



Congreso de los Diputados

VIAJE REALIZADO POR UNA DELEGACIÓN DEL CONGRESO DE LOS DIPUTADOS A LA SÉPTIMA REUNIÓN PARLAMENTARIA ASIA-EUROPA

Los días 2, 3 y 4 de octubre de 2012 tuvo lugar en la ciudad de Vientiane (República Democrática Popular de Laos) la séptima reunión parlamentaria Asia-Europa (en adelante, ASEP-7). A dicha reunión asistió una delegación del Congreso de los Diputados compuesta por los Excmos. Sres.:

- D. Jordi Jané i Guasch, Vicepresidente Cuarto del Congreso de los Diputados.
- D. Santiago Cervera Soto, Secretario Cuarto del Congreso de los Diputados.

La delegación estuvo asistida por el Letrado de las Cortes D. Fernando Galindo Elola-Olaso.

La invitación para asistir a la conferencia fue recibida el día 5 de junio de 2012 y la Mesa del Congreso decidió aprobar la asistencia al encuentro en su sesión del día 12 de junio de 2012. La lista de asistentes se adjunta como Anexo 1.

DÍA 2 DE OCTUBRE

A su llegada a Vientiane la delegación fue recibida en el aeropuerto por la Sra. Vanpheng Keonakhone, miembro de la Asamblea Nacional de la República Democrática Popular de Laos. Allí los parlamentarios intercambiaron opiniones sobre la importancia de las relaciones entre Europa y Asia y la utilidad de estos encuentros.

A las 18:30 h., y una vez acreditada la delegación, tuvo lugar en el Hotel Don Chan Palace de Vientiane la cena de bienvenida organizada por el Sr. Phomvihane, Presidente del Comité Organizador de ASEP-7 y Vicepresidente de la Asamblea Nacional de la República Democrática Popular de Laos.



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1. Reunión para adoptar el orden de día y cuestiones procedimentales

A partir de las 20:00 h. tuvieron lugar de forma simultánea las dos reuniones preparatorias de la Conferencia. La primera de ellas, bajo la presidencia de la Sra. Akhamountry, Presidenta de la Asamblea Nacional de la Comisión de Asuntos Exteriores de la República Democrática Popular de Laos, se destinó a aprobar el orden del día y el programa de actividades.

Durante la reunión, en la que se aprobó el Reglamento de Funcionamiento que sería de aplicación durante la Conferencia (Anexo 2), se acordó aceptar la solicitud de ingreso en la ASEP de los cuatro nuevos miembros (Australia, Myanmar, Nueva Zelanda y Rusia), cuyas delegaciones quedarían incorporadas como miembros de pleno derecho de la Conferencia. Además, se aprobó por unanimidad la designación de los Presidentes y ponentes de las distintas reuniones que se celebrarían los dos días siguientes.

2. Reunión para discutir el procedimiento de adopción de la declaración final

También a partir de las 20:00 h. se celebró, bajo la Presidencia de la Sra. Bouppha, Presidenta del Caucus de Mujeres y Vicepresidenta de la Comisión de Asuntos Exteriores de la Asamblea Nacional de la República Democrática Popular de Laos, la reunión para discutir el procedimiento de elaboración de la declaración final. Se aceptó por unanimidad el texto propuesto como base por la organización y se acordó que todas las delegaciones podrían hacer llegar sus propuestas de enmienda por escrito a lo largo del día 3 de octubre.

En los dos intervinieron representantes de diversas delegaciones para recalcar la importancia de este tipo de encuentros para reforzar los lazos que unen Europa y Asia. Los intervinientes coincidieron en que las relaciones económicas entre ambos continentes son mucho más fuertes que las políticas, lo que es una muestra de que existen intereses comunes y fuertes lazos que deben alimentarse.



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DÍA 3 DE OCTUBRE

1. Ceremonia inaugural y primera sesión plenaria

A las 8:30 h. comenzó la ceremonia inaugural. Después de una actuación cultural, abrió la sesión la Sra. Yathotou, Presidenta de la ASEP-7 y de la Asamblea Nacional de la República Democrática Popular de Laos. En su discurso, realizó un repaso de la historia compartida de Asia y Europa. A su juicio, esa historia compartida es la base sobre la que se puede asentar una próspera relación en el futuro. En el contexto de la globalización, la Sra. Yathotou defendió que Europa y Asia tienen valores comunes que deben hacer valer juntas. La fuerte interdependencia económica nos convierte en socios mutuamente indispensables en el siglo XXI, y de ahí que debamos trabajar juntos en los desafíos que compartimos.

En ese marco, conferencias como la ASEP-7 cobran una importancia aún mayor. En la actualidad este foro cuenta con 47 miembros, más que nunca, y en su seno se han conseguido progresos notables que van desde la liberalización comercial a la cooperación en prevención de desastres naturales o mejoras en áreas como la seguridad y el cambio climático. La Sra. Yathotou hizo a continuación un repaso de las cuestiones en la agenda de la ASEP-7 para concluir que del éxito de los pueblos de Asia y Europa en afrontar tales asuntos dependerá en gran parte nuestro bienestar a lo largo del próximo siglo.

A continuación tomó la palabra el Sr. Thammavong, Primer Ministro de la República Democrática Popular de Laos. Éste subrayó que en campos como la seguridad alimentaria, el cambio climático o la estabilidad de los mercados financieros cualquier solución que se adopte en el ámbito mundial debe comprender a Asia y Europa, que unidas representan a más del 65% de la población del planeta. Anunció además que los preparativos para la celebración de la ASEM-9, la reunión de los representantes gubernamentales de los Estados de Europa y Asia, que se celebrará también en la República Democrática Popular de Laos, están concluidos. Del éxito de estos foros dependerá el bienestar de los pueblos de Europa y Asia en el futuro, por lo que deseó a todos los intervinientes éxito en sus trabajos.



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Finalmente intervino el Sr. Torfs, miembro del Senado de Bélgica y representante de la delegación belga. Éste rememoró los acuerdos alcanzados durante la reunión de la ASEP-6 en Bruselas, en campos como la gobernanza global, el desarrollo sostenible, la aplicación del principio de las obligaciones diferenciadas en la comunidad internacional, la brecha digital o el problema de la piratería en aguas internacionales, y en particular en el Océano Índico. Opinó que la diplomacia parlamentaria es un instrumento ideal para resolver estos problemas en la medida en que permite un intercambio más franco de ideas y el establecimiento de relaciones más directas entre los pueblos que permiten una mejor comprensión mutua.

A partir de las 10:30 h. comenzaron los discursos de los Jefes de Delegación. Abrió la sesión el Sr. Jané, Vicepresidente del Congreso de los Diputados de España. Éste, tras felicitar a la República Democrática Popular de Laos por la organización del evento, comenzó señalando que ésta es la tercera ocasión en la que el Parlamento español ha participado en las reuniones de la Asociación Parlamentaria Asia-Europa, después de nuestra presencia en las sesiones de Helsinki y Pekín, y de todas ellas ha salido convencida de que estos foros son un paso fundamental para la resolución de los problemas comunes. A continuación realizó un repaso de las cuestiones elegidas por la organización para el orden del día.

La dificultad de financiación de nuestras Administraciones públicas, señaló, es un problema especialmente importante en estos momentos para España. En estos momentos, existen importantes tensiones en los mercados financieros que han agravado la grave crisis económica que atraviesa el país. En la actualidad, la crisis de la deuda pública es una de las mayores amenazas para la economía española. Ante esta realidad, España ha adoptado enérgicas medidas. Hace ahora un año se reformó la Constitución española con el fin de garantizar el principio de estabilidad presupuestaria y tanto el Gobierno de España como los Gobiernos de las Comunidades Autónomas tienen un firme compromiso con la salida de la crisis de la deuda. Ello se ha traducido en



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importantes medidas de ajuste presupuestario que muestran el compromiso de España con el pago de su deuda pública.

A continuación, el Sr. Jané defendió que la cooperación entre todos los Estados será también necesaria para prevenir y mitigar los efectos de los desastres naturales. Es necesario, según el sr. Jané recordar en este foro la importancia que la ayuda internacional tuvo para mitigar los efectos del terremoto y el tsunami que afectó al sudeste asiático en el año 2004 o el terremoto de Haití de 2010. En ambos casos numerosos países, y entre ellos España, se volcaron para intentar minorar los terribles daños.

Finalmente, el Sr. Jané añadió que la delegación española confía también en poder compartir ideas y soluciones en nuestra urgente lucha contra el cambio climático. España está firmemente comprometida en este campo. Informó de que en el Congreso de los Diputados existe una Comisión especialmente dedicada a este asunto de la cual han salido importantes documentos e informes que recogen algunas de las más importantes aportaciones científicas para afrontar este desafío. Además, el Parlamento español estuvo representado al más alto nivel en la reunión preparatoria de la cumbre de Rio +20, en una muestra de la importancia que nuestro país cree que tiene este campo.

A continuación tomaron la palabra representantes de los Parlamentos de Vietnam, Myanmar, Finlandia, Camboya, Rusia, China, Tailandia, Corea del Sur, Alemania, India y Hungría.

En las intervenciones se trataron distintas cuestiones. La mayoría de los representantes coincidieron en la lucha contra el cambio climático como una de las máximas prioridades que deben afrontar los Estados de Europa y Asia en los próximos años, y desearon que las conversaciones de Doha concluyan con acuerdos positivos que estén a la altura del problema que afrontamos.

Otra de las cuestiones más tratadas fue el del levantamiento de medidas proteccionistas. Aunque muchos representantes coincidieron en que se han hecho esfuerzos importantes, otros resaltaron que aún queda mucho por hacer para poder hablar de una verdadera integración de mercados. Delegados asiáticos recalcaron que la



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Unión Europea mantiene todavía restricciones a la importación de productos desde algunas naciones asiáticas, ya sea mediante la fijación de altas tasas arancelarias o mediante la fijación de cuotas. Por su parte, delegados europeos cuestionaron que en algunos países asiáticos existan trabas a las inversiones extranjeras que dificultan el normal funcionamiento de las empresas.

Muchos delegados felicitaron a la organización por la elección de los asuntos a tratar en el orden del día. La seguridad alimentaria y la prevención y superación de desastres son problemas de la mayor importancia, y en particular en los Estados asiáticos, donde se concentran las dos terceras partes de la población del mundo que vive por debajo del umbral de la pobreza. Por otra parte, todos los representantes coincidieron en que la crisis financiera que experimenta Europa en estos momentos es una amenaza para el bienestar de todas las naciones del mundo, por lo que es preciso redoblar los esfuerzos para superarla.

A partir de las 16:00 h. los Jefes de las delegaciones fueron recibidos en el Palacio Presidencial por el Presidente de la República Democrática Popular de Laos, Sr. Choummaly Sayasone, y a las 18:30 tuvo lugar la cena de gala ofrecida por la Sra. Yathotou, Presidenta de la ASEP-7 y de la Asamblea Nacional de la República Democrática Popular de Laos.

DÍA 4 DE OCTUBRE

1. Grupo de trabajo sobre asuntos económicos

El día 4 de octubre tuvieron lugar simultáneamente las reuniones de los dos grupos de trabajo. El primero de ellos se dedicó a asuntos económicos, y en concreto a dos cuestiones: la seguridad alimentaria en el contexto del cambio climático y el reforzamiento de la cooperación entre Asia y Europa en el campo de las finanzas públicas para lograr un desarrollo sostenible. La sesión de trabajo estuvo presidida conjuntamente por la Sra. Bouphanouvong, Presidenta de la Comisión de Economía,



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Planificación y Finanzas de la Asamblea Nacional de la República Democrática Popular de Laos, y por el Sr. Ruck, portavoz adjunto del grupo parlamentario de la CDU/CSU en el Bundestag alemán. Ejerció de ponente la Sra. Burk, Vicepresidenta de la Cámara de Representantes de Australia.

La reunión comenzó con presentaciones a cargo de la Sra. Paloniemi, Jefa de la Delegación de Finlandia; el Sr. Zhang, miembro de la Delegación china y de la Comisión de Agricultura y Asuntos Rurales del Congreso de la República Democrática Popular de China; el Sr. Bae Ki-Woon, miembro de la Asamblea Nacional de Corea; y el Sr. Sanjay Kalra, representante del Fondo Monetario Internacional en la República Democrática Popular de Laos y Vietnam.

Durante la reunión, que se desarrolló a lo largo de dos sesiones, intervino el Sr. Jané. Éste subrayó que España considera que la cooperación entre Asia y Europa es un factor determinante para resolver muchos de los desafíos que han aparecido en los últimos años. Por su peso económico, la interdependencia de sus sociedades y los enormes intereses comunes que existen, Asia y Europa deben ser socias ante los retos del siglo XXI. Desde la Unión Europea, afirmó el Sr. Jané, se están realizando grandes esfuerzos por alcanzar una política económica común que complemente a la política monetaria. Muchas de las tensiones que en los últimos años nos han perseguido han venido causadas por desajustes en el modelo creado después del Tratado de Maastricht que ahora debemos corregir. Es por ello que confiamos en que durante los próximos meses la Unión Europea logre importantes avances en campos como la unificación de la regulación de los mercados financieros, la profundización del mercado interior o la armonización de la legislación fiscal.

Las naciones asiáticas pueden jugar un papel trascendental en todo este proceso. Por un lado, los europeos confiamos en que los Estados asiáticos continúen incrementando su volumen de inversión en deuda pública europea, dadas las enormes oportunidades que ésta ofrece actualmente. Y, por otro lado, Europa también desea que nuestras empresas puedan internacionalizarse en los mercados asiáticos para así estrechar los lazos que unen Asia y Europa



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Por otra parte, el Sr. Jané añadió que el otro campo en el que todas las naciones del mundo nos jugamos nuestro futuro es el de la seguridad alimentaria en la actual situación de cambio climático. Y para afrontar este problema el Sr. Jané recalcó que es preciso partir de la idea de que el cambio climático es un desafío que va más allá de las fronteras y que por lo tanto requiere de una solución en el ámbito internacional. De acuerdo con las previsiones de la Comisión Europea, España está en condiciones de cumplir en 2012 con las obligaciones derivadas de la entrada en vigor del Protocolo de Kioto, si bien hoy este instrumento debe ser considerado como un punto de partida, y no de llegada, en la lucha contra el cambio climático. El Sr. Jané concluyó su discurso animando a todos los Estados participantes a reforzar su compromiso en la lucha contra el cambio climático.

En relación con la crisis de deuda soberana, todos los representantes coincidieron en que se trata de un problema compartido frente al que ningún Estado es inmune. Muchos delegados propusieron el establecimiento de un marco jurídico de ámbito global que permita controlar los movimientos especulativos. Se propuso, entre otras medidas, la creación de una entidad reguladora internacional (o, en su defecto, el otorgamiento de poderes de supervisión de los mercados financieros a organizaciones como el FMI); la fijación de límites a la movilidad de capitales; la creación de tasas a la circulación de capitales y la coordinación de medidas entre los Estados para limitar las fluctuaciones de los tipos de interés de la deuda pública.

Todas las intervenciones relativas a la seguridad alimentaria subrayaron que se trata de un problema de la mayor magnitud que debe ocupar los primeros puestos de la agenda de la comunidad internacional. Muchos representantes cuestionaron las medidas proteccionistas de algunos Estados en la materia, como las ayudas a la producción agraria, la fijación de altos aranceles, el establecimiento de cuotas o la creación de algunos estándares que en la práctica impiden la importación de alimentos de los países en vías de desarrollo. Hubo una importante coincidencia en la importancia de vincular las políticas agrarias a la protección del medio ambiente para paliar el problema del



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cambio climático. Los delegados se comprometieron a trasladar las reflexiones de la cumbre a los representantes de los Estados en la Cumbre de Doha.

2. Grupo de trabajo sobre cuestiones sociales y medioambientales

De forma simultánea tuvo lugar la reunión del segundo grupo de trabajo, dedicado a cuestiones sociales y medioambientales. Más concretamente, la cuestión a tratar por los participantes fue la colaboración entre Asia y Europa en el incremento de la participación social en la gestión de desastres. La reunión estuvo presidida conjuntamente por el Sr. Nguyen Van Tien, Vicepresidente del Comité Social de la Asamblea Nacional de la República Socialista de Vietnam, y por el Sr. Martin, representante del Parlamento Europeo. Ejerció como ponente el Sr. Motoyuki Fujii, Presidente de la Comisión especial para Asistencia al Desarrollo Oficial de la Cámara de Consejeros de Japón.

