



# Asia-Europe Meeting 11

**20 YEARS OF ASEM | ULAANBAATAR 2016**

**9<sup>TH</sup> ASIA-EUROPE**

**PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP (ASEP9) MEETING**

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

21-22 April 2016

**SUMMARY REPORT**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Agenda	p.2
- Programme	p.3-5
- Summary Report	p.6-19
- Annex:	
• Opening Speech by H.E. Mr.Zandaakhuu Enkhbold, Chairman of the State Great Hural of Mongolia	p.20-22
• Welcoming Speech by H.E. Mr.Tsakhia Elbegdorj, President of Mongolia	p.23-26
• Speech by H.E. Mr.Pietro Grasso, President of Senate, Italy, President of ASEP 8	p.27-30
• Closing Speech by H.E. Mr.Zandaakhuu Enkhbold, Chairman of the State Great Hural of Mongolia	p.31-32
• Report of the Rapporteur of Panel 1	p.33-35
• Report of the Rapporteur of Panel 2	p.36-39
• Declaration	p.40-48
• List of Participants	p.49-58



## **THE 9<sup>th</sup> ASIA-EUROPE PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP (ASEP9) MEETING**

*Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia*

*21-22 April 2016*

### **AGENDA**

#### **"THE ROLE OF ASIA-EUROPE PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP IN ASEM"**

- Adoption of the Agenda
- Introduction of the Meeting Officers
- Theme for Panel Discussion 1: *"Connectivity and Effective Multilateralism"*
- Theme for Panel Discussion 2: *"Partnership for the Future"*
- Reports from Panel Discussions 1 and 2
- Plenary Discussion of Reports from Panel Discussions 1 and 2
- Adoption of the Declaration of the 9<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership



**THE 9<sup>th</sup> ASIA-EUROPE PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP (ASEP9) MEETING**  
*Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia*  
*21-23 April, 2016*

PROGRAMME

**Thursday, April 21**

Arrival in Ulaanbaatar

12:00-18:00 Registration /at Shangri-La, Blue sky, Best Western Tuushin, and Ulaanbaatar hotels/

15:30 Preparatory Meeting

Venue: “Commander D.Sukhbaatar” Hall, State Palace

- discussion of the agenda
- election of the meetings officers
- organization of proceedings

16:30 Meeting of the Drafting Committee on the Declaration of the 9<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting

Venue: “Commander D.Sukhbaatar” Hall, State Palace

19:00 Welcoming dinner hosted by H.E. Mr. Radnaasumberel Gonchigdorj, Vice-Chairman of the State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia, Chairman of the Executive Committee of Mongolian Parliamentary Group

Venue: “Bayangol” restaurant

21:00 Departure to hotels

**Friday, April 22**

08:00 Registration

**09:00 Inaugural ceremony**

Venue: Grand Hall, State Palace

-Opening address by H.E. Mr. Zandaakhuu Enkhbold, Chairman of the State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia, President of the ASEP9 meeting

-Address by H.E. Mr. Tsakhia Elbegdorj, President of Mongolia

-Address by H.E. Mr. Pietro Grasso, President of Senate of the Italian Republic, President of the ASEP8 Meeting

**First Plenary session**

-Adoption of the Agenda

-Introductions of Chairs and Co-Chairs of sessions and panel discussions

*Group photo of the participating parliamentarians of the ASEP9 Meeting*

10:00 Coffee break

**10:30 Panel Discussion I: Connectivity and Effective Multilateralism**

Venue: Grand Hall, State Palace

-Presentation by keynote speakers

-Presentations by other speakers

-Discussion

**10:30 Panel Discussion II: Partnership for the Future**

Venue: "Commander D.Sukhbaatar" Hall, State Palace

-Presentation by keynote speakers

-Presentations by other speakers

-Discussion

13:00 Buffet lunch

Venue: Dining Hall on 4<sup>th</sup> floor, State Palace

**14:30 Second Plenary Session**

Venue: Grand Hall, State Palace

-Report of Panel Discussion I

-Report of Panel Discussion II

- Discussion
- 16:00 Coffee break
- 16:30 State** **Report of Drafting Committee presented by Chair Ms. S.Oyun, a member of the Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia**
- Adoption of the ASEP9 Meeting Declaration**
- Closing ceremony**
- Closing remarks by H.E. Mr. Zandaakhuu Enkhbold, Chairman of the State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia, President of the ASEP9 Meeting
- Briefing by H.E. Mr. Zandaakhuu Enkhbold, Chairman of the State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia, President of the ASEP9 Meeting, to the press
- 17:30 Departure to the hotels
- 18:30 Departure to the “Corporate Hotel and Convention Centre”
- 19:00 Official dinner hosted by H.E. Mr. Zandaakhuu Enkhbold, Chairman of the State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia, President of the ASEP9 Meeting
- Venue: “Corporate Hotel and Convention Centre”*
- 21:00 Departure to hotels
- Saturday, April 23**
- 10:00 Visit the “Gobi” cashmere factory
- 12:00 Departure to “Chingis Khuree” tourist camp
- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:30 Free time  
- Horse riding  
- Archery
- 15:30 Departure to hotels
- 18:00-19:30 **Gala concert dedicated to the ASEP9 Meeting participants**
- Venue: State Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet*
- Dinner **Diplomatic representatives of the respective countries reserve times after the Gala Concert**
- Sunday, April 24**

## **SUMMARY REPORT**

1. The Ninth Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting /ASEP 9/ was held on 21-22 April, 2016 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia under the theme “The Role of Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership in ASEM”.
2. The Meeting was attended by Parliamentarians from the following ASEM partners: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, ROK, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Russian Federation, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom and Vietnam as well as the European Parliament. The delegation of the Asia-Europe Foundation participated in the Meeting as a guest of the Host Parliament.
3. The Meeting was opened and chaired by H.E. Mr. Enkhbold Zandaakhuu, Chairman of the State Great Hural of Mongolia. In his opening statement H.E. Mr. Z. Enkhbold extended greetings to all the delegates and welcomed them in Mongolia. He noted that the ASEP9 will set the tone for the series of fora under the umbrella of the ASEM Summit to be organized in Ulaanbaatar in July this year. The Chairman underlined the increasing economic, cultural and social ties between Asia and Europe that had started 800 years ago. He said that ASEP9 will have an opportunity to review its achievements in the last 20 years and plan for the next 10 years. He stressed that the concept of connectivity between Asia and Europe involves not only “hard” links, such as infrastructure, railways, roads and airways, but also the “soft” linkages such as cultural, intellectual and educational exchanges between the people of the ASEM countries. Mr. Enkhbold also noted that promoting and expanding trade, economic exchanges and investment between the two continents had

been neglected in the past few years and therefore, dialogue and cooperation in this area needed to be intensified.

4. The Meeting was addressed by President of Mongolia Mr. Tsakhia Elbegdorj. H.E. Mr. Elbegdorj noted that ASEM was the most important mechanism of dialogue between Asia and Europe for three reasons. First, ASEM covers over 100 issues. No other international forum covers such a wide range of issues. Second, ASEM gathers not only the governments but also the people of Europe and Asia. As the legitimate representatives of the people, Parliaments are on forefront of Asia-Europe cooperation. Third, Europe and Asia together account for 58 per cent of the world population and 63 per cent of the global economy. Therefore, these two continents' common understanding on the most pressing global issues plays a critical role in international peace and prosperity.

The President noted that this year's meetings mark the 20th anniversary of ASEM, allowing an opportunity to take stock of ASEM's work over the past 20 years, discuss the future direction of ASEM and come up with a visionary guide for its future work. He noted that there was also a historic reason why the Mongolian people attached particular importance to hosting ASEM. This year marks the 810th anniversary of the establishment of Mongolian statehood, the largest contiguous empire in history known for its respect for peace, people's well-being, freedom of religion and freedom of trade. Just like 800 years ago, Mongolia is located at the intersection of Asia and Europe. 800 years ago, state people, envoys, diplomats, as well as merchants, craftspeople, architects and artists from all parts of the world gathered in Karakorum, the capital of the Mongol Empire. The Mongolian people are proud to be reviving this tradition today, after 800 years.

In his opening speech, H.E. Mr. Elbegdorj Tsakhia put forward the following two specific initiatives:

- Focusing more within ASEM on the following three issues which have not received much coverage so far: the rule of law and fight

against corruption (as bad governance accounts for failures in emerging societies); women's rights which must be promoted by all public institutions; and business start-ups, the latest trend in international business, which carry particular importance for promoting youth employment.

- Establishing an ASEM Centre in Ulaanbaatar in order to share the good practices of the previous ASEM Chairs, assist the future Chairs and thereby ensure ASEM's continuity.

