, Bandung and Damascus to share our views and experiences on the important subjects for Asia in every aspect and produce significant outcomes to play its role in the affairs of the region and its people, for instance, energy, alleviating poverty, environmental issues, combating corruption, protecting and respecting cultural diversity and how to cope with the challenges and opportunities of globalization. Even we, so far, have shared our common concerns on global and regional issues but there are some challenging questions about how we, the APA, could more effectively serve our region and how the APA could remain a dynamic inter-parliamentary organization and connect to parliaments and peoples of the region. Simply, the answer is to increase our parliamentary capabilities to offer a better future for the region and effectively respond to each and every matter of our interests and common concerns. Therefore, one of the channels to achieve the APA goals and common concerns is to make the organizations' alliances in every level of cooperation; sub-regional, regional and international organization. In this regard, as one of the member countries, the Asia-Pacific Parliamentarians Union (APPU) is suggested to be the network of the APA. As well as the objectives of the Association of Asian Parliaments for Peace (AAPP) or APA nowadays, the APPU was founded in 1965

under the concept of peace, stability and prosperity of the Asian people, there is tension and strife in Asia and many are suffering from poverty and disease.

By the same objective for the people, APA and APPU can work closely to each other by exchanging their experiences and point of views. I further believe that the outcome from the cooperation between APA and APPU will provide opportunities for all of us to integrate parliamentary approach and close cooperation among the Asian countries and Asia Pacific countries carry forward the principles of the APA which is for the region and its people.

Mr. Chairperson,
Honorable,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In conclusion, on behalf of the Thai Delegation, I do believe that this is the time for all of the APA Members to carefully and seriously think about how to make the channel for enhancing cooperation and exalting the cooperation with the inter-parliamentary organization like APPU because that will be the way to strengthen the role of the APA in the region and to continue improving its institutional structure.

Thank you for your kind attention.