La reunión comenzó con presentaciones a cargo del Sr. Hayono Isman, miembro del Parlamento de Indonesia; el Sr. Torfs, Senador de Bélgica y la Sra. Wahlstrom, Representante especial del Secretario General de Naciones Unidas para la reducción de los riesgos por desastres.

Durante la reunión intervino el Sr. Cervera. Éste indicó que en los españoles son conscientes de que la prevención de las consecuencias de los desastres naturales es posible en muchos lugares, y en la mayor parte de las ocasiones depende de las condiciones de desarrollo humano de las zonas en riesgo. En tal sentido, fomentar la educación, la participación comunitaria, los mecanismos de cohesión social y el control de las actividades de los gobiernos es parte de lo necesario. También lo es el uso razonable de los bienes naturales, la ordenación adecuada de las infraestructuras, los asentamientos humanos y la disposición de mecanismos eficaces de alerta, ayuda temprana y atención de emergencia.

De acuerdo con el Sr. Cervera, España contempla sus actuaciones en esta materia en el ámbito de la Unión Europea, ya sea para establecer estándares intracomunitarios y mecanismos comunes de prevención como para dirigir la ayuda



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necesaria a países terceros cuando ésta se deba proporcionar. Es por ello que, en el marco de la Unión Europea, es preciso realizar actuaciones encaminadas a mejorar la gestión de los desastres e incrementar la colaboración entre los Estados para paliar sus terribles consecuencias.

3. Reunión de la Comisión de Redacción

A partir de las 13:45 h. tuvo lugar la reunión de la Comisión de Redacción de la declaración final. La reunión se celebró bajo la Presidencia de la Sra. Bouppha, Presidenta del Caucus de Mujeres y Vicepresidenta de la Comisión de Asuntos Exteriores de la Asamblea Nacional de la República Democrática Popular de Laos. Ejerció como ponente la Sra. Pathouvanh, miembro de la Asamblea Nacional de la República Democrática Popular de Laos y Vicepresidenta del Sindicato de Mujeres de Laos. El texto de la declaración final acordada para su sometimiento al Pleno se adjunta como Anexo 3.

4. Segunda sesión plenaria y ceremonia de clausura

La segunda sesión plenaria contó con la Presidencia de la Sra. Yathotou, Presidenta de la ASEP-7 y de la Asamblea Nacional de la República Democrática Popular de Laos. Ejerció como ponente la Sra. Akhamountry, Presidenta de la Asamblea Nacional de la Comisión de Asuntos Exteriores de la República Democrática Popular de Laos. Su ponencia se adjunta como Anexo 4.

La reunión comenzó a las 16:35 h. con los informes presentados por los ponentes de los dos grupos de trabajo constituidos (Anexos 5 y 6). Ambos agradecieron el trabajo de los delegados y expusieron las líneas de los debates que habían tenido lugar durante las reuniones. Finalmente se aprobó por unanimidad la declaración final presentada por la Comisión de Redacción.

El discurso de clausura corrió a cargo de la Sra. Yathotou, quien agradeció a todos los delegados su asistencia y destacó la importancia de las cuestiones tratadas y las ideas aportadas por los participantes. La sesión se levantó a las 17:50 horas.



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A las 19:00 h. la delegación se desplazó al Centro Internacional de Cooperación y Entrenamiento de Vientiane, donde se celebró la cena de recepción oficial ofrecida por el Sr. Sisoulith, Viceprimer Ministro y Ministro de Asuntos Exteriores de la República Democrática Popular de Laos.

Al día siguiente la delegación emprendió su viaje de vuelta a España.

Palacio del Congreso de los Diputados, Madrid, 12 de diciembre de 2012

Fernando Galindo Elola-Olaso, Letrado de las Cortes Generales



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ANEXO 1



The 7th Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting
03-05 October 2012, Vientiane, Lao PDR

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

DELEGATIONS

AUSTRALIA

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| 1. Hon. Ms. Anna Burke, | Deputy Speaker (House of Representatives) Head of the Delegation |
| 2. Hon. Mr. Stephen Parry, | Deputy President (Senate) |

EMBASSY OF AUSTRALIA

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| 1. H. E. Ms. Lynda Worthaisong, | Australian Ambassador to Lao PDR |
| 2. Ms. Kimberly Radford, | Second Secretary, Australian Embassy, Vientiane |

AUSTRIA

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| 1. Hon. Mr. Stefan Markowitz, | Member of the National Council |
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BELGIUM

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| 1. Hon. Mr. Rik Torfs, | Senator |
| 2. Mr. Tim De Bondt, | Adviser |

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

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| 1. H. E. Pehin Dato Haji Isa Bin Ibrahim, | Speaker of the Legislative Council Leader of Delegation, |
| 2. Hon. Pehin Dato Haji Yaakub Pehin Dato Hj Zainal, | Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council |
| 3. Hon. Pehin Dato Goh King Chin, | Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council |
| 4. Hon. Datin Paduka Hajah Salbiah Haji Sulaiman, | Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council |
| 5. Hon. Haji Zulkipli Haji Abdul Hamid, | Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council |
| 6. Hon. Haji Mohd. Shafiee Ahmad, | Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council |
| 7. Mr. Pehin Dato Haji Judin Haji Asar, | Member of Delegation, |

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| | Secretary to the Cabinet Minister's Council & Clerk I (first) to the Legislative Council |
| 8. Mr. Haji Abd Salam Abd Momin, | Clerk II (Second) to the Legislative Council |
| 9. Ms. Rose Aminah Haji Ismail, | Advisor/Secretary to the Delegation, Deputy Clerk of Council |
| 10. Mr. Haji Adanan Haji Manggong, | Advisor/Secretary to the Delegation, Special Duties Officer |
| 11. Ms. Siti Bismi Nuruliman Emzah, | Advisor/Secretary to the Delegation, Public Relations Officer |
| 12. MDM. Datin Hajah Rosnah Abdullah, | Spouse of Leader of Delegation |
| 13. MDM. Datin Hj. Rahmah Dato Haji Mohd. Daud, | Spouse of Member of Delegation |
| 14. MDM. Datin Chang Nyuk Kee, | Spouse of Member of Delegation |
| 15. MDM. Datin Hajah Zaharah Haji Ja'afar, | Spouse of Member of Delegation |

CAMBODIA

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| 1. H. E. Ms. Khuon Sudary, | Second Vice-President of the National Assembly (Head of Delegation) |
| 2. H. E. Mr. Chheang Vun, | Chairman of the Commission on Foreign Affairs (Member) |
| 3. H. E. Mr. Chea Chet, | Chairman of the Commission on Economy, Finance, Banking and Audit of the Senate (Member) |
| 4. H. E. Mr. Prak Thuch, | Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Public Health, Social Work, Veteran Youth, Rehabilitation, Labor, Vocational and Women's Affairs (Member) |
| 5. H. E. Mr. Men Kuon, | Member of the Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media (Member) |
| 6. H. E. Mrs. Troeung Thavy, | Secretary of the Commission on Education, Youth, Sport, Religious Affairs, Culture and Tourism (NA) (Member) |
| 7. H. E. Mr. Mean Chanyada, | Chief of Cabinet of Second Vice-President (Assistant) |
| 8. H. E. Mrs. Ban Sreymom, | Vice-Chief of Cabinet of Second Vice-President (Assistant) |
| 9. H. E. Mr. Uy Visal, | Director of International Relations Department (Assistant) |
| 10. Mr. Meas Siphandom, | Chief of Bilateral Office (Assistant) |
| 11. Mr. Penh Meng Huoth, | Vice-Chief of Bilateral Office (Assistant) |
| 12. Mr. Koy Malay Vireak, | Deputy Director of International Relations Department (Senate) |
| 13. Ms. Men Sophorn, | Assistant to the National Assembly (Assistant) |
| 14. Mr. Vat Saphiny, | Cameraman |

CHINA

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| 1. Hon. Mr. Nan Zhenzhong, | Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress |
| 2. Hon. Mr. Zhang Xiaoshan, | Member of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress |
| 3. Mr. Xiong Wei, | Director of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the General Office of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress |
| 4. Mr. Wang Fei, | Secretary to Mr. Nan Zhenzhong |
| 5. Mr. Jin Leiming, | Third Secretary of the International and Regional Issue of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| 6. Ms. Hou Dong, | Principal Staff of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the General Office of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress |
| 7. Ms. Tang Yu, | Interpreter |
| 8. Ms. Zhao Tianming, | Interpreter |

DENMARK

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| 1. Ms. Karin Gaardsted, | Member of Parliament |
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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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| 1. Mr. George Sabin CUTAS, | Chair, Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (S&D Romania) |
| 2. Mr. Francesco SPERONI, | Committee on Legal Affairs (EFD Italy) |
| 3. Mr. David MARTIN, | Committee on International Trade, Committee on Constitutional Affairs, Subcommittee on Human Rights (S&D) |
| 4. Ms. Anna ROSBACH, | Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ECR Denmark) |
| 5. Ms. Elisabeth JEGGLE, | Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, Subcommittee on Human Rights (EPP Germany) |
| 6. Mr. Niccolo RINALDI, | Committee on International Trade (ALDE Italy) |
| 7. Ms. Katarina NEVEDALOVA, | Committee on Culture and Education (S&D, Slovakia) |
| 8. Mr. Jonas CONDOMINES, | Head of Unit, Secretariat |
| 9. Ms. Claudia SCHWENDENWEIN, | Assistant, Secretariat |
| 10. Mr. Christopher WILLIAMS, | S&D, Political Group |

FINLAND

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|------------------------|---|
| 1. Ms. Aila Paloniemi, | Member of Parliament |
| 1. Ms. Paivi Lipponen, | Member of Parliament |
| 2. Mr. Guy Lindstrom, | Deputy Director of International Department |
| 3. Ms. Satu Wastimo, | Accompanying Person |

GERMANY

1. Hon. Dr. Christian Ruck,
2. Hon. Mr. Patrick Kurth,

Deputy Chairman of the CDU/CSU
Parliamentary Group/German Bundestag
Member of German Parliament

HUNGARY

1. Hon. Mr. Andor Nagy,

Vice-Chairman of the Committee on
Sustainable Development

IMF

1. Mr. Sanjay Kalra,

Senior Resident Representative

INDIA

1. Hon. Mr. Krishnasswamy Murugagounder,
2. Hon. Mr. Sanjay Jaiswal,
3. Hon. Mr. Bibhu Prasad Tarai,
4. Hon. Mr. Devi Prasad Tripathi,
5. Mr. Surender Singh,
6. Mr. Sushanta Mallik,

Member of Parliament
Member of Parliament
Member of Parliament
Member of Parliament
Secretary to the Delegation
Private Secretary to Shri D.P. Tripathi (No.4)

EMBASSY OF INDIA

1. H. E. Mr. C. Gururaj Rao,
2. Mr. Naresh Kumar,
3. Mr. Suprasun Lahiri,

Ambassador of India to Lao PDR
Second Secretary & Head of Chancery
Second Secretary

INDONESIA

1. Hon. Mr. Hayono Isman,
2. Hon. Mrs. Meutya Viada Hafid,
3. Hon. Mr. Al Muzammi Yusuf,
4. Hon. Mr. Daniel Lumbantobing
5. Hon. Mr. Juhaini Alie,
6. Mr. Hariyadi,
7. Ms. Leny Mailaini,
8. Mr. Bowo Hoetomo,

A Senior Parliamentarian and Vice-Chairperson
of the House Committee of the Inter-Parliamentary
Cooperation to Lead the Delegation
Member
Member
Member
Member
Adviser
Adviser
Secretary

EMBASSY OF INDONESIA

1. H. E. Mr. Kria Fahmi Pasaribu,
2. Mr. Bambang Eko Sukartono,
3. Mrs. Septania Rubi Prameswari,
4. Mr. Bayu Yuswan Satria,

Ambassador
Counsellor
Third Secretary
Consular Staff

IRELAND

1. Mr. Dominic Hannigan,

Deputy, Chairman, European Union Affairs
Committee

JAPAN

1. Hon. Mr. Motoyuki FUJII,
2. Hon. Mr. Koji HIRAYAMA,

Member of the House of Councilors
Member of the House of Councilors

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| 3. Mr. Ken SHIMIZU, | Director, International Conferences Division |
| 4. Mr. Ryunosuke NAKAZONE, | Secretary, International Conferences Division |
| 5. Ms. Yayoi SHIRAI, | Interpreter (House of Councillors) |
| 6. Ms. Mayumi ICHIKAWA, | Interpreter (House of Councillors) |
| 7. Ms. Satoko WATANABE, | Interpreter (House of Councillors) |
| 8. Ms. Akiko SHIMODA, | Interpreter (House of Councillors) |

MALAYSIA

- | | |
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| 1. H. E. Sen. Tan Sri Abu Zahar Ujang, | President of the Senate |
| 2. Hon. Sen. Mrs. Datuk Doris Sophia Brodi, | Deputy President of the Senate |
| 3. Hon. Sen. Mdm. Noriah Mahat, | Member of the Senate |
| 4. Hon. Sen. Dato' Dr. Firdaus Abdullah, | Member of the Senate |
| 5. Hon. Sen. Dato' Abdul Rahim Abdul Rahman, | Member of the Senate |
| 6. Hon. Sen. Dato' Abdul Rahman Bakar, | Member of the Senate |
| 7. Hon. Sen. Mr. Khoo Soo Seang, | Member of the Senate |
| 8. Hon. Sen. Dato' Nallakaruppan a/l Solaimalai, | Member of the Senate |
| 9. Hon. Sen. Mr. Subramaniam Veruthasalam, | Member of the Senate |
| 10. Mr. Dato' Lamien Sawiyo, | Chief Administrator of Parliament |
| 11. Mr. Datuk Zamani Sulaiman, | Secretary of the Senate |
| 12. Mr. Shamsul Bahri Shamsudin, | Principal Private Secretary |
| 13. Mr. Tengku Nasaruddin Tengku Mohamed, | Delegation Secretary I |
| 14. Mr. Adlan Salleh, | Delegation Secretary II |
| 15. Mrs. Puan Sri Sarifah Rugayah Syed Jaffar, | Spouse to the President of the Senate (No. 1) |
| 16. Dr. Mr. Chua Beng Leong, | Spouse to the Deputy President of the Senate (No. 2) |

MYANMAR

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. H. E. Mr. U Khin Aung Myint, | Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (Parliament) Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw |
| 2. H. E. Mr. U Thein Win, | Chairman of Public Accounts Committee, Member of Bill committee, Amyotha Hluttaw |
| 3. H. E. Mr. U Saw Maw Tun, | Secretary, Farmers, Local and Overseas Workers Affairs Committee, Secretary, ASEAN Political-Security Community Committee |
| 4. H. E. Mr. U Soe Myint, | Member of Bill Committee, Member of ASEAN Economic Community Committee, Amyotha Hluttaw |
| 5. H. E. Mr. U Htay Maung, | Secretary of International Relations Committee Member of International Non-government Organization Committee, Amyotha Hluttaw |
| 6. H. E. Dr. Mr. Soe Win, | Member of Commerce Committee Member of ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Committee, Amyotha Hluttaw |
| 7. Mr. U Kyaw Soe, | Director-General, Hluttaw Office |
| 8. Ms. Daw Thida Tun, | Deputy Director-General, Hluttaw Office |
| 9. Mr. Wanna Aung Myint, | Assistant Director, Hluttaw Office |
| 10. Mr. U Chit Win, | Assistant Director (Interpreter), Ministry of Foreign Affairs |

EMBASSY OF MYANMAR

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| 1. H. E. Mr. Kyaw Soe Win, | Ambassador |
| 2. Mrs. Aye Aye Nwe, | Spouse of Ambassador |
| 3. Brig-Gen. Win Myint, | Military Attache |
| 4. Mrs. Mya Mya Aye, | Spouse of Military Attache |
| 5. Ms. Myat Thida Aye, | Counsellor and DCM |
| 6. Ms. Ngu War Swe, | Second Secretary |
| 7. Mr. Maung Maung Chit San Oo, | Attaché |
| 8. Sgt. Than Zaw Oo, | Attaché |
| 9. Mr. Vilakone Sidlakone, | Translator (local Staff) |
| 10. Mr. Sanya Inthavong, | Driver (local Staff) |
| 11. Mr. Sylipanya Philavanh, | Driver (local Staff) |
| 12. Mr. Viraphon Bounpaseth, | Driver (local Staff) |
| 13. Mr. Kidone Ountady, | Messenger and Supporting Staff |