5. The Meeting was also addressed by H.E. Mr. Pietro Grasso, President of Senate of the Italian Republic, President of the ASEP8 Meeting, who shared the experiences of the previous meeting and elaborated on the future course of ASEP. He said that parliaments can lead the way towards more effective mediation between governments and elements of civil society, they can represent the interests of minorities and vulnerable groups. He also stressed that now was the time to give new momentum to Asia-Europe partnership, in the spirit of building a common future based on the shared past which has given rise to the greatest civilizations of the world. And it is a case in point that this should start in Mongolia, a country with a great history committed to a renewed international role.
6. The 1<sup>st</sup> plenary session adopted by consensus the Agenda and some procedural decisions, including election of the officers, previously approved at the preparatory meeting.
7. Panel I was held under the theme "Connectivity and Effective Multilateralism". The panel was chaired by Mrs. Oyun Sanjaasuren, MP, Mongolia and co-chaired by Ms. Maria Koc, Deputy Senate Marshal, Poland. A keynote speech was made by Mr. Bold Luvsanvandan, MP, Mongolia and Mr. Fadli Zon, Vice-Speaker of the House of Representatives, Indonesia. The representatives of China, Norway, Cyprus, Hungary, the Lao PDR, India,

Belgium, the Philippines, Spain, Vietnam, Japan and Thailand made contributions to the panel discussion and expressed their views.

- Mongolia's keynote speaker gave a speech entitled "Youth are the bridge to connect Asia and Europe". Aside from hard connectivity, which entails infrastructure, road and economy, the soft connectivity, which includes education, tourism and cultural exchange, is vital. Youth are the connectors of our regions. Therefore, we should encourage education for the youth. As discussed recently, application of youth-quotas in the parliament, opening of political parties for the young people should become areas of cooperation. He appealed to delegates to adopt the concept of e-governance, to establish a working group for empowering youths.
- Indonesia's keynote speaker said "There is an urgent need for inter-regional policies aimed at enhancing the mobility for the poor. Subsequently, Asia and Europe should address imbalances in the international trade system by supporting the establishment of a factual fair trade regime; and the formulation of policies that ensure the participation of the poor in the global supply chain and the formulation of income distribution policy to address the ongoing inequality." The speaker also invited all governments of ASEM partners to the 4th Transport Ministers' Meeting in 2017, which will be hosted by the Government of Indonesia.
- Indonesian second delegate said "Connectivity, both in land infrastructure development and maritime infrastructure development, is critical in narrowing the gap between Europe and Asia. Indonesia is committed to improve its competitiveness, and is improving its inter-island connectivity since rural populations must have access to physical, economic, and people-to-people connectivity. We encourage the developed countries to increase aid assistance, especially in better rule of law to mitigate corruption in developing countries. We call

ASEAN and EU to deny tax safe havens and provide legal assistance, supporting the role of SMEs in the global supply chain.”

- Chinese delegate said “In order to improve development through connectivity, the following must be done. Firstly, top level policy design and macro policy dialogue are a must. Secondly, infrastructure construction must be enhanced in land, maritime and air channels of Eurasia. Thirdly, world trade volume must offer open trade opportunity. Fourthly, innovation in financing and incubating must be improved. Fifthly, people to people exchanges must be improved with scientific and cultural education of think tanks, media and social entities. China always actively participated and contributed to stability and prosperity, e.g. through Belt and Road initiative. We look forward to partner with more countries in Eurasia to further connectivity.
- Norwegian first delegate said “Solving of maritime issues in draft declaration’s security component has been a showcase of what constructive parliamentarians can achieve. Sustainable Development Goals and Climate Change Summit (COP21) were successful as it conducted online and offline engagement and contribution of civil societies and scientists. This empowers parliamentarians to work together to make inclusive agendas, ending poverty, hunger, gender inequality, and climate change.
- Norwegian second delegate said “Economic growth is crucial, but must be sustainable and inclusive. Inclusiveness, for both social and gender equality. Additionally, women’s participation in labor markets is important for increased productivity, economic growth and development in our societies. Moreover, inclusion of women in labor force demands good family policies. Countries that promote equality and inclusiveness can achieve an increased and more innovative production.
- Cyprus’ delegate said “Challenges for Asia-Europe include obstacles in increased connectivity, maritime, land and air communication. Cyprus,

as an island between three continents, fully supports all projects - particularly, the Chinese One Belt, One Road project. Cyprus, having one of the largest fleet in EU, and 10<sup>th</sup> in the world, lies at the heart of silk maritime road. Cyprus is committed to long-term connectivity, e.g. we're proud to welcome increasing students from Asia and Europe, and investors bringing catalyst know-how and competitiveness. Global asymmetric challenges recognize no borders and no one country can stand on its own alone. In order to prevent from terrorist attacks, new bridges in security must be enforced under the promotion of cooperation between Europe and Asia.”

- Hungarian delegate said “Irregular migration puts a huge pressure on the European and Asian communities and we should cooperate more closely to jointly tackle root causes. He emphasized on the sustainable development as reducing non-traditional security challenges.”
- Laos said “LPDR attaches great importance to consistent foreign policy and the implementation of the five-year plan for 2015-2020. Laos adheres to vision of connectivity, including people to people connectivity and innovation. Global challenges such as climate change, natural disaster, terrorism and human trafficking have weakened stability. A country alone is incapable of solving, therefore , there is a need for cooperation of Asia and Europe. Let's start with sharing best practices. Lao government is focusing on both multilateral and bilateral cooperation.
- Indian representative said “Connectivity must not only mean geography, but also connectivity of institutions, systems and people-to-people linkages.
- Representative from the Philippines said that in order for ASEM to remain relevant, ASEM partners must strengthen ASEM's political pillar. ASEM needs to be prepared to discuss difficult and complex issues, particularly affecting peace and stability. These issues, if left unattended, may soon threaten the peace and stability that we enjoy

and consequently bring uncertainties to the economic and security environments.

- Belgian delegate said “there is a need for more effective multilateralism. We must raise awareness of ASEM. First, importance should be given to the marketing of the ASEM outcome. Second, to political and general education . Third, to parliamentary diplomacy. When governments have ideas of making agreements, there is very often lack of capacity to make mandates. Importance should be given to issues related to involving youth and also elder people in the labor market. First, decent work. Second, clean clothing initiatives. Customers are informed of deal for the clothes having been made in Asia. Another theme is cyber security. Governments can't handle alone, citizens can help. Ethical hacking. Diversity bridges, how to understand each other. Also about trust. Huge amounts of offshore tax evasion. Honest enterprises are vital.
- Representative of Vietnam said “Vietnam has followed the rule in Southeast Asia. Vietnam finalized FTA with EU. Vietnam proposes the following: 1. Support ASEM infrastructure, people 2. Regional and sub-regional connectivity, including Mekong. 3. Promote educational cooperation, tourist exchange, gender equality, more equal democracy. 4. Increased connectivity is needed for right law.
- Japan’s delegate said “Japan suffered a series of earthquakes and in this connection expressed gratitude for assistance received so far. He highlighted the importance of increasing connectivity. Multilateral trade system centering on WTO is important. Ongoing regional endeavors can create more job opportunities. It is important to create circles and activate physical infrastructure improvement. Japan is making effort to strengthen the harmonization. In order to connect, it is necessary to promote understanding of culture, to expand this circle of connectivity in Asia -Europe. Creation of new silk road makes new stability but still few issues like weapons, DPRK’s weapon is a destabilizing factor. UN

Security Council condemned but the DPRK still continuing. Malaysia, Singapore, Japan focus on human abduction issues and human rights violations in DPRK.

- Thailand's representative said "1. Asia and Europe make economic space. Asia has major resources. Europe has technology that can improve productivity. Combined, we can improve global food security. Thailand supports growth of food production. Thailand is committed to improving connectivity.
  - Spain's delegate said " Democracy is the best system. Democratic system is indeed more peaceful and safe. In Spain we welcome the democratic election of Myanmar. Let me preserve the idea that international peace and security is a must for multilateral system. International communities face many challenges. Therefore, efficient global and international mechanism continue to be the key tool to manage this paradox. United Nations remains to be the key stakeholder for this. One step was MDG. MDG was less successful. SDG includes areas of inequality, governance, environmental sustainability. As members of parliament, we must focus on environmental protection. We shall focus on global public goods. Climate change, we should consider causes and effects. UN and its framework convention and Kyoto protocol of renewable energies must be used. Paris agreement and SDG Agenda 2030 are complimentary. We must never forget that the future of our descendants' security is safe.
8. Panel II was held under the theme "Partnership for the Future". It was co-chaired by Mr. Nyamaagiin Enkhbold, MP, Mongolia, and Mr. Istvan Hiller, Deputy Speaker, National Assembly of Hungary. A keynote speech was delivered by Mr. Terbishdagva Dendev, MP, Mongolia, and Mr. R. Szarnecki, MP of the European Parliament. The representatives of Mongolia, China, Norway, Pakistan, Indonesia, Hungary, Italy, India, Japan, Russia and

Thailand made contributions to the panel discussion and expressed their views.

