

The Second Meeting of the Executive Council of the Asian Parliamentary
Assembly
Saturday, 17 November 2007, Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran

(Address of **Honorable General Charan Kullavanijaya**, the First Vice President of the National Legislative Assembly of the Kingdom of Thailand, during the Plenary Session of the Second Meeting of the Executive Council of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly - APA)

Your Excellency Aboutbari Fard, Deputy Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Iran and President of the Executive Council of APA,
Distinguished Delegates,
Friends,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Thai Delegation, I would like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Islamic Consultative Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to all of us since our arrival in your great city of Tehran. My thanks go especially and personally to Your Excellency Aboutorabi Fard for your very kind and generous gesture.

In September, 2 months ago, we assembled here in Tehran to share our views on the important subjects for Asia and APA. Today, we return here again to improve their draft plans of actions for final adoptions by the second plenary session of the APA General Assembly. With close scrutinies by APA Members, I strongly believe that we will produce enabling plans of actions for APA to play its role in the affairs of Asia.

I further believe that these plans of action will provide opportunities for all of us to carry forward the principles of the APA and foster an integrated parliamentary approach for Asia. We, so far, have shared our common concerns on global and regional issues. We also have listened to your exposes earlier this morning. Nevertheless, there is a challenging question about how the APA could operate more effectively and remains a dynamic inter-parliamentary organization serving Asia and connecting to the parliaments and the peoples of the region. The answer is to increase our

parliamentary capabilities to offer a better future for our region and effectively respond to matters of our common concerns and interests.

Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Friends,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thailand will contribute positively for the success of the Executive Council meeting and the General Assembly. Significantly, Thailand's presence here reaffirms our commitment to the principles, goals and objectives, and processes of the APA. Thailand will support the passages of the various draft plans of actions at this General Assembly. With these in mind, I sincerely believe that APA will continue to grow and the role of APA in Asia shall be further enhanced.

Lastly, this is for your information, I would like to inform you that Thailand will hold a general election on for the Member of Parliaments on 23 December. The newly elected parliament shall take office in January next year. Election for Senators will also take place 60 days later that is before March. By early March, our bicameral Assembly could play their role of responsibility. I wish all successes for this meeting and the General Assembly.

Thank you for your attention.