NEW ZEALANDS

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| 1. Hon. Mr. John Hayes MP, | Parliamentary Private Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Chair of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Select Committee |
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PAKISTAN (Senate)

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| 1. Hon. Sen. Mr. Sabir Ali Baloch, | Deputy Chairman Senate |
| 2. Hon. Sen. Mr. Molana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri, | Senator |
| 3. Hon. Sen. Dr. Mrs. Saeeda Iqbal, | Senator |
| 4. Hon. Sen. Mr. Abbas Khan Afridi, | Senator |
| 5. Hon. Sen. Mr. Muhammad Yusuf, | Senator |
| 6. Mr. Syed Waqar Yousaf, | Secretary, Senate Secretariat |

PAKISTAN (National Assembly)

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|---|---|
| 1. Hon. Mr. Akram Masih Gill, | Minister for National Harmony, Leader of Delegation |
| 2. Hon. Ms. Palwasha Mohammed Zai Khan, | Member National Assembly |
| 3. Hon. Mr. Bilal Yasin, | Member National Assembly |
| 4. Mr. Wajahat Ahmed, | Parliamentary Staff |

EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN

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| 1. H. E. Mr. Shahid Masroor Gul Kiani, | Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to Vietnam Accrediting to Lao PDR. |
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PORTUGAL

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| 1. Hon. Mrs. Angela Guerra, | Member of Parliament |
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REPUBLIC OF KOREA

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| 1. Hon. Mr. Kiwoon BAE, | Member of Parliament |
| 2. Hon. Mr. Cheik LEE, | Member of Parliament |
| 3. Ms. Soyoung JEONG, | Interpreter |

4. Ms. Seoyeon CHO,
5. Mr. Daehyung LEE,

Interpreter
Deputy Director of National Assembly

REPUBLIC OF KOREA EMBASSY

1. H. E. Mr. Gun-tae Lee, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Lao PDR
2. Ms. Ga-Yeon Jung, Counselor, Embassy of the Republic of Korea

RUSSIA

1. Hon. Mr. Andrey Klimov, Member of the Committee for Foreign Affairs, Head of the Delegation (The Council)
2. Hon. Mr. Akhmet Palankoev, Member of the Committee for Foreign Affairs (The Council)
3. Hon. Mr. Maxim Shngarkin, Vice-Chairman, Committee on Natural Resource (State Duma)
4. H. E. Mr. Oleg Kabanov, Ambassador
5. Ms. Irina Zolotareva, Advisor of the Department for Foreign Affairs (The Council)
6. Mr. Alexey Bykov, Chief Specialist-Expert of the Secretariat, (Advisor) (The Council)
7. Mrs. Elena Chistyakova, Advisor (State Duma)
8. Mr. Vladimir Lakeev, Interpreter (The Council)
9. Dr. Mr. Alexander Artamonov, Russian Embassy
10. Mr. Ruslan Ushakov, Assistant Military Attache
11. Mr. Alexey Bulkin, Second Secretary

SINGAPORE

1. Hon. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim, Member of Parliament
2. Dr. Lim Wee Kiak, Member of Parliament
3. Ms. Anne Quah, Senior Assistant Clerk

SINGAPORE EMBASSY

1. H. E. Mr. Dileep Nair, Singapore Ambassador
2. Mr. Ivan Chia, Deputy Chief of Mission

SPAIN

1. Hon. Mr. Jane Jordi, 4th Deputy Chairman
2. Mr. Santiago Cervera, Second Secretary of the Bureau
3. Mr. Fernando Galindo, Accompany Person

THAILAND

1. Hon. Mr. Surachai Liengboonlertchai, First Vice-President of the Senate
Leader of the Delegation
2. H. E. Mr. Vitavas Srivihok, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to Lao People's Democratic Republic
3. Hon. Mr. Sunai Chulpongsatorn, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, Delegate

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| 4. Hon. Mr. Thanate Kruarat, | Chairman of the Standing Committee on Tourism and Sports, House of Representatives, Delegate |
| 5. Hon. Mr. Thongdee Manissarn, | 1 st Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee on Labour, House of Representatives, Delegate |
| 6. Hon. Mrs. Pikulkeaw Krairiksh, | Chairwoman of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Senate, Delegate |
| 7. Hon. Mr. Surajit Chirawate, | 1 st Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee on Natural Resource and Environment, Senate, Delegate |
| 8. Hon. Assoc. Prof. Vichuda Rattanapian, | Member and Vice-Chairwoman of the Advisor of the Standing Committee on Monetary, Finance, Banking and Financial Institutions, Senate, Delegate |
| 9. Hon. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lalita Lerksamran, | Advisor to the Thai Delegation |
| 10. Mr. Sompol Vanigbandhu, | Deputy Secretary General of the House of Representatives |
| 11. Mr. Varayudh Chaiyakul, | Minister, Royal Thai Embassy in Vientiane |
| 12. Mrs. Samonrutai Aksornmat, | Supervisor of the Special Affairs Division, Bureau of Inter-Parliamentary Organizations, Secretariat of the House of Representatives |
| 13. Mrs. Thippawan Supamitkitja, | Minister Counsellor, Royal Thai Embassy in Vientiane |
| 14. Ms. Panadda Sungkhum, | Foreign Relations Officer, Special Affairs Division, Bureau of Inter-Parliamentary Organizations, Secretariat of the House of Representatives, Assistant Secretary to the Delegation |
| 15. Ms. Kanteera Leelanond, | Foreign Affairs Officer, Association of Parliaments and Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments Division, Bureau of Inter-Parliamentary Organizations, Secretariat of the House of Representatives, Assistant Secretary to the Delegation |
| 16. Mr. Kran CHANCHARASWAT, | Foreign Relations Officer, Special Affairs Division, Bureau of Inter-Parliamentary Organizations, Secretariat of the House of Representatives, Assistant Secretary to the Delegation |

THE PHILIPPINES

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| 1. Mr. Antonio De Guzman Jr., | Director-General, Office of International Relation and Protocol, Senate of the Philippines |
| 2. Ms. Analyn de Leon-RATONEL, | Third Secretary and Vice Consul, Philippine Embassy in Vientiane |
| 3. Mr. Ronaldo B. VILLANUEVA, | Administrative Officer, Philippine Embassy in Vientiane |

UNDP

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Mr. Minh Pham, | UN Resident Coordinator |
| 2. Ms. Maya Lindberg Brink, | UN Head of the Resident Coordinator Office |
| 3. Mr. Surith Sengsavang, | UNDP Laos Staff |
| 4. Mr. Phet Chanthabandith, | UNDP Driver |

UNISDR

- | | |
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| 1. Ms. Margareta Wahlstrom, | Special Representatives of UN Secretary- General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Chief of UNISDR |
| 2. Ms. Pham Thi Thanh Hang, | UNISDR |
| 3. Ms. Brigitte Leoni, | UNISDR Regional Communications Officer |
| 4. Ms. Ana Christina Angulo Smith, | UNISDR Programme Officer |

VIETNAM

- | | |
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| 1. H. E. Mr. Nguyen Sinh Hung, | President of the National Assembly Head of Delegation |
| 2. Hon. Mr. Uong Chu Lun, | Vice-President of the National Assembly Vice Head of Delegation |
| 3. Hon. Mrs. Nguyen Thi Nuong, | Member of the Standing Committee, Chairwoman of the Deputies Affairs of the National Assembly Standing Committee, Member of Delegation |
| 4. Hon. Mr. Nguyen Hanh Phuc, | Member of the Standing Committee, Chairman of the National Assembly Office, Member of Delegation |
| 5. H. E. Mr. Ta Minh Chau, | Vietnam Ambassador to Laos |
| 6. Hon. Mr. Nguyen Manh Tien, | Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Member of Delegation |
| 7. Hon. Mr. Nguyen Van Tien, | Vice-Chairman of the Social Affairs Committee of the National Assembly, Member of Delegation |
| 8. Hon. Mr. Nguyen Duc Kien, | Vice-Chairman of the Economic Affairs Committee of the National Assembly, Member of Delegation |
| 9. Hon. Mr. Tran Van, | Vice-Chairman of the Finance and Budgetary Affairs Committee of the National Assembly, Member of Delegation |
| 10. Hon. Mr. Nguyen Vinh Ha, | Vice-Chairman of the Science, Technology and Environment Committee of the National Assembly, Member of Delegation |
| 11. Hon. Mr. Vu Hai Ha, | Permanent Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly, Member of Delegation |
| 12. Mr. Nguyen Truong Giang, | Director General, Secretary to the Vice- President of the National Assembly |
| 13. Mrs. Nguyen Tuong Van, | Deputy Director General of the Foreign Affairs |

14. Mr. Le Anh Tuan,

15. Mr. Nguyen Manh Hung,

16. Mr. Dao Dung Trung,

17. Mr. Phung Trung Kien,

18. Ms. Tran Kim Chi,

19. Mr. Nguyen Chung Viet,

20. Ms. Pham Thi Ngoc Ha,

21. Ms. Pham Thi Thu Huong,

22. Mr. Nguyen Dung Thanh,

23. Mr. Phan Huu Tuan,

24. Mr. Tran Quoc Khanh,

25. Mr. Pham Binh Dam,

26. Mr. Nguyen Van Dung,

27. Mr. Dang Quoc An,

28. Mr. Nguyen Huu Quang,

29. Mr. Duong Van Hong,

30. Mr. Do Xuan Tiep,

31. Mr. Nguyen Vanh Dong,

32. Mr. Ho Quang Dai,

33. Mr. Le Van Hoa,

34. Mr. Le Van Phung,

35. Mr. Hoang Duy Duc,

36. Mr. Tran Quang Vinh,

37. Mr. Ho Van Dinh,

38. Mr. Phan Cao Thanh,

39. Mr. Phung Van Loi,

40. Mr. Vu Van Huyen,

41. Mr. Nghiem Huu Thanh,

42. Mr. Nguyen Xuan Hoai,

43. Mr. Nguyen Quang Vu,

44. Mr. Nhan Huu Sang,

45. Ms. Phi Thi Thu Tra,

46. Mr. Cao Duc Tri,

47. Mr. Nguyen Trung Thanh,

48. Mr. Nguyen Anh Dung,

49. Mr. Van Nghiep Chuc,

50. Mr. Hoang Gia Minh,

51. Mr. Nguyen Van Thao,

52. Mr. Vu Lam Hien,

53. Mr. Ngo Quang Xuan,

Department, Office of the National Assembly
Deputy Director General of the Foreign Affairs
Department, Office of the National Assembly,
Secretary to the President of the National
Assembly

Deputy Director General of the General Affairs
Department, Secretary to the Chairman of the
National Assembly Office

Chief of the Parliamentary Multilateral
Relations Section, Foreign Affairs Department

Chief of the Protocol and Administrative
Section, Foreign Affairs Department

Vice-Chief of the Bilateral Affairs Section,
Foreign Affairs Department

Official, Foreign Affairs Department

Official, Foreign Affairs Department

Official, Foreign Affairs Department

Official, Foreign Affairs Department

Senior Official

Senior Official

English Interpreter

English Interpreter

Lao Interpreter

Vice Chief, Security Protection Service

Security Officer

Security Officer to President

Security Officer to President

Security Officer to Vice President

Security Officer

Security Officer

Security Officer

Security Officer

Security Officer

Security Officer

Security Officer

Security Officer

Medical Doctor

Medical Doctor

Correspondent, Vietnam News Agency

Correspondent, Vietnam News Agency

Correspondent, Vietnam Television VTV

Correspondent, Vietnam Television VTV

Correspondent, Vietnam Television VTV

Correspondent

Correspondent

Correspondent

Correspondent

Correspondent

Former Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Affairs
Committee of the National Assembly, Former

54. Mr. Nguyen Thanh Chau,
55. Mr. Nguyen Dai Vu,

56. Mr. Cao Tran Quoc Hai,

57. Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Quy,

58. Mr. Nguyen Dang Quang,

Vietnamese Ambassador to UN
Former Vietnamese Ambassador to UN
Deputy Director General of the Informatics
Technology IT Center
Deputy Director General of the Multilateral
Economic Affairs Department, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs
Official of the Informatics Technology IT
Center
Former Head of Secretariat ASEM-5.



Congreso de los Diputados

ANEXO 2

ASEP-7
3-5 OCTOBER 2012, VIENTIANE, LAO PDR

Rules of Procedure

PREAMBLE

The Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership (ASEP) Meeting is part of the overall Asia - Europe partnership process.

The Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership (ASEP) Meeting shall have the following as its objectives:

- a. To serve as a forum for interparliamentary contacts, exchanges and diplomacy among parliaments, and to promote mutual understanding among the people and countries of Asia and Europe.
- b. To provide a link between parliaments of Asia and Europe and ASEM, and thereby to make an active parliamentary contribution to the ASEM process and in particular to Summit Meetings.

ASEP meetings shall be regulated by the following Rules of Procedure:

I. Membership

Rule 1

In principle, members of ASEP shall be national parliaments from all ASEM member countries, and the European Parliament.

The membership of the national parliaments from countries joining ASEM after the adoption of the present Rules of Procedure shall become effective once confirmed by the subsequent ASEP meeting.

II. Participation

Rule 2

Member parliaments have the prerogative to send delegations and to designate their respective heads of delegation. Official delegates have to be members of parliament. The host parliament of each ASEP meeting shall decide on the maximum number of official delegates.

Rule 3

Guests of the host parliament may be invited subject to adequate prior notification to all ASEP member parliaments and provided that no objection is raised by the latter within one month of the notification. Guests may attend all public sessions of the Meeting. With the consent of the Meeting, a guest may be invited to make a statement.

Rule 4

A non-member parliament that makes a request, or is recommended by an ASEP member to attend may be accepted as an observer subject to adequate prior notification by the host parliament to all ASEP members and provided that no objection is raised by the latter within one month of the notification. The decision on such a request or recommendation shall be taken on a meeting by meeting basis. Observers may attend all public sessions of the Meeting. With the consent of the Meeting, an observer may be invited to make a statement.

III. Frequency of ASEP meetings

Rule 5

ASEP meetings shall normally be convened on a regular bi-annual basis alternately in Asia and in Europe before the ASEM Summit. The parliament of the ASEM member state hosting the ASEM Summit shall have a priority to host the ASEP meeting the same year.

IV. AGENDA

Rule 6

The host parliament shall, not less than six weeks before the opening of the Meeting, draw up the draft agenda for the ASEP Meeting with issues relating to the main themes and focus of the ASEM process as well as issues of special interest to Asia-Europe interparliamentary diplomacy and communicate it with the related documents to all ASEP member parliaments.

Rule 7

Member parliaments that intend to present modifications or additions to the draft agenda should transmit their proposals to the host parliament not less than four weeks before the opening of the Meeting.

V. SESSIONS

Rule 8

The ASEP Meeting shall be structured as follows: the Inaugural Ceremony, followed by the first Plenary session to elect the Meeting's officers, to adopt the Agenda, organization of proceedings, and programme; Panel discussions; the last Plenary session in particular to adopt the Meeting's Final Declaration right before the Closing Ceremony.

Rule 9

Panel discussions shall be separately held focusing on respective topics of the Meeting's Agenda. The list of lead speakers and rapporteurs for each Panel discussion shall be established by the host parliament after due consultations. Lead speakers and rapporteurs for each Panel discussion shall be from both Asia and Europe.

Rule 10

The host parliament shall preside over a preparatory meeting prior to the opening of the ASEP Meeting among heads of delegation (or their representative) plus one other official delegate to discuss and agree on organizational issues such as the Agenda, election of the Meeting's officers, administrative arrangements, organization of proceedings etc.

VI. OFFICERS

President and Vice-Presidents

Rule 11

The President of the parliament of the host country shall be the President of the ASEP Meeting. The President of the parliament that is hosting the subsequent ASEP Meeting takes office after the conclusion of the ASEM Summit.