- Representative of China recognized the importance of ASEM and reiterated the important role ASEM plays in promoting a platform for candid discussion and dialogue between Parliamentarians. Noting the need to strengthen the Parliamentary dimension of ASEM, Chinese colleagues proposed to leverage the role of ASEP by:
  - ❖ Promoting the sense of community and shared future between Asia and Europe
  - ❖ Activating practical cooperation through a balanced approach to ASEM three pillars
  - ❖ Building bridges for people-to-people and cultural exchanges and enhancing affinity between the people by respecting the great diversity
  - ❖ Advancing exchange and communication between Parliamentarians and strengthening linkage between the Parliaments and the people
- Delegate of the European Parliament highlighted that the scale and scope of issues that ASEM addresses have dramatically increased and expanded consistent with the time. Determined to strengthen the Parliamentary dimension of ASEM and deepen the areas of parliamentary cooperation, the European Parliament proposed a mechanism (a Standing Committee or Steering Committee or a Troika) in order to ensure continuity of monitoring and scrutiny of ministerial activities and to widen mutual networking and knowledge-sharing between the stakeholders.
- Representative of Thailand recognized the importance of ASEM in encouraging cooperation and mutual understanding between the peoples of Asia and Europe. Reflecting on the 20 years of ASEM and ASEP, Thai delegate reiterated the importance of encouraging informal contacts and cooperation between the ASEM Partners and emphasized the need to translate proceedings from ASEM into tangible outcomes. He recognized

the role of ASEP in turning ASEM dialogue into policies, laws, and regulation consistent with the commonly accepted policies and development goals and underscored the advisory and supporting function that ASEP can provide to the ASEM.

- Pakistan's delegate emphasized that trade and investment is crucial for Asia-Europe connectivity and cooperation and thereby proposed to take systematic steps towards revitalizing ASEM's economic pillar. He stressed the significance of inter-parliamentary cooperation and dialogue that is needed to mainstream connectivity in all areas of economic and social development and stated that multi-faceted constructive engagement with the European Union and European Parliament was one of the key Pakistan's foreign policy objectives.
- Representative of Norway expressed support for increasing connectivity and forging stronger partnership between the two regions through maritime and marine sectors. In this light, Norwegian delegate noted the importance of marine sustainability, maritime security and stability, and safe and free navigation at sea in compliance with international law. Recognizing the trade potential of the two regions, Norwegian delegate reaffirmed the importance of marine trade and services in a sustainable manner.
- Representative of Indonesia expressed their support of optimum utilization of cooperation scheme initiated by both ASEM and ASEP to increase connectivity through trade facilitation, unencumbered flow of investment, and participation of the private sector. Recognizing the wide economic opportunities of globalization, he expressed concern for "negative" aspects of globalization such as human trafficking, drug trafficking, international migration and other issues of common concern. Indonesian delegate reiterated the importance of law and policy harmonization

between Asia and Europe in order to ensure sustainable economic growth.

- Recognizing the active part Hungary has played within the ASEP framework, Hungarian representative commended the unique role of ASEP as a bridge between civil societies and people in Asia and Europe along the three pillars of ASEM. He acknowledged the significance of dialogue and cooperation among ASEP Parliaments which are well supported by the exchange of best practices on parliamentary procedures, functions and administrative set-up in the form of capacity-building projects. He emphasized the significance of developing further capacity-building programs and held the view that more day-to-day connections between ASEP Parliamentarians would result in deeper cooperation and mutual understanding among the people.
- Italian representative underscored the importance of the principles of inclusiveness, gender equality, and women's empowerment and expressed support for gender-mainstreaming. She noted the importance of fostering socio-cultural exchanges between the two continents in the areas of health care, employment, environmental, scientific and technological development. She expressed concern over regional conflicts and radicalization, and underlined the need for broader international cooperation and promoting dialogue in diversity.
- Indian delegate emphasized the need to translate the proceedings of ASEM dialogues into tangible outcomes and, in this regard, highlighted the areas of cooperation. Recognizing the socio-economic potential of the two regions, Indian delegate called for exploring the synergistic compatibility between the engines of growth in emerging markets, the human resource potential of Asia and the industrial and technological capabilities of Europe. Further, he emphasized that India approaches

connectivity in its broadest interpretation, and called for strengthening both the "soft" and "hard" linkages.

- Japanese delegate encouraged further development of socio-economic cooperation among ASEM partners on "disaster prevention". He underlined the significance of strengthening the resilience through sharing knowledge, promoting cooperation on a broad and people-centered approach to disaster prevention, disaster mitigation, preparedness, relief, recovery and rehabilitation, including through awareness programs, early warning systems, capacity-building and the promotion of innovation and technology.
- Russia's representative stressed the importance of preserving ASEM's informality and, at the same time, strengthening connectivity and practical cooperation. He highlighted the need to bolster the security in Asia and Europe in the face of issues of common concern and called for a security architecture that would account for equal partnership and harmony of interests. Citing the dynamic and multipolar centers of influence in the Asia-Pacific region, he emphasized the need for universal rules in the anti-crisis resolution in the said region. Within the ASEM framework, Russian delegate emphasized Russia's active participation in the transportation and education areas and foresaw a great potential for cooperation in these fields.
- Recognizing the importance of the Asia-Pacific region, Spanish representative commended the role Spanish Parliamentarians and the Government have played in raising domestic profile of the said region and promoting connectivity between the two continents. She reiterated the importance of inclusivity in the ASEM and thereby highlighted the need to promote relations in a wide variety of fields, sectors, and to encourage participation of various stakeholders.

- Reflecting on the challenges of common concern, Vietnamese delegate reaffirmed the importance of maritime security and freedom of navigation in the Southeast Asia in accordance with international law and conventions. Recognizing the need to strengthen the Parliamentary dimension of ASEM, Vietnamese representative reaffirmed commitment to furthering connectivity and openness to collaboration.
  - Swiss delegate expressed concern over the role of Parliamentarians in the international forums, including ASEM and emphasized that ASEM is not a platform for discussing regional conflicts. In this regard, Swiss representative expressed dissatisfaction with the ASEP9 declaration. Further, he underscored ASEP should remain as an informal dialogue.
  - Delegate of Croatia reiterated the importance of the rule of governance, anti-corruption legislature and policies in relation to irregular migration.
9. The 2<sup>nd</sup> plenary session discussed and approved the reports of Panel I and Panel II submitted by Rapporteurs Mrs. Sylvi Graham, MP, Norway and Mrs. Batchimeg Miggendorj , MP, Mongolia. Delegates from Mongolia, European Parliament and India took the floor and expressed their position.
10. At the 2<sup>nd</sup> plenary session Mrs. S.Oyun, Chair of the Drafting Committee, made introductory remarks on the proceedings of the Committee that took place on 21 April and informed the meeting that the Committee agreed the text of the draft Declaration and asked the delegates to approve it by acclamation. Representatives of China, Russia, Pakistan and Switzerland expressed their position regarding the draft Declaration. Referring to paragraph 14 of the draft text, representative of China stated that human rights and abduction issues are different from the nuclear and missile development of DPRK and should not be included in that paragraph and that

paragraph should not be deemed as the consensus of delegates of the meeting. The Chinese motion was supported by the Russian Federation and Pakistan. The Russian representative also informed about the First Consultative Meeting of Speakers of Eurasian Parliaments held in Moscow in April, 2016.

11. The plenary session discussed and adopted by acclamation the ASEP 9 Declaration, recommended by the Drafting Committee on 21 April 2016 with taking note of the positions of China and Russian Federation regarding paragraph 14 of the Declaration. It was decided that their positions would be duly reflected in the Summary Report.
12. H.E. Mr. Enkhbold Zandaakhuu, Chairman of the State Great Hural of Mongolia, President of the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEP Meeting, delivered closing remarks. He noted that the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEP Meeting in Ulaanbaatar was successful thanks to the active participation and efforts by the parliamentarians. He highlighted the adoption of the Declaration of the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEP Meeting, which he will submit to the 11<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Summit in his capacity as Chair of the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEP meeting. Mr. Z. Enkhbold declared the meeting closed.

**OPENING REMARKS BY MR. ZANDAAKHUU ENKHBOLD, CHAIRMAN OF THE  
STATE GREAT HURAL OF MONGOLIA, AT THE 9<sup>TH</sup> ASIA-EUROPE  
PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP MEETING**

2016.04.22

Ulaanbaatar

Your Excellency the President of Mongolia,  
Your Excellency Sen. Pietro Grasso, the President of the Senate of the Republic of Italy  
Dear members of parliaments and delegates,  
Dear members of Parliament of Mongolia,

Ladies and gentlemen,

The 9<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting is hosted by Mongolia, a country that has been a bridge between Asia and Europe in the past and in today's globalizing world. On behalf of the State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia, and personally, I extend my sincere gratitude and welcome you to our country. This meeting is very special because it is launching and setting a tone for the series of forums under the umbrella of ASEM Summit to be organized in Ulaanbaatar in July this year.

The first Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership (ASEP) Meeting held in 1996 in Paris, shortly after the first ASEM Summit held in Thailand in March 1996. This was the starting point when the parliamentarians of Asia and Europe joined efforts for strengthening the multi-dimensional partnership. And this was a willingness of the peoples of Asia and Europe to contribute to the ASEM cooperation.

In the past 20 years, the economic, social and cultural ties between Asia and Europe have expanded significantly, and the Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership has made actual contributions to these developments.

Since joining the ASEM in 2008 during the 7<sup>th</sup> summit in Beijing, Mongolia has been making efforts to contribute to the dialogue and collaboration between the parliaments of ASEM partner countries and European parliament.

Today, Asia-Europe Meeting process has become a platform for informal dialogues which play a vital role in the world and for the cooperation of our two continents.

The Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting is an inseparable part of the cooperation of our two continents. We have gathered here in Ulaanbaatar for the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting under the theme of "The role of Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership in ASEM" to discuss many crucial issues such as terrorism, climate change, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, disaster prevention and management, energy security, and migrant crisis.

At the 9<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting we will have the opportunity to review its achievements in the last 20 years and plan for the next 10 years and I believe that we will have a comprehensive, meaningful and fruitful dialogue based on our common interests and shared goals.

We acknowledge that the concept of connectivity between Asia and Europe involves not only “hard” links such as infrastructure meaning railways, auto-roads and airways, but also the “soft” linkages such as cultural, intellectual and educational exchanges between the people of the ASEM countries. Mongolia is eager to make contributions on its own to strengthening of connectivity between Asia and Europe.

Promoting and expanding trade, economic exchanges and investment between the two continents is one of the main objectives of ASEM. We agree that in the past few years this sector of collaboration has been neglected, therefore we need to intensify our dialogue and cooperation on the aspect.

Distinguished guests,

The Great State Khural (Parliament) of Mongolia is keen to develop productive dialogue and collaboration with the legislative bodies of the other countries and contribute to the activities of regional and international parliamentary organisations.

I am pleased to state the parliamentary democracy has been firmly established in Mongolia.

In an exceptionally short period of its history, Mongolia was able to affirm the rights of its citizens to elect and be elected. Just last year we celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of permanently functioning parliament in Mongolia. Now we are moving ahead side by side with the countries that have long history and experience of elective democracy.

Mongolia is the youngest member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, institution that facilitated dialogue between 57 parliaments of the world. We have successfully hosted the 2015 Autumn Meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Ulaanbaatar.

This time, we are happy and honored to host the prestigious 9<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting in Mongolia. Over 170 representatives of 32 partner countries and the European Parliament are taking part in this forum.

The result of this meeting, in accordance with the ASEP Rules of Procedure, is the Declaration of ASEP-9 and it will be reflected in the documents of the ASEM Summit to be held in July. I am confident that our comments and recommendations to be included in the ASEP Declaration will be reflected in shaping of ASEM's future objectives. The ASEP Declaration will not only secure the ASEM's position as an informal process of dialogue but it also will seek to propose a new way to create tangible results and make the outcomes of the ASEM summit closer and beneficial to regular people.

Thank you all for accepting our invitation and coming to Mongolia. Welcome to my beautiful country!

I congratulate you with the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEP and wish you all fruitful deliberations during the meeting.

Thank you for your attention.

**REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT OF MONGOLIA AT THE 9TH ASIA-EUROPE  
PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP MEETING**



**It is important to discuss such a broad range of issues between the two continents**

I would like to extend my earnest greetings to all of you this morning.

The Speaker of the Mongolian Parliament,

The Speakers and Members of the Parliament,

Dignitaries, Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Every meeting that brings together the Members of Parliament is important. A Member of Parliament has a very important and responsible duty. We are truly grateful that the most respected and responsible dignitaries representing the Parliaments of Asian and European countries have arrived here today. We greatly appreciate you for representing the people of your country and coming to Mongolia to discuss these important issues. I wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors. /Applause/

Mongolians say “The spring time is a beginning of a new era”. The 9th Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership /ASEP9/ Meeting, which is now being held in Mongolia, is the opening of the series of ASEM events in Ulaanbaatar. Therefore, Mongolia attaches high significance to this Meeting.

For the Asia and the Europe, there are many things to learn from each other and there are many issues to discuss jointly. I think there are many things to share with each other.

I regard the ASEM initiative and this organization as the most important dialogue mechanism between Asia and Europe. Thus, Mongolia should actively participate in its activities, because there are over 100 initiatives and topics for discussion at the ASEM Summit. But, none of the international organizations touches upon such a broad range of issues. It is important to discuss such a broad range of issues between the two continents.

**The ASEM Summit is an advancement podium and a new exemplary model platform dedicated to address the most pressing global issues**

One specific feature of the ASEM Summit is that the organization does not belong only to the dignitaries. Not only dignitaries, but ordinary people participate in the Summit more actively. The ASEM Summit is a free podium for discussion, where business representatives and people from every level of society express their interests and opinions. I think it is an advancement podium and a new exemplary model platform dedicated to address the most pressing global issues.

On the top of this platform, at the leadership of this exchange, the Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting is being held representing the people of their countries.

The ASEM Summit is an important event, because, the Asian and European countries account for 63 percent of the world economy and the Asia is home to 58 percent of global population. If we reach a common understanding on economic and population issues, we will make great contribution to the global stability, advancement and the world peace.

We are truly glad to host the ASEM and its events within the confines of the Summit. Also, our people attach great importance to this event.

**We will outline our future directions at this Summit**

Another specific feature of the 11th ASEM Summit is that this year marks the 20th Anniversary of establishment of the Asia-Europe Meeting. We evaluate our work once in a decade. An important and prospective document was approved during the 10th Anniversary of ASEM and more important goals will be determined during the upcoming Summit. We will evaluate works implemented in the past 20 years. We will discuss challenges facing the world. We will outline our future directions. Therefore, this meeting is important.

The Government and the people of Mongolia regard the ASEM as an opportunity in a century, because the Summit takes place once every two years. ASEM currently has 53 partners, which means Mongolia will host the Summit in 100 years.

### **Our traditions, our ancestors' great deeds are now being revived with your participation 800 years later**

As the Speaker of Mongolian Parliament said "Mongolia does have a historical reason to attach high significance to this event, because this year will be marking the 810th Anniversary of establishment of the Great Mongol State". The Great Mongol State was ruled by the law called "Ikh Zasag". Mongolians had once established the largest empire on dry land and had ruled by the written law. This empire respected religious beliefs, freedom, freedom of trade, peace and prosperity.

Mongolia is a nodal point between Asia and Europe. Eight centuries ago, Mongolia's ancient capital city Kharakhorum attracted traders not only from Europe but other countries. The most famous craftsmen, architects and creators gathered in this city. Diplomats and envoys representing foreign countries arrived in Kharakhorum. Monks and priests arrived in Mongolia's capital to discuss the most pressing issues faced during that time. We have these traditions.

Mongolians are very glad that these traditions, our ancestors' great deeds are now being revived with your participation 800 years later.

### **Mongolia is proposing three initiatives**

There are almost no initiatives left to propose at the ASEM. But, we propose to add 2 to 3 initiatives that have been discussed not too much.

**The first initiative is the rule of law and the fight corruption.** New societies, new countries, and new orders fail because of bad governance. We should prioritize the rule of law, strengthen the governance and fight corruption. We discuss these issues within the ASEM.

**The second initiative is the women's human rights.** Mongolia respects women's human rights and we should discuss this issue. Women must be fully supported

everywhere, at all levels of the state institutions. This is very important commitment.  
/Applause/

**The third initiative is supporting new business start-ups.** Let us open discussions on supporting new business start-ups, creating technologies and exploring new ideas. These are the three initiatives, which Mongolia would like to propose to the ASEM Summit.

### **Mongolia to establish ASEM Center**

Mongolia is a nomadic country. When Mongolians move from one place to a new one a small spot left on the land marked by Ger. Similarly, Mongolia would also like to leave a legacy and make its own contribution to the ASEM Summit and its events. Therefore, we are discussing to establish ASEM Center in Ulaanbaatar. ASEM Secretariat is not bureaucratic. This is one specific feature of this Meeting. We think that the ASEM Center will be a helpful facility with 2 to 3 employees who will support the next host country of the Summit, will share the experience from the former host countries and will provide useful information. Mongolia is located between Asia and Europe and we plan to support the ASEM activities. These are the initiatives that we would like to propose.

### **Mongolia is attaching utmost importance to Ulaanbaatar Declaration which is the product of ASEM Summit**

Mongolia is attaching utmost importance to Ulaanbaatar Declaration which is the core document to be produced by ASEM Summit in Mongolia. Also, as the parliamentarians, you are issuing a Declaration which will be presented at the high-level event of ASEM. Mongolians will pay close attention to the event where this Declaration will be presented. We will make every support t make it happen.

In conclusion, I would like to highlight that Mongolia is a friendly country. It is a country with great history and culture, and our people take pride in their future. Mongolia is an open country. During your short stay in Mongolia, please, try to learn as much as you can about our country, our people, our culture and our lifestyle.

Of course if you enjoyed it, welcome back to Mongolia again. You have a standing invitation from the Speaker of Mongolian Parliament and myself, the President of Mongolia. Once again, I would like to wish success in your future efforts.

Thank you

**Speech by Sen. Pietro Grasso  
President of the Senate of the Republic**

## **ITALY**

Ulan Bataar, 22 April 2016

President Elbegdorj, Speaker Enkhbold,  
Excellencies, Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very honoured to take part in the 9th meeting of the Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership, gathering so many European and Asian leaders here in Ulaan Bataar. I would like to express my gratitude to the President of the Republic of Mongolia, H.E. Tsakhia Elbegdorj and my colleague, the Speaker of the State Great Khural, H.E. Zandaakhuu Enkhbold, for their kind hospitality here in their beautiful capital and for the outstanding organisation of this event.

My presence here also aims to provide continuity from the latest ASEP meeting, held in Rome in October 2014, and I would like to use this opportunity to consider, in an interparliamentary forum, the conclusions of the Milan ASEM Summit of 16-17 October 2014, with a view to the forthcoming intergovernmental meeting, to be held in July, still in Ulaan Bataar. The Declaration adopted by ASEP in Rome was focused on two main areas of cooperation: economic and financial governance structures on the one hand; sustainable growth and food security on the other. In both sectors, we stressed the importance of stronger interparliamentary dialogue as a tool to ensure openness and sound matching of political targets of Governments with the requirements of citizens, which elected assemblies have a duty to represent. The economic crisis and growing inequalities are areas of major concern in our time. In Rome, Members agreed that regional and sub-regional cooperation in Eurasia is instrumental to revive prospects for economic growth and Governments were called on to step up measures for social inclusion, consistently with an idea of sustainable growth in its three dimensions: social, economic and environmental.

Many of the topics that we have dealt with in the interparliamentary forum were further elaborated in the ASEM Summit in Milan, where there was a growing convergence on policies to address major global challenges: growth and sustainable development, combating poverty, climate change; food, water and energy security. The environment in Milan was one of unprecedented openness and cooperation, which led to a constructive dialogue on several major international issues, including terrorism, maritime security and conflicts in the Middle East, all issues which today account for an absolute priority in Europe. For the first time, a list of priority areas of “tangible” cooperation among ASEM countries was outlined: 19 specific policy areas in such sectors as development, environment, education and social and economic cooperation.

Two years after the Rome 2014 conclusions, new challenges call for the consideration of this assembly. I am convinced, dear colleagues, that we can make this summit of Ulaan Baatar a true turning point for the parliamentary dimension of Asia-Europe relations, combining the momentum that has always accompanied our reflection, with the pragmatic spirit focusing on individual sectoral policies that has consistently been the hallmark of ASEM.

The first challenge concerns the very identity of ASEP and is linked to the role of civil society in the dialogue between Asia and Europe. The advisory role that ASEP plays vis-à-vis ASEM, together with the Business Forum and the People’s Forum, implies an ex ante and ex post assessment of macro strategies discussed within ASEM, in order to see to it that they match the priorities of our citizens. Our parliaments are to play an intermediary role, they are the spokespersons of civil society. Ever closer interaction with citizens and the visibility and openness of political dialogue among governments are key priorities of the ASEM community, which has grown to include 53 members. On this twentieth anniversary of the dialogue and cooperation between Asia and Europe, I believe that parliaments can lead the way towards more effective mediation between governments and elements of civil society, they can represent the interests of minorities and vulnerable groups. I mean, in particular, policies for the young, gender inequalities, small and medium sized enterprises, non-governmental organisations.

The political fragmentation that we see in various parts of the world, especially in the Middle East and Africa, is also determined by the inability of institutions to represent effectively the interests of various segments of society. We representatives of Parliaments, dear colleagues, are best placed to prevent the risks of social fragmentation and inequality, which produce areas of marginalisation and vulnerability which in turn are the spawning ground of crime and ideological radicalisation. Openness of parliamentary debates, instruments of institutional communication and participatory democracy, new information technologies, all these may be a strong basis to ensure an effective link between the Europe-Asia dialogue and civil society. This is a democratic goal, for the links with the communities we represent are at the basis of our ability to promote a social dimension of growth and more sustainable development policies.

A second priority is connectivity, which will be the focus of ASEM11. Connectivity is the future of a continent, Eurasia, hosting more than sixty percent of the world's population and accounting for over sixty percent of global trade. Our task will be to build material bridges to translate into tangible reality the cultural and ideal union that has always connected our peoples, by networking **communications, infrastructure, energy, road, sea, railways**. I am thinking also of projects like the **New Silk Road**, which Italy regards as a tool not only to boost trade and cultural exchange between our communities, but also to lay the foundations for a new geopolitical stability. My hope is that Ulaan Bataar will be the starting point of a new *pax mongolica*, like in the years 1215-1360, when Mongolian peace helped re-establish the Silk Road as the main communication channel between East and West.

But connecting also means promoting positive synergy between production systems, through cross investment and manufacturing; it means promoting sound planning of virtuous migration of professionals, scientists, thinkers, innovators; removing all barriers: customs, fiscal, economic, administrative, bureaucratic: *i.e.* removing all obstacles that prevent, slow down, complicate the professional and productive activity of those working in a country other than their own.

I believe, my dear colleagues, that now is the time to give new momentum to Asia-Europe partnership, in the spirit of building a common future based on a shared past which has given rise to the greatest civilisations of the world. And it is a case in point that this should start in Mongolia, a country with a great history that is committed to a renewed international role. Together we can re-establish the cultural, economic and geopolitical centrality of the Eurasian continent, which is at the root of our traditions and our destiny. I am confident that this commitment will be shared by all of us who have the honour to represent our peoples, their rights and their hopes, in our national legislatures.

*Thank you.*

**CLOSING REMARKS BY MR. ZANDAAKHUU ENKHBOLD, CHAIRMAN OF THE  
STATE GREAT HURAL OF MONGOLIA, AT THE 9<sup>TH</sup> ASIA-EUROPE  
PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP MEETING**

Ulaanbaatar

April 22, 2016

Distinguished delegates,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

The 9<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting in Ulaanbaatar was a successful one because of your active participation and efforts. The very first parliamentary partnership meeting was held back in 1996. Previously I have emphasized that the 9<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting is special because it coincided with the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEM process. I am pleased to say that over the last two days, parliamentary delegates from both continents have gathered and reviewed ASEP's contribution and role in the ASEM dialogue for the last twenty years. We had a fruitful meeting to define the future direction of our partnership.

Today, the world is changing in unpredictable ways and many nations are facing enormous issues and challenges. Mongolia believes that these issues can be solved through dialogues, mutual understanding and effective cooperation between countries and people. Thus, the themes of the panel discussions have been 'Connectivity and effective multilateralism' and 'Partnership for the Future.'

We as representatives of two continents have exchanged views on specific matters such as peace, security, sustainable development, climate change, non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and irregular migration. These are pressing issues both at the global and regional levels. We saw fit to address these issues on the principles of mutual respect, equal partnership, mutual benefit and non-intervention in internal affairs.

During the discussion, some parliaments' views on global issues were confronting. However, we maintained the value of ASEM's nature which solves every issue based on consensus principle.

A number of new ideas and initiatives have been raised during this meeting. For instance, some partners expressed their commitment to review the ASEP rules in order to establish a Standing Committee or a similar unit to ensure appropriate continuity in the work of ASEP between Parliamentary Meetings.

ACEM members represent 60% of the world's population and GDP. Therefore, the issues discussed and decisions made within the framework of ASEM have a major impact on world affairs. Following our discussions of last two days, we have adopted Final Declaration of the 9<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting.

The provisions of the final declaration will be reflected in the Chair's Statement of the 11<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Summit. In addition, I, myself will report to the Summit on the initiatives and ideas raised by partners. In this regard, it can be said that the importance of this meeting is quite high.

In last three days, a few of bilateral meetings between the parliaments have been held. This is clear evidence that ASEP is functioning as a crucial platform for strengthening Parliaments' relations between two continents.

I am confident that the ASEP meeting which began 20 years ago will continue progressing by learning from its successes and failures.

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to parliamentarians and other delegates, as well as to all the keynote speakers. I am confident that your visit to Mongolia has been pleasant and productive.

I wish you all the best.

## **REPORT ON PANEL DISCUSSION 1: CONNECTIVITY AND EFFECTIVE MULTILATERALISM**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the Panel Discussion 1, ASEP Parliamentarians exchanged views on Connectivity and Effective Multilateralism. We have had fruitful and thought-provoking discussions on this comprehensive and extensive topic. During the discussion, a broad range of issues and perspectives were shared. The panel discussion showed the meaningfulness of parliamentarians come together to share views in order to enhance connectivity and effective multilateralism. The panel discussion went as follows:

Firstly, importance of mainstreaming connectivity into all relevant ASEM cooperation frameworks was underlined. We, ASEP parliamentarians agreed that greater connectivity between the peoples, parliaments and governments of Asian and European countries through development and improvement of trans-regional transport routes, corridors and networks, and promotion of exchange programs will contribute towards increase of free flows of goods, services, capital and people leading to better understanding and closer relationship between the two regions.

Thus, we reaffirmed our commitment to make achievements in policy, economy and trade infrastructure construction, and financing and people-to-people connections to promote Eurasian development, narrow the gap between countries and pursue coordinated development.

Secondly, we, ASEP parliamentarians, realized that globalization requires the two regions to intensify cooperation and minimizing divergence through the formulation of policies that ensure greater wealth distribution. Thus, we underlined that Asia and Europe should address imbalances on the international trade system by supporting the establishment of a fair trade regime; and the formulation of policies that ensure the participation of everyone in the global supply chain and the formulation of income distribution policy to address the ongoing inequality. It was additionally suggested that for both regions to prosper sustainably, political commitment of both Governments and Parliaments beyond the inter-regional meetings, as well as direct participation of people

in the decision-making process are required. Parliamentarians suggested that sharing knowledge and exchanging best practices are the ways of overcoming economic difficulties and solving the root causes of financial crisis.