Rule 12

The President of the Meeting or his/her representative from the host parliament shall open and close the Meeting, chair plenary sessions, ensure observance of the rules of procedure and maintenance of order, accord the right to speak, rule on points of order, put questions to a discussion and announce decisions

reached during the Meeting. He/she may propose the closure of the list of speakers, a limitation on the time allowed to speakers and on the number of times a representative of each participating parliament may speak on an item. The President's decisions on these matters shall be final.

Rule 13

The head of delegation of each participating parliament shall be designated as Vice-President of the Meeting. The President may conduct consultations with the Vice-Presidents on procedural as well as substantive matters at any time during the Meeting if he deems necessary.

Co-chairs of panel discussions

Rule 14

There shall be Co-chairs to conduct debate in Panel discussions. Each Panel discussion shall be co-chaired by representatives from both Asia and Europe. The list of Co-chairs shall be established by the host parliament after due consultations.

Chair of drafting committee

Rule 15

The Drafting Committee shall be chaired by the host parliament.

Rapporteurs

Rule 16

There shall be rapporteurs to elaborate reports of Plenary sessions as well as Panel discussions. The list of Rapporteurs shall be established by the host parliament after due consultations.

VII. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Sessions

Rule 17

As a rule, sessions of the ASEP Meeting shall be public. If he/she deems necessary, the President of the Meeting may propose to sit in closed session. The Meeting in plenary shall decide thereon by consensus.

Speeches

Rule 18

1. The President/Co-chairs/Chair shall grant the right to speak at the Plenary sessions, Panel discussions or Drafting Committee meetings. As a rule, the President/Co-chairs/Chair shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak.

2. To ensure the efficient conduct of business and broad participation in the debates, the host parliament may decide on a time limit for interventions and inform the preparatory meeting.

3. Debate shall be confined to the questions pertaining to the subject and focus of the Meeting. The President/Co-chairs/Chair may call a speaker to order if his/her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

List of speakers

Rule 19

In order to ensure orderly, efficient and dynamic debate, the Chair/Co-Chair of the meeting shall establish at his/her own discretion a list of speakers taking into consideration, inter alia, regional balance, the need to give precedence to delegates of ASEP member parliaments taking the floor for the first time and relevance of the speaker's country to the issue at hand. Speakers are encouraged to register with the Secretariat before or during the sessions. They may also raise their hands to ask for the floor during the debate.

Rule 20

During the course of a debate the President/Co-chairs may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the delegates, declare the list closed.

Decision making

Rule 21

Adoption of decisions shall be by consensus among official delegations.

Rule 22

The Chair may consider a delegation's request that differing opinions on an issue be recorded in a relevant document of the meeting.

Language

Rule 23

English shall be the working language of the Meeting. Participating parliaments that would like the proceedings to be interpreted in their preferred language shall have the responsibility to bring their own interpreters at their own expense. The host country is to provide the simultaneous interpretation facilities.

Secretariat

Rule 24

The host country shall set up a Secretariat to provide adequate support services for the Meeting.

Documents

Rule 25

Copies of official documents, reports or statements made in the Meeting shall be distributed promptly. Only the Secretariat is allowed to disseminate documents on the meeting premises.

Expenses

Rule 26

The host parliament shall bear the cost of organizing the Meeting and the delegations shall cover their own expenses for attending the Meeting.

VIII. OUTCOME OF THE MEETING

Rule 27

At the end of the last plenary session, the Meeting shall adopt one final document - the ASEP Declaration reflecting the main thrust of the debates, the Meeting's decisions as well as its recommendations to the upcoming ASEM Summit. The host parliament shall submit a draft declaration to all member parliaments three weeks before the Meeting. Member parliaments are encouraged to submit their contribution to the first draft final document prior to the Meeting to be incorporated to the extent possible into the consolidated draft final document. The ASEP Declaration approved shall be transmitted to all member parliaments and to the upcoming ASEM Summit.

Rule 28

The Meeting shall set up a Drafting Committee to elaborate the drafts of the Meeting's final document for submission to and subsequent approval by the Plenary Session. This committee shall be composed of representatives from the host parliament and from all interested delegations. Informal consultations may be held to ensure the Meeting's final outcome.

Rule 29

The Summary Report of the ASEP Meeting shall be prepared by the host parliament with the help of relevant rapporteurs. The Summary Report shall be circulated to all delegations for amendments.

IX. Adoption and amendment of the rules

Rule 30

The Meeting shall adopt and amend its Rules by consensus.

Rule 31

Proposals for amending the Rules of the ASEP Meeting shall be formulated in writing and sent to the parliament of the host country at least three months before the Meeting. The Parliament of the host country shall communicate such proposals immediately to all ASEP member parliaments. It shall also, if necessary, communicate to all ASEP member parliaments any proposals for sub-amendments at least one month before the ASEP Meeting.

Consideration of any request to amend the Rules shall be included in the agenda of the next Meeting.

Unless otherwise specified with the approval of the Meeting, amendments to these rules shall enter into force at the following Meeting.



Congreso de los Diputados

ANEXO 3



DECLARATION
OF THE SEVENTH ASIA-EUROPE PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP MEETING
3-4 October 2012, Vientiane, Lao PDR

1. The Seventh Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting (ASEP-7) was held on 3-4 October in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) under the theme: **"Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership for Sustainable Development"** and presided over by Her Excellency Mrs. Pany YATHOTOU, Chairperson of the ASEP-7 and President of the Lao National Assembly.
2. In response to the invitation of the President of the National Assembly of the Lao PDR, Parliamentarians from ASEM partners namely: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russia, Singapore, Spain, Thailand, Vietnam and the European Parliament participated in the Meeting. The IMF, UNDP and UNISDR attended this Event as invited Guests of the Host Parliament.
3. Her Excellency Mrs. Pany YATHOTOU, the Host Speaker delivered an Opening Address at the Meeting in which, she highlighted the significance of the enlarged Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership over more than half a decade; the demand to ensure the sustainable economic development in each country, in particular the public debt, food security, climate change and disaster management; and the need for maintaining peace and stability. The Host Speaker called upon ASEM Governments and Parliaments to strengthen the executive and legislative partnership of Asia and Europe as a forum for joint deliberation in order to address common concerns of the two continents as well as the world as the whole.
4. His Excellency Mr. Thongsing THAMMAVONG, Prime Minister of the Lao PDR delivered a Statement as Host and Chair of the 9th ASEM Summit to be held in Vientiane on 5-6 November 2012, stressing the willingness of the people in Asia and Europe to live in peace and prosperity with one another and the world at large. He further emphasized that due to various challenges faced by the two regions, it urgently required close cooperation and collaboration to ensure the balance of socio-economic development and environmental protection.
5. Honourable Mr. Rik Torfs, Senator of Belgium, Head of Delegation as the Host Parliament of ASEP-6 gave his Remarks at the Meeting, recalling the conclusions of the 2010 Brussels ASEP-6 Meeting while emphasising among others the importance of women's rights and equal opportunities for all.
6. ASEP Parliamentarians warmly welcomed Australia, Myanmar, New-Zealand and Russia as new members of ASEP.
7. ASEP Parliamentarians expressed their condolences and sympathy over recent natural disasters that caused loss of life and property in a number of ASEM member countries.

8. ASEP Parliamentarians recalled the outcomes of the previous six meetings held in Strasbourg (1996), Manila (2002), Hue City (2004), Helsinki (2006), Beijing (2008) and Brussels (2010) which laid down a strong foundation and paved the way for sharing ideas, information, knowledge and issues of common interest and concern in order to strengthen Asia-Europe Partnership for Sustainable Development.
9. ASEP Parliamentarians reaffirmed the commitment to continue efforts in three mutually reinforcing and interdependent pillars of sustainable development, namely economic development, social equity and environmental protection. In this regard, ASEP Parliamentarians also welcomed and endorsed the outcome of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20 Conference) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 20-22 June 2012, which considers the green economy as an option in sustainable development and poverty eradication, and at the same time it may also represent more active regional response to the global climate change challenges, consistent with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and capabilities while emphasizing the need for a true commitment by all countries to tackle climate change.
10. ASEP Parliamentarians expressed their concerns over the current economic and financial crisis, and recognized that food security, climate change and natural disaster are among negative impacts. Therefore, ASEP Parliamentarians emphasized the need to further enhance cooperation in dealing with public debt, food security, climate change and disaster management, resources, in particular to ensure sustainable development and poverty eradication.

Ensuring Food Security in the Current Situation of Global Climate Change

11. ASEP Parliamentarians expressed their concerns about food security as a complex sustainable development issue, linked to health through malnutrition, but also to sustainable economic development, environment, and trade. In this regard, ASEP Parliamentarians reiterated their commitment to promote food security in terms of availability, accessibility, diversity and utilization. ASEP Parliamentarians reaffirmed that food security is heavily influenced by fair and sustainable access to, and use of water and land. ASEP Parliamentarians also stressed the importance of agriculture which remains the largest employment sector in most developing countries, and international agriculture agreements are crucial to ensure food security at national, regional and global levels.
12. ASEP Parliamentarians reiterated that eradicating extreme poverty, hunger and reducing malnutrition are common concern. As such, it requires an international response. In the search for global solution, ASEP Parliamentarians will closely cooperate to pursue food security policy supported by appropriate investment, including through the implementation of the outcomes of the G20 Summit on Food Security.
13. ASEP Parliamentarians encouraged the Governments of ASEM partners, the international institutions and the private sector to intensify joint efforts to increase food production and improve productivity through greater investment, enhanced support in capacity building and collaborative research, as well as technological development and transfer in the agricultural sector. ASEP

Parliamentarians supported the promotion of triangular cooperation in agriculture, which is a good model for sustainable development.

14. ASEP Parliamentarians further encouraged and supported effective measures to improve the efficiency of agriculture and food production as a way to ensure food security for all ASEM partners, enhancing international policy coordination, transparency of international food market and avoiding trade protectionism. In this regard, ASEP Parliamentarians called for long-term and appropriate investment in agricultural sector, raising agricultural production and productivity as well as rural development in developing countries.
15. ASEP Parliamentarians expressed their concern over the scale and gravity of the negative impact of climate change affecting all countries and undermining their abilities, in particular developing countries. Therefore, ASEP Parliamentarians attached great importance in combating climate change which requires urgent and ambitious action and a strong commitment of all countries to this end, in accordance with the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities, consistent with the principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Strengthening the Asia-Europe Partnership in Public Debt for Sustainable Development

16. ASEP Parliamentarians realized that the world macro-economic environment has been undergoing unpredictable and difficult periods with new challenges, such as lack of confidence on, among others, financial market, constraint in recovery momentum, increased unemployment rate which, in the end, would adversely affect the well-being of the people.
17. ASEP Parliamentarians also acknowledged that, against the afore-mentioned backdrop, Asian and European economies and financial markets have become more integrated and inter-dependent. As such, the current Euro-zone sovereign debt crisis would not only hurt the Euro-zone but would also have major implications in Asia's economic outlook.
18. ASEP Parliamentarians reiterated that development programmes should be pro-growth, pro-job, pro-environment, and against poverty.
19. ASEP Parliamentarians stressed the importance of self-reliant fiscal efforts by each country, and enhanced cooperation between Asia and Europe to overcome the consequences of the current debt crisis, which could be seen as a significant lesson for the evolving regional economic architecture. ASEP Parliamentarians emphasized the need for ASEM partners to cooperate in experience sharing, technical assistance, and strengthening capacity building in public debt management, particularly for developing countries.
20. ASEP Parliamentarians welcomed all efforts made to enhance intra-regional and inter-continental cooperation to address public debt related issues, particularly the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) and the Chiang Mai Initiative Multi-lateralization (CMIM). ASEP Parliamentarians also supported G20 initiatives on the reform of international financial architecture, which would provide stability and integrity of international monetary and financial system.

21. ASEP Parliamentarians expressed their strong commitment to strengthen parliamentary oversight over governments' monetary policies, financial market governance and state budget expenses, which are the most crucial elements of public debt; and urged the governments of countries which either have vulnerable financial sectors, and public debts or government deficits beyond sustainable levels to introduce early warning mechanisms on financial stability to minimize the risk of increased debt levels, and large bailout packages provided to the financial sector.
22. ASEP Parliamentarians pledged to urge respective governments to adopt tools: ensure macro-economic policy flexibility, including for addressing asset price bubbles; maintain sustainable fiscal and debt position; and to develop strong prudential regulation, including for the informal banking sector and resolution mechanism for systematically important financial institutions that would help contain high-risk lending and borrowing practices.
23. ASEP Parliamentarians noted that sovereign debt crisis and related problems should be addressed in a responsible and timely manner, which could otherwise affect efforts to attain the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015.

***Promoting Asia-Europe Partnership in Disaster Management,
Including Social Participation***

24. ASEP Parliamentarians noted that hundreds of millions of poor people, particularly women and children, are extremely vulnerable to natural calamities, namely earthquakes, storms, tsunamis, and severe floods and droughts, which put development at risk. In this regard, ASEP Parliamentarians emphasized the importance of ensuring disaster risk reduction, and disaster management is well integrated into development and poverty reduction strategies.
25. ASEP Parliamentarians realized that natural disasters have widespread, cross-border impacts on human lives and the environment. Neither a single country nor a region alone can address these challenges.
26. ASEP Parliamentarians underscored and supported the 8th ASEM's Chair Statement on the four humanitarian principles of disaster relief – humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence – and considered these principles to be the foundation for humanitarian actions.
27. ASEP Parliamentarians firmly supported the existing inter-regional and international cooperation mechanisms, namely the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), the Asian Disaster Reduction Centre (ADRC), the European Commission's Directorate-General on Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection (ECHO), APEC's Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG), etc..., in a bid to reduce human and property losses. In particular, ASEP Parliamentarians supported the strengthening of cooperative measures between AHA Centre and ECHO.
28. ASEP Parliamentarians stressed the need for enhancing collaboration to address the impact of natural disasters through financial and technological support and capacity building in developing

countries. ASEP Parliamentarians reiterated the challenge of financing disaster risk reduction, disaster relief, and developing local capacity building and improved readiness in case of disasters in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 - 2015 and other related UN Resolutions.

29. ASEP Parliamentarians called upon ASEM partners to make concerted efforts and utilize the international experience in disaster risk reduction, exchange of innovation and knowledge, dissemination of information and education mechanisms, disaster preparedness for effective response and recovery, early warning mechanisms, risk assessment and management, search and rescue capacities, infrastructure development associated with disaster prevention, natural and man-made hazards, health threats pandemic diseases, industrial risks, agricultural risks, rapid response and post-disaster management, and mitigation.
30. ASEP Parliamentarians also reiterated the need for ASEM partners to make more concerted efforts to ensure that several key areas of the disaster management such as in preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation can be met by investigating the establishment of new institutions, creating a regional framework for emergency response, mainstreaming gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction at each level of our public policy, and more importantly ensuring adequate financial support.
31. ASEP Parliamentarians stressed the need to mobilize additional resources and contributions from social partners for capacity building in disaster response, especially for high-risk countries in Asia and Europe; and encouraged the public-private partnership (PPP) in national and international mitigation and adaptation strategies, including promotion of public awareness and education in disaster management.
32. ASEP Parliamentarians also called upon ASEM partners particularly those, which are vulnerable towards disaster risks to utilize the important role of public and private sector stakeholders to help governments in the disaster risk management, including societal organisations, research and academic institutions, and media.

OTHER MATTERS

33. ASEP Parliamentarians underscored that economic integration needs to be complemented by deepening political cooperation in addressing issues of common interest. Energy policy – both production and conservation – should have a more prominent role in Asia-Europe cooperation. Also in this respect, cooperation in transport and logistics will become increasingly important. Possibilities to use new and shorter shipping lanes between Asia and Europe through the High North are emerging.

FINAL CLAUSES

34. ASEP Parliamentarians reiterated their wish to further the work of ASEP by strengthening the leadership and establishing follow-up mechanisms of the meetings, and by giving ASEP work more continuity on a national level, as outlined in the Brussels ASEP-6 Declaration 2010.