Thirdly, it was underlined that due to the revolutionary changes in the communication and information technology, the world is experiencing the Internet-induced connectivity as never before. Technology, trade and talent drive the Knowledge Economies of the contemporary world. We must put its weight behind these for the greater good of its members through sharing and exchange of technology, experience and capacity.

For strengthening 'soft' connectivity, it was also noted that opening the doors for the young people from Asia and Europe to participate freely in exchanges of education, culture and science is crucial. The youth are highlighted as the connectors of the connectivity. In this light, it was suggested that youth participation in political environment with their new spirits should be promoted. Additionally, initiatives based on application of modern technologies and promotion of transparency and accountability so-called e-governance should become areas of cooperation among us within the ASEP. In accordance, it was proposed to establish a working group of the Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership on development of concept of e-governance in terms of enhancing connectivity between the two continents' parliamentarians.

Fifthly, we underlined that effective multilateralism is one crucial pillar for the promotion of Eurasian cooperation and progress. The international community must emerge as one entity to tackle burning issues. Some achievements of international cooperation and understanding, such as Iranian nuclear deal and Paris Agreement on Climate Change are given as eloquent examples. However, it was stressed that there is still room for improvement. Political cooperation is important considering the need to maintain a predictable, stable, and rules-by international order at this time where the Asia-Pacific regions is witnessing profound shifts. To ensure peace and security of all the peoples of Asia and Europe, open dialogue and mutual trust are essential. The challenges such as financial and economic crisis, environmental issues, food shortages, global poverty, instability and irregular migration we face are common. Thus it was noted that frequent and honest dialogue is essential between the two continents.

During the panel discussion, it was also underlined that equality – with regard to gender, education, health and income; as well as women's participation in the labour market – are two important prerequisites for increased productivity, economic growth, and development in our societies. Accordingly, parliamentarians were encouraged to take international and national measures to defeat inequality. ASEP partners agreed that inclusiveness in terms of both social and gender equality are crucial impetus for sound economic policies.

Parliamentarians, recognizing the complementarity of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, considered it vital to unite the efforts of Asian and European countries in implementing the goals set in these two landmark documents with a view to bringing about sustained growth and prosperity to all people of the world. We stressed the increasing need for ASEM partners to expand their development cooperation and the crucial roles of Parliamentarians in the implementation process.

Last but not least, multilateral fora of institutionalized cooperation in the parliamentary field such as ASEP, have a main role to play, while the strengthening of coordination mechanisms and the promotion of concrete cooperation within ASEM is a task that should be taken forward. It is necessary that we must learn the best practices from one another in making Parliaments the effective voice of the people. There is a need to promote informal channels of diplomacy on a people-to people level which will make it easy for the Governments to carry forward the common endeavour for mutual benefit.

**REPORT BY MS. M. BATCHIMEG, MEMBER OF STATE GREAT HURAL  
(PARLIAMENT) OF MONGOLIA AND RAPPORTEUR OF THE PANEL DISCUSSION  
II: PARTNERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE  
22 APRIL 2016**

Honorable Chair,  
Fellow Parliamentarians,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

First of all, allow me to extend my sincere welcome to my beautiful country at the heart of Asia. For us, for Mongolian Parliamentarians, it is great honor to have you all in our capital city, Ulaanbaatar. Mongolia is honored to host both the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Asia-Europe Meeting and Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting. About six months ago we hosted another international parliamentary meeting here: OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Meeting. More than 330 members of Parliaments from 49 countries gathered in our capital.

The theme of our Panel is "Partnership for the Future". At this panel we had very open and lively discussions and debates.

We had two guest speakers:

Mr. D. Terbishdagva, MP from the Mongolian Parliament

Mr. R. Szarnecki, MP of the European Parliament

I would like to hereby introduce the summary of our discussions. Under this important and comprehensive topic, the following views were expressed:

## **1. 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF ASEM**

Participants highlighted the commemoration of 20th anniversary of ASEM and noted the progress that have been made within the last 20 years. Our colleagues from China, Thailand, and the European Parliament reiterated the importance of encouraging informal contact and cooperation between the ASEM Partners and emphasized the need to inject pragmatism to the ASEM process in order to translate proceedings from ASEM into tangible outcomes.

## **2. ASEM's 3 PILLARS & ECONOMIC COOPERATION**

Reflecting on the ASEM's three pillars of equal importance, many colleagues emphasized that trade and investment is crucial for Asia-Europe connectivity and cooperation and thereby proposed to take systematic steps towards revitalizing ASEM's economic pillar.

Colleagues from Pakistan, Indonesia and other ASEM partners proposed to institutionalize connectivity by eliminating trade barriers, streamlining flow of investment, encouraging public-private partnerships. Recognizing the socio-economic potential of the two regions, Indian colleagues called for exploring the synergistic compatibility between the engines of growth in emerging markets, the human resource potential of Asia and the industrial and technological capabilities of Europe. In the context of global partnerships, several colleagues reiterated their commitment to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Underscoring the economic potential of Asia and Europe, our Chinese colleagues encouraged practical cooperation through a balanced, systematic approach building on ASEM three pillars.

## **3. INCLUSIVENESS**

Underscoring the importance of the principles of inclusiveness, colleagues from Italy and Spain highlighted the importance of mainstreaming involvement of NGOs, youth organizations, and other stakeholders as well as furthering gender equality, women's empowerment, and people-to-people exchange.

#### **4. CAPACITY-BUILDING**

Determined to strengthen the Parliamentary dimension of ASEM and deepen the areas of parliamentary cooperation, Hungarian colleagues emphasized the significance of developing further capacity-building programs and more day-to-day connections between ASEP Parliamentarians would result in deeper cooperation and mutual understanding among the people. Further, colleagues from the European Parliament proposed a mechanism in order to ensure continuity of monitoring and scrutiny of ministerial activities and to widen mutual networking and knowledge-sharing between the stakeholders.

#### **5. TRADITIONAL AND NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY**

Highlighting the need to bolster the security in Asia and Europe in the face of issues of common concern, colleagues from Japan, Norway, Vietnam, the European Parliament, Thailand, Pakistan, Indonesia, and Russia encouraged cooperation among ASEM Partners in addressing terrorism, forced displacement of people, maritime security, and disaster prevention.

Further, Russian colleagues called for a security architecture that would account for equal partnership and harmony of interests.

#### **6. GOVERNANCE, RULE OF LAW, DEMOCRACY**

Needless to say, today we all can agree that rule of law is a universal value that is appreciated by all of us. In terms of Asia-Europe cooperation, rule of law is essential to further promoting connectivity between the two continents.

## **7. PARLIAMENTARIAN PARTNERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE**

Recognizing the need to strengthen the Parliamentary dimension of ASEM, colleagues from Switzerland expressed their concern over the role of Parliamentarians in the international forums including ASEM and emphasized that ASEP is not a platform for discussing regional conflicts.

Similar to our Swiss colleagues, Mongolia appreciates the informality of ASEP and ASEM and thereby encourages Parliamentarians, as direct representatives of their people to continue engaging in free discussion unencumbered by diplomatic rules.



**DECLARATION OF THE NINTH ASIA-EUROPE  
PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP MEETING /ASEP 9/  
Ulaanbaatar, 21-22 April 2016**

1. The Ninth Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting /ASEP 9/ was held on 21-22 April 2016 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, under the theme “The role of Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership in ASEM”. The Meeting was opened and chaired by Mr. Zandaakhuugiin Enkhbold, Chairman of the State Great Hural of Mongolia.
2. The Meeting was attended by Parliamentarians from the following ASEM partners: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, ROK, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Russian Federation, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom and Vietnam as well as the European Parliament. The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) participated in the Meeting as a guest of the Host Parliament.
3. The Meeting was addressed by the previous host of the Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting - Mr. Pietro Grasso, President of the Italian Senate.
4. During the Meeting, panels were held on the following topics: “Connectivity and Effective Multilateralism” and “Partnership for the Future”.

5. ASEP Parliamentarians extended their warm congratulations to ASEM on the occasion of its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and highlighted in this context the achievements of the ASEM process along of the three pillars of its activities. They emphasized the importance of this inter-regional process in promoting political dialogue between Asian and European partners on a wide range of regional and global issues of common interest and concern, in strengthening their economic and trade ties and in bringing closer the people of the two continents through expanding cooperation in social, cultural, educational and other fields, and forging people-to-people contacts within the ASEM process.