35. ASEP Parliamentarians fully supported key ASEM activities carried out by respective ASEM Partners, in particular the Government of the Lao PDR in preparing for the 9th ASEM Summit to be held in Vientiane on 5-6 November 2012, under the theme “Friends for Peace, Partners for Prosperity” which will further strengthen ASEM cooperation and partnership. In this connection, ASEP Parliamentarians called upon all ASEM Leaders to attend the 9th ASEM Summit to reflect their high commitment to the ASEM process.
36. ASEP-7 Delegates expressed their sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Lao National Assembly, the Government and people of the Lao PDR, in particular, the authority and people of Vientiane for their warm welcome and cordial hospitality accorded to them, as well as for excellent arrangements made for the Meeting which led to successful conclusion of the ASEP-7.
37. ASEP Parliamentarians agreed that ASEP-8 Meeting will be held in Europe, and looked forward to the 2014 gathering.



Congreso de los Diputados

ANEXO 4



REPORT TO THE SECOND PLENARY SESSION

BY PROF.DR. BOUNGNONG BOUPHA,

CHAIRPERSON OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE ON ASEP-7 DECLARATION

**Your Excellency Mme. Pany YATHOTOU, President of ASEP-7 and President of the Lao National Assembly,
Excellencies Speakers and Deputy Speakers of Asian and European Parliaments,
Honorable Fellow Parliamentarians,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is my great honor and privilege to report to the ASEP-7 Plenary Session on the outcome of the Drafting Committee Meetings on ASEP-7 Declaration which were convened on the 2nd and 4th October 2012 from 08.00 pm to 9.00 pm, and from 01.30 pm to 03.00 pm, respectively.

It was my honor to have presided over the Meetings.

With your permission, may I report the followings:

The Meetings considered the draft ASEP-7 Declaration with active participation and contribution by all Delegates from the Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership.

The Draft Declaration consists of three parts as follows:

The introduction part of the Declaration highlighted the significance of Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership for sustainable development; the warm welcome extended by the ASEP-7's President and by the Prime Minister of the Lao PDR, Chairperson of the 9th ASEM Summit; the Remarks of Honorable Senator of Belgium, head of delegation as the host Parliament of ASEP-6, recalling the conclusion of the 2010 Brussels ASEP 6 Meeting while emphasizing, among others, the importance of women's rights and equal opportunities for all; and ASEP-7 Delegates' expression of their warm welcome to Australia, Myanmar, New-Zealand and Russia as new members of ASEP.

The substantive part recalled the outcomes of the six previous Meetings held in Strasbourg (1996), Manila (2002), Hue city (2004), Helsinki (2006), Beijing (2008) and Brussels (2010), which paved the strong foundation for sharing ideas, information, knowledge and issues of common interest and concern in order to strengthen Asia-Europe Parliamentary partnership for sustainable development.

At the ASEP-7 Plenary and two Panel meetings, Delegates thoroughly discussed and exchanged views and ideas on 3 sub-topics surrounding sustainable development, namely 1). Ensuring Food Security in the Current Situation of Global Climate Change, 2). Strengthening the Asia-Europe Cooperation in Public Debts for Sustainable Development, and 3). Asia-Europe Partnership in Increasing Social Participation for Disaster Management. In addition, Delegates proposed ways and means for cooperation in order to address the common concern and interests of both continents. Delegates from both Asia and Europe were happy to share best practices and lessons learned from each other with an aim to avoid past mistakes.

All of discussed contents were unanimously approved by all Delegates and incorporated into the draft Declaration.

In the Final part, the ASEP-7 Delegates expressed their sincere appreciation and gratitude to the host Parliament, the Government and the people of the Lao PDR, as well as to the authorities of the Vientiane Capital for their warm welcome and cordial hospitality accorded to them, and for excellent arrangements made for the meeting, which led to successful conclusion of the ASEP-7.

The ASEP-7 agreed that ASEP-8 Meeting will be held in Europe, and looked forward to the 2014 gathering

The ASEP-7 was held in the spirit of friendship, solidarity, partnership, cooperation, openness, mutual trust and understanding.

I, therefore, have the honor to present to the Plenary Session the final draft ASEP-7 Declaration for consideration and adoption.

I thank you for your kind attention!



Congreso de los Diputados

ANEXO 5



ASIA - EUROPE PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP MEETING

3 - 4 October 2012, Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR

Don Chan Palace Hotel

Panel 1 Report

The Panel Discussion was convened on the 4th October 2012, there are 150 participants from 27 countries.

The Meeting was chaired by Hon. Dr. Souvanhpheng Bouphanouvong, Chairwoman of Economy Planning and Finance Committee of National Assembly of Lao PDR and Hon. Dr. Christian Ruck, Vice President of the Bundestag Group of CDU/CSU Parliamentarians, Germany and Hon. Ms. Anna Burk, MP, Vice Deputy Speaker of the Australian Parliament's House Representative is the rapporteur of the Panel discussion.

The meeting is followed up with the order of the business of ASEP that adopted by the organizing committee.

After the introduction of the delegates, the meeting welcomed the four lead speakers for the panel discussion, three presentations on Food Security and one for Public Debts as:

1. Hon. Ms. AilaPaloniemi, Head of Delegates of Finland Parliamentary (Food Security).
2. Hon. Bae Ki-Woon, Head of Delegates of Republic of Korea, (Food Security).
3. Hon. Zhang Xioashan, Head of Delegates of China's People Congress, (Food Security).
4. Mr. Sanjay Karla, IMF representative to Lao PDR and Vietnam, (Public Debts)

The meeting opened the floor for discussion for two issues.

There are 150 participants from 27 countries and 12 comments on Food Security (Pakistan, Denmark, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, Lao PDR, New Zealand, European Parliament, Malaysia, Japan and Ireland) 11 comments on Public Debt (Thailand, Cambodia, India, New Zealand, Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia, Russia, Malaysia, Spain and Lao PDR).

All delegates expressed their common views on situations and problems occurred in their regions and highlighted the issues to be solved in appropriate manner. The views and comments are wrapped up as follows:

Food Security Ensuring Food Security in the Current Situation of Global Climate Change:

Delegates agreed that food security was a complex and critical global issue. More than one billion people live with extreme from hunger, representing more than one sixth of the world's population. Food for all was a basic human right. Addressing food insecurity was a core responsibility for

parliaments around the world. The Secretary-General of the United Nations had characterized food security as a “silent tsunami”.

Delegates emphasized the need for improved bilateral, regional and international cooperation to address food security, including through ASEM and ASEP. Delegates agreed that only development could bring a fundamental solution to food crises. A core focus needed to be on enhancing productivity, including through research and development to identify new and more innovative technology. The role of the private sector was also strongly emphasized.

Agricultural trade liberalization was seen as another critical element in the solution, and many delegates referred to the need to make substantive progress in the Doha Round. Global coordination through multilateral forums such as the G20, APEC and the UN, in addition to ASEM were important.

It was agreed that food security was closely linked to climate change. Natural disasters were occurring with more frequency and severity, causing negative impacts for food security. For example in Pakistan, consecutive floods had left around 50 million people homeless. Yet it was important to avoid competition between food security and climate change; food security was not negotiable.

Land and water use were identified as critical issues. Access to water for agricultural, as well as the impacts of drought and flood were a constant concern for food production. The issue of land grabbing, the loss of productive agricultural land for mining and other development, the transfer of land from food to energy production such as bio-fuels and palm-oil and the destruction of forest were also sighted as issues that need to be addressed to ensure food security.

In addition, food prices were rising and affecting the lives of millions of people. According to one report, the era of cheap food was over and food prices would continue to rise over the next 40 years, and delegates noted this presented a grave threat to the global economy, and in particular people in low income countries.

The quality of food – including in relation to genetically-modified foods – required careful management to ensure that food was not only affordable but would not harm people’s health. And government’s and business needed to strike a balance between agricultural production and industrial production.

Delegates noted that demand as well as supply was critical. As the global population continued to grow, food production is estimated to have to double by 2050. Population growth could be a difficult issue for parliaments to address, but addressing the MDGs, including child mortality, and the education of women, could play a critical role in this respect.

According to the latest FAO State of the World Agriculture Report, women form 43 per cent of the agricultural work force of developing countries. This, combined with the movement of many men to urban areas or as migrant workers abroad, has contributed to an increased burden on women in recent years. Addressing current imbalances, including in relation to women’s access to land ownership, were seen as critical to improving food security.

Delegates raised a number of specific recommendations relating to food security. The desirability of improved global governance was discussed, including the need for early warning systems, improved monitoring and regulation, macroeconomic controls and emergency response mechanisms. World food production, stockpiling and distribution systems warranted greater attention, and strengthening international organizations such as UNFAO and the UN Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis could play an important role. Excessive speculation could amplify price volatility; enhanced transparency in grain futures markets was therefore desirable. The development of higher-value agricultural production, combined with investment in human capital was seen as critical. Strong government services also played an important role.

Strengthening the Asia-Europe Partnership in Public Debt for Sustainable Development:

In relation to debt, delegates noted that fiscal policy – including deficits and public debt – affected macroeconomic stability, growth and income distribution. In the context of the current global slowdown, a coordinated global response was necessary. In today's interconnected world, parliaments and governments could no longer look only at what goes on within national borders. Developments in Europe affected Asia and vice versa – this was especially the case given that nearly 50 per cent of exports from Asia are destined for Europe. Both developing and developed countries were affected and needed to work together.

Delegates recognized that countries facing high debt levels needed to formulate credible fiscal consolidation plans going forward, while supporting their recoveries in the short term.

Transparency was cited as critical to public debt management. Laws and regulations needed to be revised to support good fiscal management, which in turn ensured sustainable development and ensured that people were not deprived of basic necessities such as education, drinking water and medical care. Spending requirements needed to be considered in conjunction with borrowing. Greater fiscal discipline and less risk-taking was required by all countries.

Long-term investments were necessary to increase economic growth, but delegates recognized that governments sometimes failed to use money prudently for political reasons. Borrowing could be good, but it could also be very bad.

Delegates noted that a number of Asian economies had learnt important lessons in relation to debt management since the Asian financial crisis in the late 1990s. They acknowledged the value of initiatives such as Asia's Chiang Mai initiative, as well as the possibility of strengthened cooperation with the European Financial Stability Facility and the European Stability Mechanism. If global financial safety nets worked effectively, they could help revive the global economy.

There were a number of specific steps that could be taken to restore macroeconomic stability. Firstly, it was important for parliamentarians from Asia and Europe to work together to exchange experiences and lessons in the field of public debt management for the sake of sustainable development, and to help ensure further crises did not occur in future.

Second, parliamentarians from Asia and Europe should recommend to their respective governments to introduce a prudent framework for public debt management, and set up a comprehensive system of public debt statistics in line with good governance. In addition, close coordination was needed to

strengthen the role of the government to supervise fiscal policy, monetary policy and promote effective financial supervision and governance in relation to financial markets.

Third, it was proposed to set up a network for facilitating information exchanges and mutual learning between Asia and Europe, to assist each region to improve its regulatory frameworks, and enhance capacity building for public debt management institutions. This would assist with the monitoring of government performance associated with public debt management. Delegates should also encourage their respective governments to introduce an early warning system for public debt management.

The Co-chair congratulated the contributions and the spirits of creative and positive views of the parliamentarians which represent the roles of representative of people as well as the legislative bodies in solving the issues for the well beings of the people in two regions and the world.

Finally the Co-chair thanked and appreciated all parliamentarians and wished them the best time in Lao PDR and hopes to have chance to welcome them again.

All delegates thanked of Co chair and rapporteur for the excellent works and wished the host parliament the best of success.

The meeting closed at 12: 50 PM of October 4th, 2012.



Congreso de los Diputados

ANEXO 6



The 7th ASIA - EUROPE PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP MEETING

3 - 4 October 2012,
Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR
Don Chan Palace Hotel

PANEL DISCUSSION 2

Social and Environmental Matters

REPORT

I have the great honor to be on behalf of Co-chairs for Panel Discussion on Social and Environmental Matters to report the outcomes of the Panel Discussion 2 as follows:

The Panel Discussion was convened on 4 October 2012 in Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR and attended by 20 parliaments and 2 international organizations.

The Meeting was co-chaired by Hon. Dr. Nguyen Van Tien, Vice-Chairperson of Social Affairs Committee of National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and Hon. Ms. Anna Rosbash, Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ECR Denmark), Representative of European Parliament.

Hon. Dr. Motoyuki Fujii, Chairman of Special Committee on Official Development Assistance and Related Matters, Member of Financial Committee of the Diet of Japan was the rapporteur of the Panel discussion.

The meeting was conducted in accordance with the Order of business of ASEP that had been adopted by the Organizing Committee.

After the welcoming remark and opening address by the Co-chairs, the Co-Chair from The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam proposed the amendment of the title of the Panel Discussion 2 from "Asia-Europe Partnership in Increasing Social Participation for Disaster Management" to "Promoting Asia- Europe partnership in Disaster Management, including Social Participation". The amendment of the title will not make any change in the content of this panel discussion. The meeting agreed with the proposed amendment of the title.

After that the Co-Chairs introduced the three lead speakers of the Panel Discussion as follows:

1. Hon. Mr Hayono Isman, Senior Parliamentarian, Vice Chairperson of the House Committee of the Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation of Republic of Indonesia.
2. H.E. Ms. Margareta Wahlstrom, Special Representative of Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR):
3. Honorable Mr. Rik Torfs, Senator of the Senate of Belgium.

The presentations was followed by questions and answers session and general discussion. There were altogether 14 countries who gave interventions and comments.

All delegates expressed their common views on situations and problems occurred in their regions and highlighted the issues to be solved in an appropriate manner. The views and comments are summarized as follows:

- ASEP Parliamentarians noted that hundreds of millions of poor people are extremely vulnerable to natural calamities namely: earthquakes, storms, tsunamis, severe floods and droughts which put development at risk. In this regard, ASEP Parliamentarians emphasized that it may be difficult to achieve MDGs goals particularly by low-income countries, unless disaster risk reduction is well integrated into development and poverty reduction strategies.

- ASEP Parliamentarians realized that natural disasters have widespread and cross-border impacts on human lives, properties and the environment, and reaffirmed that climate change as a global challenge is not only environmental problem, but has also a significant impact on socio-economic development as well as on international security. No one single country nor region can address these challenges.

- ASEP Parliamentarians firmly supported the existing inter-regional and international cooperation mechanisms namely: the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (ADDMER), ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), the European Commission's Directorate-General on Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection (ECHO), APEC's Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG), in a bid to reduce human and property losses. In particular, they supported strengthened cooperative measures between AHA Centre and ECHO.

- ASEP Parliamentarians stressed the need for enhancing collaboration to address the impact of climate change and natural disaster through the ongoing contribution of developing countries and further contribution to global mitigation effort. ASEP Parliamentarians reiterated the challenge of financing disaster relief and developing local capacity building and improved readiness in case of disasters in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 - 2015 and other related UN Resolutions.

- ASEP Parliamentarians called upon ASEM member countries to make concerted efforts and utilize the international experience in disaster risk reduction, exchange of innovation and knowledge, dissemination of information and education mechanisms, disaster preparedness for effective response and recovery, early warning mechanisms, technology transfer, risk assessment and management, search and rescue capacities, infrastructure development associated with disaster prevention, natural and man-made hazards, health threats pandemic diseases, industrial risks, agricultural risks, rapid response and post-disaster management, mitigation.

- In this regard, ASEP Parliamentarians stressed the need to mobilize additional resources and contributions from social partners for disaster responsive capacity building, especially for high-risk countries in ASEM; and encouraged the public-private partnership (PPP) in national and international mitigation and adaptation strategies, including promotion of public awareness and education in disaster management.

A number of delegates also referred to mechanisms established in their own countries and the efforts and achievements recorded in disaster risk reduction and management.

The Co-chair congratulated the contributions and the spirit of creative and positive views of the parliamentarians who represent the people as well as the legislative bodies in addressing the issues for the well beings of the people in the two regions and the world.

The Provisional Report of the deliberation during this Panel Discussion has also been communicated with all participating delegates for review.

Finally the Co-chair appreciated the host parliament of ASEP7 for the excellent arrangement of ASEP7 and offered gratefulness to all parliamentarians for their participation, wishing them enjoyable and pleasant stay in the beautiful and peaceful country of Lao PDR.

This Report has consolidated comments from all delegations with their approval.

The meeting closed at 12 AM of 4 October 2012

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE LAO PDR

**SEVENTH MEETING OF THE
ASIA-EUROPE
PARLIAMENTARY
PARTNERSHIP**

03-04 October 2012

Vientiane, LAO PDR

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INTRODUCTION

The Seventh Meeting of the Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership (ASEP-7) was held in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic, (Lao PDR), on 3-4 October 2012 under the theme ' Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership for Sustainable Development '. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Madame Pany YATHORTOU, President of the Lao National Assembly, President of ASEP-7.

Delegations from the parliaments of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russia, Singapore, Spain, Thailand, Vietnam and the European Parliament participated in the meeting while the IMF, UNDP and UNSDR attended this event as guests of the host parliament.

The meeting was conducted according to the ASEP rules of procedures and the national context with the following structure : the Preparatory Meeting, the Inaugural Ceremony, the First Plenary Session, the ASEP Accession Ceremony, the Courtesy Call to the President of the Lao PDR, the Panel Discussions, the Drafting Committee Meeting, the Last Plenary Session and the Closing Ceremony.

After the meeting visits at some cultural sites and economic units were also organized to familiarize the participants with the real situation of the country.

1. Preparatory Meeting

Based on the ASEP rules of procedure, article 10, the Preparatory Meeting of ASEP 7 was held on Tuesday 2nd October 2013. The meeting was chaired by Hon. Dr. Koukeo AKHAMOUNTRY, Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee of the Lao National Assembly, has as rapporteur, Hon. Ass. Prof. Bounpong KEORODOM, President of Savannakhet University, Member the Lao National Assembly and was attended by ASEP member of delegations. The Meeting was conducted in the spirit of friendship and cooperation based on mutual interests and understanding, focusing on the draft Agenda (Annex 1), the Tentative Program of Activities (Annex 2), the Election of Meeting Officers, the New ASEP Membership Requests, the Meeting

Procedure (Annex 11) and the Administrative Arrangements (Annex 12). The meeting agreed upon the document to be submitted to the First Plenary Session for adoption

2. Inaugural Ceremony

The Inaugural Ceremony was organized on Wednesday , October 3rd, 2012 at the Convention Hall of the Don Chan Palace Hotel, Vientiane , Lao PDR. Present at the ceremony were H.E. Madam. Pany YATHORTOU, President of the Lao National Assembly, President of ASEP 7 , H.E. Mr. Thongsing THAMMAVONG, Prime-Minister of Lao PDR, President of ASEM 9 , H.E. Mr. Rik TORF, Head of Belgian Delegation, Representing of the host country of the 6th ASEP Meeting, Heads and members of participating delegations, members of government , national dignitaries and foreign guests.

The ceremony began with a 15 minute cultural performance showing the Lao Well Wishing Dance, the Khaen(national instrument) musics and the singing of an english song entitled “ Heal the World ” accompanied by a group of dancers.

Her excellency, Madame Pany Yathotou, delivered an opening speech (Annex 3), where she highlighted the significance of the enlargement of the Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership and stressed on the demand to ensure the sustainable economic development in each country, in particular in the areas of public debt, food security, climate change and disaster management; and the need for maintaining peace and stability.

Followed Madame Pany Yathotou’s speech, Prime Minister of the Lao PDR, H.E. Mr. Thongsing Thammavong, delivered a statement (Annex 4) as the host and chair of the 9th ASEM Summit to be held in Vientiane on 5-6 November 2012. He stressed on the willingness of the people in Asia and Europe to live in peace and prosperity and because the two continents are facing various challenges therefore we require close cooperation and collaboration with each other to ensure balance of socio-economic development and environmental protection.

After H.E. Mr. Thongsing Thammavong has concluded his speech, Honourable Mr. Rik Torfs, Senator of Belgium, Head of Delegation and as the host parliament of ASEP6 also gave his remarks (Annex 5). He recalled on the conclusions of ASEP6 in Brussels 2010, while emphasising the importance of women’s rights and equal opportunities for all.

3. First Plenary Session

The first plenary session was held on Wednesday , October 3rd , 2012 at the Convention Hall of the Don Chan Palace Hotel,Vientiane , Lao PDR with H.E. Madam. Pany YATHORTOU, President of the Lao National Assembly, President of ASEP 7 as Chair and Dr Kukeo AKHAMONTRY, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Lao National Assembly as Rapporteur.

The session considered the draft agenda, the program of activities, the candidates to the meeting officer positions, the ASEP membership requests, the meeting procedure and the administrative arrangements submitted by the Preparatory Meeting.

The session took note that these documents have been prepared according to the ASEP rule of procedure actually in force and circulated to ASEP member parliaments weeks in advance for comments and suggestions before going through the Preparatory Meeting for consideration.

The session unanimously adopted the agenda ,the program of activities and the meeting procedure of the ASEP 7, elected the meeting officers and confirmed the ASEP memberships of the Parliament of Australia,the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (Parliament) of Myanmar, the Parliament of New Zealand and the Parliament of the Russian Federation.

The session also heard formal addresses made by head of delegation from Spain, Vietnam, Myanmar, Finland, Cambodia, Russia, China, Thailand, Republic of Korea, Germany, India, Hungary, Indonesia, Malaysia, Portugal, Pakistan, Japan, the European Parliament, Ireland, The Philippines and New Zealand who asked a floor for a 5-7 minute speaking time .

4. Accession Ceremony

The accession ceremony was organized in honor of new ASEP member countries according to the administrative arrangement agreed upon at the Preparatory Meeting. The ceremony proceeded for each new member country in alphabetical order , i.e. Australia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Russia and ended by a congratulatory message from the ASEP 7 President.

5. Panel Discussion One

The first panel discussion was on two economic matters; Ensuring food security in current situation of global climate change and Strengthening the Asia-Europe Partnership in Public debt for sustainable development.

Delegates agreed that food security is a complex and critical global issue. Food insecurity is the core responsibility for parliaments around the world. Improvement through ASEM and ASEP on bilateral, regional and international cooperation was emphasized by delegates. Delegates stressed on the quality of food ensuring that food was not only affordable but would not harm people's health, also the supply of food production must meet the demand.

In the first panel delegates have raised a number of specific recommendations relating to food security. The desirability of improved global governance was discussed, including the need for early warning systems, improved monitoring and regulation, macroeconomic controls and emergency response mechanisms. World food production, stockpiling and distribution systems warranted greater attention, and strengthening international organizations such as UNFAO and the UN Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis could play an important role. Excessive speculation could amplify price volatility; enhanced transparency in grain futures markets was therefore desirable. The development of higher-value agricultural production, combined with investment in human capital was seen as critical.

Regarding strengthening the Asia-Europe Partnership in public debt for sustainable development, the delegates noted that fiscal policy – including deficits and public debt – affected macroeconomic stability, growth and income distribution. In the context of the current global slowdown, a coordinated global response was necessary.

Delegates recognized that countries facing high debt levels needed to formulate credible fiscal consolidation plans going forward, while supporting their recoveries in the short term and that long term investments are necessary to increase economic growth, but delegates recognized that governments sometimes failed to use money prudently for political reasons. Borrowing could be good, but it could also be very bad. Transparency was cited as critical to public debt management. Lastly, Delegates should also encourage their respective governments to introduce an early warning system for public debt management.

6. Panel Discussion Two:

The theme of panel discussion two was on “Promoting Asia- Europe partnership in Disaster Management, including Social Participation”. There were 14 countries who gave interventions and comments and various issues were raised.

Delegates noted that hundreds of millions of poor people are extremely vulnerable to natural calamities namely: earthquakes, storms, tsunamis, severe floods and droughts which put

development at risks and natural disasters have widespread and cross-border impacts on human lives, properties and the environment, and reaffirmed that climate change as a global challenge is not only environmental problem, but has also a significant impact on socio-economic development as well as on international security.

Delegates stressed the need for enhancing collaboration to address the impact of climate change and natural disaster through the ongoing contribution of developing countries and further contribution to global mitigation effort. Delegates restated the challenge of financing disaster relief and developing local capacity building and improved readiness in case of disasters in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 - 2015 and other related UN Resolutions.

In this regard, delegates stressed the need to mobilize additional resources and contributions from social partners for disaster responsive capacity building, especially for high-risk countries in ASEM; and encouraged the public-private partnership (PPP) in national and international mitigation and adaptation strategies, including promotion of public awareness and education in disaster management. A number of delegates also referred to mechanisms established in their own countries and the efforts and achievements recorded in disaster risk reduction and management.

7. Drafting Committee Meeting

In parallel with this Preparatory Meeting, the Meeting of the Drafting Committee, chaired by Prof. Dr. Ms. Bounnong BOUPHA, Vice-Chair of the Lao National Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee and Chair of the Lao Women Parliamentarians Caucus, was also organized to consider substantive issues of the draft ASEP 7 Declaration and the amendments proposed by ASEP member delegations. The meeting agreed to extend the deadline for comments and suggestions until October 3rd, 2012 and to meet again on that day to finalize the draft ASEP 7 declaration before submitting it to the last plenary session on Thursday, October 4th, 2012 for approval.

8. Last Plenary Session

The Last Plenary Session was held on Thursday , October 4th, 2012 at the Convention Hall of the Don Chan Palace Hotel, Vientiane , Lao PDR with H.E. Madam. Pany YATHORTOU, President of the Lao National Assembly, President of ASEP 7 as Chair and Dr Kukeo AKHAMONTRY, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Lao National Assembly as Rapporteur.

The session heard the reports (Annex 6,7) presented by the Rapporteur of Discussion Panel 1, Hon. Madam Anna BURK, Deputy Speaker of the Australian Parliament's House of Representatives and the Rapporteur of Discussion Panel 2, Hon Dr Motoyuki FUJII, Chairman of the Special Committee on ODA and related matters, Member of the House of Councilors of Japan.

The session heard the report (Annex 8) and unanimously approved the ASEP 7 Declaration (Annex 10) presented by the Chairperson of the Drafting Committee, Hon. Prof. Dr Bounnhong BOUPHA, Vice-Chair of the Lao National Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee and Chair of the Lao Women Parliamentarians Caucus.

The session also agreed that the ASEP 8 meeting will be held in Europe, in 2014.

9. Closing ceremony

The closing ceremony took place right after the last plenary session at the same venue. The President of the ASEP 7, H.E. Madam. Pany YATHORTOU, President of the Lao National Assembly deliver a closing address (Annex 9).

10. Official handover of the ASEP 7 Declaration to the ASEM 9.

The Official Handover Ceremony of the ASEP7 declaration was held in Vientiane on 29th October 2012 according to the Rule of Procedure of the ASEP, article 27, between a Representative of the Lao National Assembly led by Mr. Viseth Svengseuksa, Deputy Chief of Cabinet and H.E.Mr. Bounkeut Sangsomsack, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Head of the Substantive Committee of the ASEM9.

ANNEXES

Annex 1 :

ASEP7 Draft Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda
 2. Adoption of the Tentative Programme of Activities
 3. Election of Meeting's Officers
 4. Admission of new ASEP-7 Members
 5. Panel 1: Economic Matters:
 - Ensuring Food Security in the Current Situation of Global Climate Change
 - Strengthening the Asia-Europe Cooperation in the Field of Public Debts
for Sustainable Development
 6. Panel 2: Social and Environment Matters:
 - Asia-Europe Partnership in Increasing Social Participation for Disaster
Management
 7. Report from Panel Discussion 1 and Panel Discussion 2
 8. Adoption of the ASEP-7 Declaration
 9. Decision on the host country of the 8th Asia- Europe Parliamentary Partnership
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Annex 2 :

ASEP7 Tentative Programme of Activities

| <u>Tuesday, 2nd October 2012</u> | |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Arrival of Delegations at Wattay International Airport, Vientiane, Lao PDR.- Welcome Delegations by Representatives of the Lao National Assembly and Liason Officers- Proceed to hotels and Check in |
| 15:00-21:00 | Registration of Delegation at Hotel lobby of Don Chan Palace Hotel |
| 18:30 | Welcome Dinner hosted by H.E.Dr. Xaysomphone PHOMVIHANE, Vice-President of the National Assembly of the Lao PDR, Head of the Organizing Committee of ASEP-7. <u>Venue</u> : Pool Side, 3 rd floor, Don Chan Palace Hotel <u>Attire</u> : Smart Casual/National Dress |
| 20:00 | <u>ASEP-7 Preparatory Meeting</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Adoption of the agenda- Adoption of the Tentative Programme of activities- Election of meeting officers- Administrative arrangements- Organization of proceedings- Consideration of ASEP Membership Requests- Other matters- End of the Meeting <p><u>Chair</u>: Hon. Dr. Koukeo AKHAMOUNTRY, Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee of the Lao National Assembly</p> <p><u>Rapporteur</u>: Laos</p> <p><u>Venue</u> : Convention Hall, Zone A, 2nd Floor, Don Chan Palace Hotel</p> <p><u>Attire</u>: Smart Casual</p> |
| 20:00 | Meeting of the Drafting Committee on the Declaration of the 7 th Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting (ASEP-7) |

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| | <p><u>Chair:</u> Hon. Prof. MsBoungnong BOUPHA, Chairperson of Women Parliamentarians Caucus; Vice-Chairperson of Foreign Affairs Committee of the Lao national Assembly</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u> Laos</p> <p><u>Venue :</u> Meeting Room, 1st Floor, Don Chan Palace Hotel</p> <p><u>Attire:</u> Smart Casual/National Dress</p> |
| Wednesday, 3rd October 2012 | |
| 06:00-08:00 | Breakfast |
| 08:30 | Inaugural Ceremony |
| | - Cultural Performance |
| | <p><u>Speeches:</u></p> <p>- Opening address by H.E. Mrs. Pany YATHOTOU, President of the National Assembly of the Lao PDR, President of ASEP-7</p> <p>- Address by H.E. Thongsing THAMMAVONG, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democracy Republic, President of the ASEM9</p> <p>- Address by H.E. Mr. Rik TORFS, Head of delegation of Belgium, the host of the 6th ASEP Meeting</p> <p><u>Venue :</u> Convention Hall, Zone A, 2nd Floor, Don Chan Palace Hotel</p> <p><u>Attire:</u> Lounge Suit/National dress</p> <p>Photo Session</p> |
| 10:00 - 10:30 | Coffee Break |
| 10:30 - 12:00 | <p>First Plenary Session</p> <p>- Election of Meeting Officers</p> <p>- Adoption of the Agenda and the Programme Activities</p> <p>- Adoption of the Meeting Procedure</p> <p>- Admission of new ASEP-7 Members</p> <p>- Address by Heads of Delegation</p> <p><u>Chair:</u> Laos</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u> Laos</p> <p><u>Venue :</u> Convention Hall, Zone A, 2nd Floor, Don Chan Palace Hotel</p> |

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| | <u>Attire:</u> Lounge Suit/National dress |
| 12:00 | <p>Luncheon Hosted by Hon. Dr. Kukeo AKHAMONTRY, Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee of the Lao National Assembly</p> <p><u>Venue :</u> Coffee shop, 1st floor, Don Chan Palace Hotel</p> |
| 13:30 - 14:30 | <p>First Plenary Session (Continued)</p> <p>- Address by Heads of delegation</p> <p><u>Chair:</u> Laos</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u> Laos</p> <p><u>Venue :</u> Convention Hall, Zone A, 2nd Floor, Don Chan Palace Hotel</p> <p><u>Attire:</u> Lounge Suit/National dress</p> |
| | Coffee Break |
| 14:30 - 16:00 | <p>ASEP Accession Ceremony</p> <p>- Announcing list of new ASEP members</p> <p>- Repositioning national flags by the Guards of Honor Squad and</p> <p>- Accompanying of new member countries</p> <p>- National Anthems of new member countries</p> <p>- Address by H.E. MrsPany YATHOTU, President of the Lao National Assembly of the Lao PDR, President of ASEP-7</p> |
| 16:00 - 16:30 | <p>Courtesy call on H.E. MrChoummalySayasone, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic by Heads of delegation</p> <p><u>Venue :</u> Presidential Palace</p> <p><u>Attire:</u> Lounge Suit/National dress</p> |
| <u>Thursday, 4th October 2012</u> | |
| 06:00 - 08:00 | Breakfast |
| 08:30 - 10:00 | <p>Panel Discussion 1:Economic Matters:</p> <p>- Enhancing Food Security in the Current Situation of Global Climate Change</p> <p>- Strengthening the Asia-Europe Cooperaton in the Field of Public Debts for Sustainable Development</p> <p><u>Co-Chairs:</u></p> |