## **PARTNERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE**

6. ASEP Parliamentarians reaffirmed their commitment to continue their efforts aimed at providing strong support to ASEM in further strengthening the partnership between the two regions on the basis of universally acknowledged principles of equality, mutual respect as well as promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. They pledged to take appropriate measures to enhance the parliamentary dimension of the ASEM process, forge stronger links between ASEM and ASEP and further increase the role of Parliaments in translating into reality the common goals and interests of the Asian and European nations.
7. ASEP Parliamentarians expressed their confidence that the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ASEM process and of ASEP, which has proved to be its integral part, will provide an opportunity to give a new momentum and add substance to the comprehensive partnership and multi-faceted cooperation between the peoples, business community, parliaments and governments of the Asian and European countries.
8. ASEP Parliamentarians acknowledged the need for more coordination among ASEM partners, ASEP and other stakeholders in the ASEM process on cross sectorial issues and urged the ASEM Senior Officials to consider Mongolia's proposal to set up an ASEM Center including a virtual/online facility.
9. ASEP Parliamentarians stressed the importance of further improving the visibility and relevance of ASEM through greater outreach to the public in ASEM partners, including appropriate parliamentary tools for debate and information. In this connection, they commended the unique role of ASEF as a bridge between civil societies and people in Asia and Europe along the three pillars of ASEM. They also expressed support for the annual commemoration of an ASEM Day on 1 March in partner countries as a public awareness-raising event conducive to its higher visibility goal.

10. ASEP Parliamentarians expressed their wish to study the possibility of reviewing the ASEP rules to ensure appropriate continuity in the work of ASEP aimed at following-up the multiple ASEM ministerial meetings and other activities held between Summits.
11. ASEP Parliamentarians welcomed the activities to be undertaken within the ASEM process in 2016-2018 that would further facilitate the multi-faceted cooperation between the two regions.
12. ASEP Parliamentarians strongly condemned all forms and manifestations of terrorism that poses a serious threat to world peace and stability. They expressed their grave concern over the increasing number of terrorist acts in different parts of the world and in this context underlined the important role of Parliaments in fighting terrorism through enactment of appropriate legislation, oversight of its implementation and allocation of requisite financial resources. They called for strict implementation by the international community of all provisions of UN Security Council resolutions 2170, 2178, 2199 and 2253. They stressed the need for preventing, detecting, investigating and prosecuting terrorism financing as well as addressing the conditions conducive to terrorism and radicalization. They underlined the need for broader international cooperation in combating terrorism on the basis of the UN Charter and principles of international law. Terrorism and its financing cannot be associated with any religion, race, nationality, civilization or ethnic group.
13. ASEP Parliamentarians welcomed the ongoing efforts undertaken by the international community to address the pressing problems related to regional hotbeds of tension and underlined the need to cease violence and hostilities, seek peaceful ways of settling conflicts through dialogue and negotiations, with full respect for the principles of state sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs, and to refrain from any moves that would further aggravate the situation, including inciting national, racial, religious or ethnic discords or intolerance.
14. ASEP Parliamentarians condemned in the strongest terms the DPRK's nuclear test on 6 January 2016 and its launch that used ballistic missile technology on 7 February 2016, as well as human rights abuses including abduction, which constitute a grave violation of the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and threaten peace and stability in Northeast Asia and beyond. They urged the DPRK to abide by the relevant UNSC resolutions and abandon all nuclear programs as well as ballistic missile programs in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner. They

also stressed the imperative need for the reduction of tensions caused by the DPRK's recent provocative acts, as well as resumption of the meaningful Six Party Talks and denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

15. Parliamentarians stressed the importance of initiatives aimed at promoting greater understanding, confidence-building and cooperation among the states and other stakeholders of the region, such as the Northeast Asia Peace and Cooperation Initiative /NAPCI/ launched by the Republic of Korea, Russia and China's initiatives on peace, security and cooperation in Northeast Asia presented within the framework of the Six Party Talks, and the Ulaanbaatar Dialogue on Northeast Asia Security /UBD/ launched by Mongolia.
16. ASEP Parliamentarians underscored the leading role of the United Nations in maintaining international peace and security, and the central role played by the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Biological Weapons Convention in promoting disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and ensuring a comprehensive ban of nuclear tests. They reiterated the need for enhancing multilateralism and international cooperation in order to effectively address the current and emerging global challenges in accordance with the norms and principles of international law.
17. ASEP Parliamentarians highly appreciated the efforts made by all the negotiating Parties (EU3+3) on the final agreement of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) on the Iranian nuclear issues, and welcomed this agreement as a contribution that leads to the stability of the Middle East region and strengthens the international non-proliferation regime.
18. ASEP Parliamentarians reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining peace and maritime security, stability, safety and cooperation, and freedom of navigation at sea and overflight, abstaining from unilateral actions which can raise tensions as well as resolving maritime disputes peacefully in full compliance with the UN Charter and universally recognized principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
19. ASEP Parliamentarians noted the unprecedented flow of refugees and migrants and expressed their concern over the subsequent unfolding of the humanitarian crisis on Europe's borders and in transit countries. They underlined the urgency of addressing the root causes of forced displacement of people and of migration through an integrated approach encompassing political, security and socio-economic aspects of the issue, ensuring protection and humanitarian assistance and finding sustainable

and long term solutions to the problem. They stressed the importance of creating conditions conducive to greater harmony, tolerance and mutual respect in the countries of transit and destination, in view of promoting the basic human rights of all people on the move, specially the most vulnerable ones, such as women and unaccompanied children.

20. Parliamentarians encouraged respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as an essential factor of strengthening just, equitable, democratic and inclusive societies in Asian and European countries and stressed the need to seek common ground through dialogue, cooperation and partnership as well as full enforcement of the rule of law and the fight against corruption.
21. ASEP Parliamentarians welcomed the results of the Parliamentary elections in Myanmar held last year which opens up the possibility for the people of Myanmar to advance along the road for further democratic reforms.

### **CONNECTIVITY AND EFFECTIVE MULTILATERALISM**

22. ASEP Parliamentarians recognized the importance of mainstreaming connectivity into all relevant ASEM cooperation frameworks and agreed that greater connectivity between the peoples, parliaments and governments of Asian and European countries through development and improvement of trans-regional transport routes, corridors and networks, and promotion of exchange programs will contribute towards increase of free flows of goods, services, capital and people leading to better understanding and closer relationship between the two regions.
23. ASEP Parliamentarians noted that the financial uncertainties and the unstable and volatile state of the world economy that continue to hamper economic growth and aggravate poverty, unemployment, social inequalities and development gaps in the countries of Asia and Europe, highlight the importance of sound national policies and appropriate strategies as well as of enhanced international cooperation for increasing favorable and equal opportunities for trade, economic growth and sustainable development.
24. ASEP Parliamentarians noted with concern the ongoing imbalance and disparity among and within the Asian and European regions resulting from the challenges of globalization. They further emphasized the need to formulate effective policies in ensuring inclusive growth and sustainable development which cover a wide range of subjects including socio-economic and political issues, as well as transfer of knowledge and technology between the two regions.

25. ASEP Parliamentarians underscored the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015 for building a prosperous future for all people of the world based on the principles of inclusiveness, gender equality and sustainability. They called on the ASEM partners to take appropriate measures at the national, regional and international levels and to promote international cooperation with a view to supporting and ensuring effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They underlined the importance of building dynamic, sustainable, innovative and people-centred economies, as well as promoting decent work for all including youth employment and women's economic empowerment.
26. In line with the goals set in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ASEP Parliamentarians reiterated the need to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies on the basis of transparent, effective and accountable institutions, including legislative bodies at all levels. Therefore, ASEP Parliamentarians emphasized the vital role of national parliaments in implementing the 2030 Agenda with a view to adopting relevant legislations, allocating budgetary resources and ensuring government accountability. They acknowledged the importance of dialogue and cooperation among ASEP Parliaments which are well supported by the exchange of best practices on parliamentary procedures, functions and administrative set-up in the form of capacity-building.
27. ASEP Parliamentarians believed that multilateral partnership is crucial in addressing the climate change challenge and its deep impact on extreme weather changes, people's livelihoods, well-being and surrounding ecosystems.
28. ASEP Parliamentarians welcomed the successful completion of the 21st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21) and the adoption of the Paris Agreement. Under this legally-binding Agreement, Parties agreed to undertake the intended nationally determined contributions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial level. Parliamentarians also agreed that the Paris Agreement lays down the foundation for addressing the issues related to mitigation and adaptation to climate change, financing, technology transfer, capacity-building, transparency of action and support.
29. Parliamentarians, recognizing the complementarity of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, considered it vital to unite the efforts of

Asian and European countries in implementing the goals set in these two landmark documents with a view to bringing about sustained growth and prosperity to all people of the world. They stressed the increasing need for ASEM partners to expand their development cooperation.

30. ASEP Parliamentarians underlined the importance of wider use of environmentally friendly alternative sources of energy based on every country's energy mix. They reaffirmed their support for strengthening global and regional cooperation in the field of nuclear safety, including through the annual ASEM Seminar for Nuclear Safety, and for upholding strong commitment to the international safety requirements in line with the IAEA standards in order to ensure the safe operation of nuclear facilities around the world.

31. ASEP Parliamentarians welcomed the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 adopted at the 2015 Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and encouraged further development of cooperation among ASEM partners on disaster risk reduction and management. They underlined the significance of strengthening the resilience through sharing knowledge and promoting cooperation on a broad and people-centred approach to disaster prevention, disaster mitigation, preparedness, relief, recovery and rehabilitation, including through awareness programs, early warning systems, search, rescue and relief operations, capacity-building and the promotion of innovation and technology.

32. ASEP Parliamentarians noted with appreciation the ongoing regional and sub-regional cooperation and national initiatives by ASEM partners to connect the two regions. They expressed appreciation for the ASEAN's role in promoting dialogue, confidence-building and cooperation for peace, security, stability and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific and beyond, and welcomed the formal establishment of the ASEAN Community on 31 December 2015 as significant step towards greater regional integration.

They further welcomed the establishment of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in 2015 as a significant step towards greater regional integration and increased connectivity, and noted the need for coordination with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and other multilateral development banks.

33. ASEP Parliamentarians reaffirmed their commitment to enhance inter-regional trade and investment flows and to resist trade-distorting or protectionist measures,

including restrictions and non-tariff barriers in order to achieve competitive, efficient and seamless movement of goods in the two regions.

34. Parliamentarians reiterated their view that stronger trade and investment relations between the two regions through the enhancement of the ASEM Trade Facilitation Action Plan and the ASEM Investment Promotion Action Plan would contribute to deepening economic integration and connectivity between Asia and Europe.
35. ASEP Parliamentarians stressed the importance of the universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory, inclusive and equitable multilateral trading system for sustainable economic growth and in this context noted the key role of the WTO in administering the global trading system, enhancing the rule of law, monitoring trade policies and settling trade disputes. They welcomed the positive outcome of the Tenth WTO Ministerial Conference held in Nairobi in 2015 which made notable progress in respect to the Special Safeguard Mechanism for Developing Country Members, Public Stockholding for Food Security Purposes, Export Competition, Cotton, Preferential Rules of Origin for Least Developed Countries, and Implementation of Preferential Treatment Services for Least Developed Countries. They reaffirmed the need to continue efforts towards conclusion of the remaining Doha issues and achievement of an early entry into force of the Trade Facilitation Agreement.
36. ASEP Parliamentarians reaffirmed the need for greater involvement of the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and for enhancement of public-private partnership, promotion of Start-up initiatives in strengthening economic, trade and investment links between Asia and Europe and implementing joint projects. They also agreed to enhance cooperation with the Asia-Europe Business Forum.
37. ASEP Parliamentarians also highlighted the importance of new information and communications technology in promoting digital connectivity between the two regions. They encouraged the ASEM partners to foster their collaboration in the area of capacity-building and exchange of expertise in ensuring cyber security and development of information and communications technology.
38. ASEP Parliamentarians underlined the significance of building common knowledge and increasing connectivity between the two regions in relation to the ASEM activities aimed at fostering people-to-people links, intensifying cultural, educational, scientific, technological, academic and youth exchanges, and promoting mutually beneficial technology transfers.

39. ASEP Parliamentarians underlined the importance of addressing framework conditions for research and innovation collaboration, in particular intellectual property and its protection in fostering innovation, growth and employment, as well as the need to strengthen the on-going cooperation on intellectual property rights issues in all relevant areas.
40. ASEP Parliamentarians recognized the value of cultural diversity within the ASEM as a big asset and stressed the need to raise awareness and understanding of the benefits of cultural diversity through public information and educational programs.
41. While commending the work of ASEF in bringing closer the peoples of Asia and Europe through programmes and projects in the areas of culture, economy, education, governance, public health and sustainable development that complement the government-led ASEM process, ASEP Parliamentarians encouraged ASEF to continue playing a tangible role in advancing the ASEM process through organizing various activities in line with the ASEM priorities for the benefit of the peoples of Asia and Europe.
42. ASEP Parliamentarians underlined the pivotal role of civil society, business, professional and academic institutions, as well as women's and youth organizations in promoting greater connectivity, awareness and understanding among the peoples of Asia and Europe, revitalizing the ASEM process and enhancing its visibility and relevance.

## **FINAL CLAUSES**

43. Realizing the importance of mainstreaming the input of various stakeholders into the official ASEM process, the Parliamentarians tasked the Chair of the Meeting to report the outcome of the ASEP 9 to the ASEM leaders during the 11<sup>th</sup> ASEM Summit of Heads of State and Government (ASEM11) in Ulaanbaatar in July 2016.
44. ASEP Parliamentarians thanked the State Great Hural of Mongolia for its warm hospitality and expressed their sincere appreciation for the excellent organization of the ASEP 9 in Ulaanbaatar, and welcomed the possibility to meet in Europe in 2018.



21 April

The 9<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership (ASEP9) Meeting  
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 21-23 April 2016

**AUSTRALIA**

Senate

Gavin Marshall

Deputy President

Liam Coglein

Staff

## **AUSTRIA**

### National Council

Andreas Karlsboeck MP

## **BELGIUM**

### Senate

Johan Verstreken Senator

### House of Representatives

Roel Deseyn MP

Pierre Jirikoff Secretary

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Friendship Group

Delian Dobrev MP, Chairman of the Energy Committee

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Chea Cheth Senator, Chairman of Commission on Finance,  
Banking and Auditing

Yang Sem Senator, Deputy Chairman of Commission on  
Human Rights, Complaints and Investigation

Chan Nareth Senator, Secretary of Commission on  
Planning, Investment, Agriculture, Water  
Resource, Meteorology, Rural Development  
and Environment

Koy Malayvireak Deputy Director of Protocol and International  
Relations

Yos Sokhemrin Deputy Director of Protocol and International

## Relations

Huoy Vandy	Chief of Assistant, Secretariat of the Commission on Finance, Banking and Auditing Official
Chea Visothymeak	

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Gao Xiang	MP
Wang Aihua	Staff
Wu Dan	Staff
Zhu Hongying	Staff
Liu Ying Qian	Interpreter
Zheng Yi	Interpreter

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### Parliament

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Hrvoje Cikovic	Embassy

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Josephine Fock	MP

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Sofia Vikman	MP
Samu-Ville Paukkunen	Secretary of Delegation

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### National Assembly

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### National Assembly

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Zoltan Tessely	MP
Csaba Huszar	Secretary of Delegation

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Shantaram Naik	MP
Lalkithang	Director of Lok Sabha Secretariat

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Sudin	MP
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Karina Sukmaputri	Advisor, MFA
Feny Zamzari	Embassy
M.Maulana Akbar	Embassy
Hasby Muhammad Zamri	Advisor
Rachmanda Primayuda	Advisor
Iman Nurizqi	Journalist
Dani Probowo	Journalist
Andi Muhamad Ilham Lapawawoy	Photographer

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Claudio Olmeda	Interpreter
Filippo Pompili	Photographer
Nicodemo Liotti	Security officer
Fabrizio de Filippi	Security officer
Ettore Francesco Sequi	Ambassador
Sara Cucci	Embassy
Alfredo Savino	Honorary consul

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Maria Teresa Calabro  
Ugo Papi  
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Fabiono Zinzone  
Giuseppe Perricone

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Chief Advisor of International Relations Office  
Democratic Party official in charge of relations  
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Secretary  
Interpreter  
Interpreter  
Interpreter  
Interpreter

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Muratbay Zholdasbaev  
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Counselor of the International Affairs

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Kyueun Lim  
Jihee Kim

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Secretary  
Secretary

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### National Assembly

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Chanpheng Southivong	Deputy Director General of the Foreign Affairs Department

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R.Gonchigdorj	Vice-Chairman
M.Enkhbold	Vice-Chairman
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M.Batchimeg	MP
L.Bold	MP
N.Enkhbold	MP
S.Oyun	MP
D.Terbishdagva	MP
B.Boldbaatar	Secretary General
Ts. Narantungalag	Head of the Foreign Relations Department

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Ove Trellevik	MP
Sylvi Graham	MP
Margrethe Saxegaard	Senior advisor
Ingrid Hodnebo	Advisor
Kristin Iglum	Embassy

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Syed Tahir Hussain Mashhadi	Senator
Ghous Muhammad Khan Niazi	Senator
Muhammad Tahir Khan	Joint secretary
Siraj Ahmad Khan	Embassy
Rajeel Mohsin	Embassy

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Efren Buendia	Secretary
Ivan Frank Olea	Embassy

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### Senate

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Alexander Jakimowicz	Interpreter

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### Council of Federation

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Alexander Varfolomeev	MP
Irina Zolotareva	Secretary
Veronika Belousova	Interpreter

### State Duma

Alexander Tarnavskiy	MP
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Nikolay Makarov MP  
Marina Yakovleva Secretary

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### Parliament

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Shi-Lu Chia MP  
Anne Quah Secretary

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Mercedes Araujo Deputy Secretary General  
Susana Tahoces Interpreter

### Senate

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Ana Alvarez Deputy Secretary General

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### Riksdag

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Hans Linde MP

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### Federal Assembly

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Jean-Francois Rime MP

Cedric Stucky Secretary  
Alain Gaschen Embassy

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### National Assembly

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Kundhinee Aksornwong Embassy  
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Nguyen Huu Quang MP, Member of the Standing Committee on  
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Nguyen Truong Giang Assistant  
Nguyen Tuong Van Deputy Director of Foreign Affairs Department  
Nguyen Thi Hoai Thu Officer, Interpreter  
Nguyen Xuan Dong Security officer

## **UNITED KINGDOM**

### House of Commons

Marc Hendrick MP

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Marco Ferri	Minister Counsellor
William Fingleton	Head, Press and Media
O.Sugar	Manager, EU Office in Ulaanbaatar
Markus Waldvogel	Director, SDA (Swiss Development Agency)
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