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|---------------|--|
| | <p>- From Asia: Hon. Dr. Mrs. Souvanpheng BOUPHANOUVONG, Chairperson of Economy, Planning and Finance Committee of the Lao National Assembly</p> <p>- From Europe: Germany</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u></p> <p>- From Asia: TBC</p> <p><u>Presentation by Lead Speakers:</u></p> <p>- From Asia: China</p> <p>- From Asia: Republic of Korea</p> <p>- From Europe: Finland</p> <p>- IMF</p> <p><u>Venue</u> : Meeting Room, 1st Floor, Don Chan Palace Hotel</p> <p><u>Attire</u>: Lounge Suit/National dress</p> |
| 08:30 - 10:00 | <p>Panel Discussion 2 : Social and Environmental Matters:</p> <p>- Asia-Europe Partnership in Increasing Social Participation for Disaster Management</p> <p><u>Co-Chairs:</u></p> <p>- From Asia: Vietnam</p> <p>- From Europe: EuropeanParliament</p> <p><u>Rapporteur:</u></p> <p>- From Asia: Japan</p> <p><u>Presentation by Lead Speakers:</u></p> <p>- From Asia: Indonesia</p> <p>- From Europe: France</p> <p>- From Europe: Belgium</p> <p>- UNISDR</p> <p><u>Venue</u> : Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Don Chan Palace Hotel</p> <p><u>Attire</u>: Lounge Suit/National dress</p> |
| 10:00 - 10:30 | Coffee Break |

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|---------------|--|
| 10:30 - 12:00 | <p>Panel Discussion 1 (Continued): Economic Matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhancing Food Security in the Current Situation of Global Climate Change - Strengthening Asia-Europe Cooperation in the Field of Public Debts for Sustainable Development |
| 10:30 - 12:00 | <p>Panel Discussion 2 (Continued) : Social and Environmental Matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asia-Europe Partnership in Increasing Social Participation for Disaster Management |
| 12:00 | <p>Luncheon Hosted by Hon. Prof. Dr. MsBoungnong BOUPHA, chairperson of Women Parliamentarians Caucus; Vice-Chairperson of Foreign Affairs Committee of the Lao National Assembly</p> <p><u>Venue</u> : Coffee shop, 1st Floor, Don Chan Palace Hotel</p> <p><u>Attire</u>: Smart Casual</p> |
| 13:30 - 15:00 | Meeting of ASEP-7 Drafting Committee |
| 15:00 - 15:30 | Coffee Break |
| 15:30 - 17:00 | <p>Second Plenary Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report of Panel Discussion 1 - Report of Panel Discussion 2 - Report of the Drafting Committee - Adoption the ASEP-7 Declaration <p><u>Chair</u>: Laos</p> <p><u>Rapporteur</u>: Laos</p> |
| 17:00 - 17:30 | <p>Closing Ceremony</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Address of Appreciation by representative of all delegations to the Host country - Acceptance Speech by representative of the next host parliament (TBC) - Closing Address by H.E. MrsPany YATHOTOU, President of the Lao National Assembly, President of ASEP-7 <p><u>Venue</u> : Convention Hall, 2nd Floor, Don Chan Palace Hotel</p> <p><u>Attire</u>: Lounge Suit/National dress</p> |

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| 19:00 | <p>Official Reception Dinner Hosted by H.E. Dr. Thongloun SISOULITH, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lao PDR</p> <p>Venue : International Cooperation and Training Center (ICTC)</p> <p>Attire: Lounge Suit/National dress</p> |
| <u>Friday, 5th October 2012</u> | |
| 06:00 - 07:45 | Breakfast |
| 07:45 - 08:00 | Gathering at the Hotel Lobby of Don Chan Palace Hotel |
| 08:00 | Leave Hotel for WatSisaket Temple |
| 08:05 - 09:30 | <p>- Visit WatSisaket Temple</p> <p>- Visit Ho PraKeo Museum</p> |
| 09:30 | Leave Ho PraKeo Museum for That LuangStupa (Great SacredStupa) |
| 09:30 - 10:15 | Visit That LuangStupa (Great SacredStupa) for Mekhong Restaurant |
| 10:15 - 12:00 | Baci Ceremony |
| 12:00 | <p>Luncheon Hosted by Hon. Prof. Dr. Phonethep PHOLSENA, Chairman of Cultural and Social Affairs Committee of the Lao National Assembly</p> <p>Venue : Mekhong Restaurant</p> <p>Attire: Smart casual</p> |
| 13:45 | Gathering at the Hotel Lobby of Don Chan Palace |
| 14:00 | Leave the Hotel Lobby of Don Chan Palace Hotel for Lao Handicraft |
| 14:15 - 16:00 | Visit Lao Handicraft or UXO museum |
| | Return to Hotels |
| 19:00 | Free for Dinner |
| <u>Saturday, 6th October 2012</u> | |
| 06:00 - 08:00 | Breakfast |
| | Depart of Delegations |

Remarks: Program for spouse and accompanying persons will be developed and informed to all ASEP-7 delegations in due course.

Annex 3 :

OPENING SPEECH

Addressed by

Hon. Ms.Pany YATHOTOU, President of the National Assembly of Lao PDR,

President of ASEP-7,

At the Opening Ceremony

**of the 7th ASIA-EUROPE PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP MEETING (ASEP-7)
“Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership for Sustainable Development”**

03 October 2012, Vientiane, Lao PDR

H.E. Mr.ThongsingThammavong, Prime Minister of the Lao PDR, President of ASEM-9,

Hon. Mr.Rik TORFS, Head of Belgian Parliamentary Delegation, Host of ASEP-6,

Speakers, Vice-Speakers, Heads of Delegations and Delegates, Members of Parliaments,

Ministers, Members of Diplomatic Corps, Representatives of International Organizations,

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, I feel greatly privileged and very pleased to have the opportunity to welcome you to Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR. At the outset, on behalf of the National Assembly of Lao PDR, may I cordially convey my warmest regards, wholehearted friendship, and sincere thanks to all of you for accepting our invitation to attend today’s ceremony. I highly value the participation of

Speakers, Deputy Speakers, Heads of Delegations, Members of ASEP Parliaments, Observers as well as all the distinguished guests of the host country. I would also like to seize this opportunity to whole-heartedly express my congratulations towards Australia, New Zealand, Myanmar, and Russia for their accession to ASEM in Belgium last year and I earnestly hope that the parliaments of these countries will become full members of ASEP in the near future.

Honorable Delegates, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the context of the world's socio-economic development where sustainable development has become a common trend of the nations over the world, strengthening relationship and enhancing cooperation between the two continents, Asia and Europe, are of common interests for all countries. The unanimously agreed selection of *“The Partnership of Asia-Europe Parliament for Sustainable Development”* as main theme of this ASEP-7 Meeting demonstrates that ASEP is meeting the requirement of the new era and attaches a great importance to the nations' aspirations for better life based on mutual understanding and cooperation so as to achieve prosperity in all parts of the globe.

Ancient civilisations of Europe and Asia have been transmitted for thousand years. Both continents enjoyed a long tradition of exchanges of visits and trade. This privileged relationship has been used by both continents as a driving force for fostering their development. At present time, Europe has become an active partner and supporter of the development cooperation in many countries in Asia, including Lao PDR. Both continents, Asia and Europe, constitute a synergy and play a crucial role in maintaining world's peace and regional and global development. Asia, with its large population, is abundant of natural resources and is becoming a region with strong and rapid economic growth. Europe is composed of many developed countries

with modern scientific and technological advancement and has extensive experience in inter-country integration. In the era of globalisation with a number of advantages and progress in the field of transportation and communications, Asia and Europe are confronting an opportunity for mutual reliance, to supplement each other and join hands for further building their countries. Regular exchanges of visits between Governments' leaders, business people and civil societies within the framework of Asia-Europe Summit Meeting or ASEM, the Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership or ASEP, the Asia-Europe Business Forum or AEBF and the Asia-Europe People Forum or AEPF, have strategic importance and contribute to further enhancing mutual cooperative relations for the benefits of people from two continents. Being an inter-parliamentarian organisation between the two continents, ASEP is part of the mechanism for Asia-Europe partnership, provides a platform for meetings between parliaments, creates favourable conditions for exchange of views and systematically conduct parliamentary diplomacy between Asia and Europe. From each ASEP meeting, ASEP membership has been enlarged with now 47 member countries and this number is expected to increase in the near future. ASEP has recorded significant achievement in many areas thus enhancing mutual understanding of people. Members of Parliament are seen as representatives of people who also exchange visits, cooperate and provide mutual assistance in tackling common concerns not only for the benefits of people from two continents but also for the benefits of entire world.

In current situation where the world is undergoing complex and rapid unpredictable changes, in parallel with favourable conditions for the increasing development cooperation between the two continents, Asia and Europe, we are also confronting a number of challenges such as the economic and financial crisis; climate change which severely affects food

security; the increasing development gap between the developed, the developing and least developed countries.

Distinguished Delegates, Honourable Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Over the past years, our globe has been confronting the phenomenon of climate changes and many countries, including Lao PDR, have suffered from adverse impacts from natural calamities such as flooding, storms, tsunami, drought, global warming, melting icebergs from the North Pole and sea level rise. All these constitute a threat to human well-being. At the same time, the frequent cycle of world's economic and financial crisis in the last ten years has adverse effect on the security and the economic and financial stability of each continent and many regions of the world to some extent. Therefore, at our meeting, we will focus on finding common solutions to the following urgent issues through ASEP :

- Ensuring food security in the context of climate change
- Enhancing the Asia-Europe cooperation in public debt management for sustainable development
- Asia-Europe partnership for the increasing participation of civil societies in handling with natural disasters

All these urgent issues constitute a challenge for the socio-economic development of both continents which require us to define appropriate policy and timely measures. I am confident that during the meeting in the next two days, in the spirit of cooperation and with a high sense of

responsibility of all delegates and parliamentarians, our meeting will certainly reach its set objectives However, on behalf of chairperson of this ASEP-7, allow me to share some view:

1. For food security in the context of climate change

- As we are all aware, food security does not have a direct impact on the economy and the livelihood of our people but it also affects peace and the security of nations to some extent. Against this background, I am of the view that the cooperation amongst countries in food security is vital and a common strategy should be elaborated based on mutual benefits and the balance between the development and environment protection. For the developing countries, they need to have a strategy for their agricultural products in line with land policy, access to water resources, capital , marketing and technology. In addition, a favourable environment for international trade should be created for fair market-oriented agricultural products. Furthermore, the international community should put in place a cooperation mechanism for food security management in particular for effective food production, food reserves and distributions chains. My National Assembly has encouraged the government to pay attention to promoting researches and developing seeds of agricultural products adaptable to the changes of climate through the cooperation between Asia and Europe.

2. With regard to public debt management for sustainable development

Public debt has become an issue that threatens the world's economic and financial stability. Therefore, the cooperation between the two continents in addressing this issue is vital for ensuring sustainable development. In this regard, the parliament of each country has the duty

to encourage its government to review and maintain their financial policy along with elaborating medium and long term public debt management.

to build up a network for exchange of information and experiences in drafting comprehensive and consistent legislation while strengthening the capacity of different public institutions responsible for overseeing the government in public debt management

3. For Asia-Europe partnership in intensifying the involvement of civil society in handling with natural disasters

Our members of parliaments shall enhance the cooperation between Asia and Europe in order to concretely streamline natural disaster risk reduction tasks into all sectors of the socio-economic development plan by assigning the communities as centres of security cultures, thus ensuring the sustainable development and readiness in allocating resources for timely responses to any natural disasters.

All these suggestions could be effectively realised only if policy and legislation are in place therefore enacting legislation remains the important foundations which we should carefully and thoroughly examine to the largest extent possible.

As ASEP member, the Lao National Assembly always supports the Asia-Europe Cooperation and Partnership and will do its utmost to contribute to every success of ASEP. We stand ready to enhance the friendly relation and cooperation for the development of Parliaments of all countries from Asia and Europe in order to elevate the quality and efficiency of ASEP and to continuously disseminate the information about ASEP to Lao people

On this occasion, on behalf of all Lao ethnic people, I would like to express my gratitude to the ASEP member countries for their support, assistance and cooperation which created favourable conditions for Lao National Assembly to successfully fulfil its international obligations.

I earnestly hope that all the topics of discussions at this ASEP meeting will be submitted to the governments of member countries for further consideration aiming at contributing to the attainment of the objectives of peace, cooperation and sustainable development.

On this final note, may I extend to all participants of this meeting my best wishes of good health, enjoyable visit and activities in Lao PDR and I would like to request you to spare your time contemplating and familiarising yourself with the beauty and richness of the nature, the diversity of long-standing cultures and fine traditions of Lao ethnic people.

I wish the ASEP-7 to be crowned with brilliant success and I officially declare the ASEP-7 open from now on.

I thank you.

Annex 4 :

Keynote Address by H.E.Mr Thongsing THAMMAVONG, Prime Minister of the Lao PDR

at the Opening Ceremony of the 7th Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership (ASEP)

Vientiane Capital, 03 October 2012

Honorable Chairperson of the 7th ASEP,

Honorable Chairman of the 6th ASEP,

Honorable House Speakers, Vice-Speakers, Heads of delegation and delegates participating in the 7th ASEP,

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, it gives me a high privilege and great pleasure to attend the official opening ceremony of the 7th ASEP meeting which is taking place in Vientiane Capital.

On this auspicious and historical landmark occasion, I would like to wholeheartedly extend on behalf of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and in my capacity as Chair of the 9th ASEM Summit, a cordial welcome to the House Speakers and representatives coming from Asia and Europe to the 7th ASEP meeting. It is also my great pleasure to welcome new ASEP members from Australia, New Zealand, Myanmar and Russia.

The wide participation of the parliamentarians from the old member States and the four new member States in the 7th ASEP meeting is a clear testimony to the good partnership so happily existed between our parliaments. It also reaffirms the increasing growth of ASEP as well as the privilege that you all have bestowed upon the Lao PDR to host the ASEP meeting for the first time, and we would like to thank you all to that end.

Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Aware as we are, ASEP is the representative body of the rights and interests of more than 4.7 billion people in Asia and Europe which accounts for 65 % of the world population. Since time immemorial, our peoples from the two continents have manifested a strong aspiration to live together in a cordial and friendly environment based on a spirit of mutual understanding and mutual assistance while promoting cooperation for development leading towards shared prosperity.

In this regard, the Government of the Lao PDR is of the view that the present ASEP meeting should focus its deliberations on issues that matter most to the peoples of our two continents. First and foremost, I believe that the meeting shall seek ways and means to further enhance economic and trade cooperation aimed at harnessing respective untapped potentials. Most urgently is to step up cooperation in agricultural production that should be associated with food security programs. This is the most pressing issue before us given the abnormality of climate change.

If we do not take a sound and collective action to deal with such reality, our peoples would face food shortage that might turn out to be one of the root causes for instability.

Furthermore, I am of the view that the current ASEP meeting has to find out solutions to meet the basic needs of the people namely ensuring improved and secure living conditions in order to bring about prosperity to the peoples of our two continents. To reach that lofty goal, we have to deploy all our efforts and wisdom to devise development and cooperation schemes in line with the specificities of the contemporary world that is an era of global integration.

Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Our planet is currently hit by the financial crisis affecting both Asia and Europe. In the past, leaders of many countries and institutions have held several meetings at different levels in order to jointly find appropriate solutions. In this regard, I propose that at the 7th ASEP meeting, the participants shall collectively study and search for sustainable and sustained development schemes through promoting mutually-beneficial cooperation, exploiting respective potentials and strength while doing away from taking advantage of each other. Moreover, a well-balanced and coherent linkage between socio-economic developments with environmental protection must also be guaranteed. One of the most pressing issues that we need to place emphasis on is to help each other in attaining the MDGs by 2015 while laying down necessary conditions for fostering future development that would fall within a sustainable development-led orientation path. Therefore, I would like to call upon the present ASEP meeting to contribute to the study and formulation of new sustainable development format while ensuring that the peoples of our two continents will live in an environment of lasting prosperity and amity.

Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As you have already known, in early November of this year, the Lao PDR will play host to the 9th ASEM Summit in Vientiane Capital. As of now, through its own efforts as well as thanks to the assistance and cooperation from friendly countries, all the preparatory works are basically completed. I am confident that we will continue to

enjoy the support and constructive cooperation from ASEM member States as well as from Asia-Europe parliaments in order to ensure that these two important meetings hosted for the first time by the Lao PDR would be crowned with success as envisaged thus contributing to further enhancing cooperation between the two continents in order to bring about the benefits and prosperity to the peoples of our two continents while also injecting an important contribution to the cooperation for development and wealth of the world at large.

I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate that the Government of the Lao PDR consistently upholds a foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship and cooperation. It also welcomes the establishment of relationship, contact and sincere cooperation with the Governments from Asia and Europe to consider issues of mutual interest.

On this final note, I wish the 7th ASEP meeting to proceed in a cordial and friendly atmosphere filled with mutual understanding and brilliant success.

I wish you all happiness and a pleasant stay during your participation in this ASEP meeting.

I thank you.

Annex 5 :

Speech by Mr Rik TORFS, senator, Parliament of Belgium at the ASEP7 inaugural ceremony

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

It is my honor and pleasure to be with you here today at the opening of the 7th Conference of the Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting. As parliamentary dimension of the ASEM meetings bringing members of parliament together from the European Union and from the Asian countries, these ASEP meetings are key in deepening relationships between our parliaments from the East and from the West.

As you all know, the last ASEP meeting took place under Belgian presidency in Brussels on 26 and 27 September 2010. Topics discussed were the effective financial and economic world governance structures on the one hand, and sustainable development in its social, economic and environmental aspects on the other hand.

The Belgian presidency insisted during the meeting on the idea that all European and Asian citizens need to have the same rights and obligations in the fields of health, education, solidarity and local government. Moreover, the essential role of women in society was stressed. Finally, the trilateral partnership was developed between European, Asian and African countries, in which interparliamentary contacts can guarantee the move of all countries towards democracy.

Concerning the first topic of the Brussels meeting, extensive discussions took place concerning the creation and maintaining of effective financial and economic world governance structures. This debate took place against the background of the economic and financial crisis in the ASEM countries. Today, this remains a topic of high importance, considering the ongoing crisis in the Eurozone and beyond.

Good governance remains key in combating the world economic crisis. We still have a long way to go, but a lot has already been done. The importance of parliaments cannot be underestimated. They must play an oversight role in coordination with the governments.

The need for regulation of the financial and banking sector was emphasized. An

early warning system and an information-sharing system could be put in place. Capital guarantees were also required. All these conditions would have to be fulfilled by all countries in the world, including the United States.

The United States and Europe had already taken stability measures. However, it was deemed indispensable to introduce more effective controls over rating agencies and standardize the capital adequacy rules of developed and emerging economies. Climate change commitments were also required.

Finally the resources of the International Monetary Fund needed to be expanded, and emerging economies needed to have voting rights in IMF. The IMF loan system needed reform so that countries that needed help could be assisted. That reform required active participation by all countries and appropriate new regulatory instruments.

The second topic of the Brussels meeting concerned sustainable development. It was clear that the definition for "sustainable" was not easy to give. Reference was made to the Brundtland Report of 1987 defining sustainable development as development meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generation to meet theirs. This is sometimes conflicting with some political decisions that tend to be short-term without taking into account the interests of future generations. The debate during the ASEP meeting was welcomed, since it gave the opportunity to try to find a mutual understanding of what sustainable development is.

It was concluded that still one of the main challenges to be taken up was a reduction in poverty. Another challenge was social cohesion, which was experiencing great disparities and leading to upheavals. A major challenge for Asia was to maintain sustainable economic development. Collaboration between European and Asian countries was to be encouraged in this respect. Cooperation, globalization of challenges, the fact that the economic crisis and climate change affects every population in the world, all these ideas were developed during the debate in Brussels. The role of parliaments was crucial in this respect, since they represent the people and pass laws.

Those of you who we had the honor of welcoming in Brussels in 2010, remember that the discussions leading to the final declaration were vivid and sometimes intense.

Reference was made in this final declaration to the commitment to peace, stability

and prosperity in the ASEM area, agreeing that proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and their means of delivery, constituted a threat to international peace and security. A nuclear weapons free world should be the objective of all.

Another important conclusion dealt with the need to enhance co-operation in the fields of technological innovation, science and ICT so as to narrow the digital divide and ensure sustainable development for all ASEM Partners.

A specific paragraph was dedicated to the issue of piracy at sea, certainly on the routes linking Europe and Asia. It seems that today, this problem is tackled at last, and cases of piracy are becoming rare.

Emphasis was also laid on the achievement of the so-called Millennium Development Goals in order to allow everyone to live in dignity. Environment was another important issue, referring among other things to the reduction of CO2 emissions.

Gender equality was extensively discussed. This involved giving responsibility to women, which is essential for tackling social and economic challenges. Unfortunately, women still do not always have equal opportunities of getting jobs, in education or health, and are all too often victims of conflicts and war.

In this respect, I would like to quote some conclusions of the final declaration that were subject to intense debate, but lead to firm and strong commitments: "ASEP Parliamentarians considered that, in order to achieve economic development and social progress, it is necessary to respect fundamental rights and freedoms, especially the freedom from poverty and the right to choose the way of development.

ASEP Parliamentarians stress the need to give priority to gender equality and empowerment of women. There must be progress on reduction of maternal mortality and improving maternal and reproductive health. They totally condemn the awful practice of abuse of women and children as a weapon of war.

ASEP Parliamentarians insisted to guarantee the promotion of women's rights in every human society. Gender equity naturally means the promotion of women's status in the political, economical, cultural and social fields.

ASEP Parliamentarians affirmed that cultural diversity is a fundamental feature of world cultures and constitutes a true source of innovation, inspiration and progress for humankind; they also emphasized that respect for, protection and promotion of cultural identities and diversity, together with dialogue among civilizations, have been a driving force for development, putting special emphasis on gender equality."

In my personal view these were the most important conclusions of the 2010 Brussels ASEP Meeting. ASEP is one of the finer examples of what is commonly referred to as parliamentary diplomacy. By bringing together the parliaments of Europe and Asia working together on the international stage, mutual understanding between countries can be increased and the legitimacy of intergovernmental institutions can be reinforced. As such, parliamentarians can support each other in extending dialogue between countries and in deepening parliamentary oversight of the executive branches in all of our countries.

In this respect, it is worthwhile referring to one of the last conclusions of the final declaration, which states that a continuous reinforcement of the Asia-Europe partnership is mutually beneficial and guarantees the continuity in the ASEP process. Therefore ASEP should develop further, to strengthen the leadership and to establish follow-up mechanisms of the meetings, as well as to monitor how the governments have worked with issues ASEP has given a priority to.

As representative of the 6th ASEP Presidency, I am convinced that the Laos presidency over the 7th ASEP will be an even greater success than the presidencies before in deepening this interparliamentary dialogue and in putting ASEP in the center of EU-Asian cooperation.

I thank you for the invitation and for the generous hospitality.

Annex 6 :

Panel 1 Report

The Panel Discussion was convened on the 4th October 2012, there are 150 participants from 27 countries.

The Meeting was chaired by Hon. Dr. Souvanhpheng Bouphanouvong, Chairwoman of Economy Planning and Finance Committee of National Assembly of Lao PDR and Hon. Dr. Christian Ruck, Vice President of the Bundestag Group of CDU/CSU Parliamentarians, Germany and Hon. Ms. Anna Burk, MP, Vice Deputy Speaker of the Australian Parliament's House Representative is the rapporteur of the Panel discussion.

The meeting is followed up with the order of the business of ASEP that adopted by the organizing committee.

After the introduction of the delegates, the meeting welcomed the four lead speakers for the panel discussion, three presentations on Food Security and one for Public Debts as:

1. Hon. Ms. Aila Paloniemi, Head of Delegates of Finland Parliamentary (Food Security).
2. Hon. Bae Ki-Woon, Head of Delegates of Republic of Korea, (Food Security).
3. Hon. Zhang Xiaoshan, Head of Delegates of China's People Congress, (Food Security).
4. Mr. Sanjay Karla, IMF representative to Lao PDR and Vietnam, (Public Debts)

The meeting opened the floor for discussion for two issues.

There are 150 participants from 27 countries and 12 comments on Food Security (Pakistan, Denmark, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, Lao PDR, New Zealand, European Parliament, Malaysia, Japan and Ireland) 11 comments on Public Debt (Thailand, Cambodia, India, New Zealand, Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia, Russia, Malaysia, Spain and Lao PDR).

All delegates expressed their common views on situations and problems occurred in their regions and highlighted the issues to be solved in appropriate manner. The views and comments are wrapped up as follows:

Food Security Ensuring Food Security in the Current Situation of Global Climate Change:

Delegates agreed that food security was a complex and critical global issue. More than one billion people live with extreme hunger, representing more than one sixth of the world's population. Food for all was a basic human right. Addressing food insecurity was a core responsibility for parliaments around the world. The Secretary-General of the United Nations had characterized food security as a "silent tsunami".

Delegates emphasized the need for improved bilateral, regional and international cooperation to address food security, including through ASEM and ASEP. Delegates agreed that only development could bring a fundamental solution to food crises. A core focus needed to be on enhancing productivity, including through research and development to identify new and more innovative technology. The role of the private sector was also strongly emphasized.

Agricultural trade liberalization was seen as another critical element in the solution, and many delegates referred to the need to make substantive progress in the Doha Round. Global coordination through multilateral forums such as the G20, APEC and the UN, in addition to ASEM were important.

It was agreed that food security was closely linked to climate change. Natural disasters were occurring with more frequency and severity, causing negative impacts for food security. For example in Pakistan, consecutive floods had left around 50 million people homeless. Yet it was important to avoid competition between food security and climate change; food security was not negotiable.

Land and water use were identified as critical issues. Access to water for agricultural, as well as the impacts of drought and flood were a constant concern for food production. The issue of land grabbing, the loss of productive agricultural land for mining and other development, the transfer of land from food to energy production such as bio-fuels and palm-oil and the destruction of forest were also sighted as issues that need to be addressed to ensure food security.

In addition, food prices were rising and affecting the lives of millions of people. According to one report, the era of cheap food was over and food prices would continue to rise over the next 40 years, and delegates noted this presented a grave threat to the global economy, and in particular people in low income countries.

The quality of food – including in relation to genetically-modified foods – required careful management to ensure that food was not only affordable but would not harm people's health. And government's and business needed to strike a balance between agricultural production and industrial production.

Delegates noted that demand as well as supply was critical. As the global population continued to grow, food production is estimated to have to double by 2050. Population growth could be a difficult issue for parliaments to address, but addressing the MDGs, including child mortality, and the education of women, could play a critical role in this respect.

According to the latest FAO State of the World Agriculture Report, women form 43 per cent of the agricultural work force of developing countries. This, combined with the movement of many men to urban areas or as migrant workers abroad, has contributed to an increased burden on women in recent years. Addressing current imbalances, including in relation to women's access to land ownership, were seen as critical to improving food security.

Delegates raised a number of specific recommendations relating to food security. The desirability of improved global governance was discussed, including the need for early warning systems, improved monitoring and regulation, macroeconomic controls and emergency response mechanisms. World food production, stockpiling and distribution systems warranted greater attention, and strengthening international organizations such as UNFAO and the UN Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis could play an important role. Excessive speculation could amplify price volatility; enhanced transparency in grain futures markets was therefore desirable. The development of higher-value agricultural production, combined with investment in human capital was seen as critical. Strong government services also played an important role.

Strengthening the Asia-Europe Partnership in Public Debt for Sustainable Development:

In relation to debt, delegates noted that fiscal policy – including deficits and public debt – affected macroeconomic stability, growth and income distribution. In the context of the current global slowdown, a coordinated global response was necessary. In today's interconnected world, parliaments and governments could no longer look only at what goes on within national borders. Developments in Europe affected Asia and vice versa – this was especially the case given that nearly 50 per cent of exports from Asia are destined for Europe. Both developing and developed countries were affected and needed to work together.

Delegates recognized that countries facing high debt levels needed to formulate credible fiscal consolidation plans going forward, while supporting their recoveries in the short term.

Transparency was cited as critical to public debt management. Laws and regulations needed to be revised to support good fiscal management, which in turn ensured sustainable development and ensured that people were not deprived of basic necessities such as education, drinking water and medical care. Spending requirements needed to be considered in conjunction with borrowing. Greater fiscal discipline and less risk-taking was required by all countries.

Long-term investments were necessary to increase economic growth, but delegates recognized that governments sometimes failed to use money prudently for political reasons. Borrowing could be good, but it could also be very bad.

Delegates noted that a number of Asian economies had learnt important lessons in relation to debt management since the Asian financial crisis in the late 1990s. They acknowledged the value of initiatives such as Asia's Chiang Mai initiative, as well as the possibility of strengthened cooperation with the European Financial Stability Facility and the European Stability Mechanism. If global financial safety nets worked effectively, they could help revive the global economy.

There were a number of specific steps that could be taken to restore macroeconomic stability. Firstly, it was important for parliamentarians from Asia and Europe to work together to exchange

experiences and lessons in the field of public debt management for the sake of sustainable development, and to help ensure further crises did not occur in future.

Second, parliamentarians from Asia and Europe should recommend to their respective governments to introduce a prudent framework for public debt management, and set up a comprehensive system of public debt statistics in line with good governance. In addition, close coordination was needed to strengthen the role of the government to supervise fiscal policy, monetary policy and promote effective financial supervision and governance in relation to financial markets.

Third, it was proposed to set up a network for facilitating information exchanges and mutual learning between Asia and Europe, to assist each region to improve its regulatory frameworks, and enhance capacity building for public debt management institutions. This would assist with the monitoring of government performance associated with public debt management. Delegates should also encourage their respective governments to introduce an early warning system for public debt management.

The Co-chair congratulated the contributions and the spirits of creative and positive views of the parliamentarians which represent the roles of representative of people as well as the legislative bodies in solving the issues for the well beings of the people in two regions and the world.

Finally the Co-chair thanked and appreciated all parliamentarians and wished them the best time in Lao PDR and hopes to have chance to welcome them again.

All delegates thanked of Co chair and rapporteur for the excellent works and wished the host parliament the best of success.

The meeting closed at 12: 50 PM of October 4th, 2012.

Annex 7 :

REPORT

PANEL DISCUSSION 2

Social and Environmental Matters

I have the great honor to be on behalf of Co-chairs for Panel Discussion on Social and Environmental Matters to report the outcomes of the Panel Discussion 2 as follows:

The Panel Discussion was convened on 4 October 2012 in Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR and attended by 20 parliaments and 2 international organizations.

The Meeting was co-chaired by Hon. Dr. Nguyen Van Tien, Vice-Chairperson of Social Affairs Committee of National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and Hon. Ms. Anna Rosbash, Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ECR Denmark), Representative of European Parliament.

Hon. Dr. Motoyuki Fujii, Chairman of Special Committee on Official Development Assistance and Related Matters, Member of Financial Committee of the Diet of Japan was the rapporteur of the Panel discussion.

The meeting was conducted in accordance with the Order of business of ASEP that had been adopted by the Organizing Committee.

After the welcoming remark and opening address by the Co-chairs, the Co-Chair from The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam proposed the amendment of the title of the Panel Discussion 2 from “Asia-Europe Partnership in Increasing Social Participation for Disaster Management” to “Promoting Asia- Europe partnership in Disaster Management, including Social Participation”. The amendment of the title will not make any change in the content of this panel discussion. The meeting agreed with the proposed amendment of the title.

After that the Co-Chairs introduced the three lead speakers of the Panel Discussion as follows:

1. Hon. Mr Hayono Isman, Senior Parliamentarian, Vice Chairperson of the House Committee of the Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation of Republic of Indonesia.
2. H.E. Ms. Margareta Wahlstrom, Special Representative of Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR):
3. Honorable Mr. Rik Torfs, Senator of the Senate of Belgium.

The presentations were followed by questions and answers session and general discussion. There were altogether 14 countries who gave interventions and comments.

All delegates expressed their common views on situations and problems occurred in their regions and highlighted the issues to be solved in an appropriate manner. The views and comments are summarized as follows:

- ASEP Parliamentarians noted that hundreds of millions of poor people are extremely vulnerable to natural calamities namely: earthquakes, storms, tsunamis, severe floods and droughts which put development at risk. In this regard, ASEP Parliamentarians emphasized that it may be difficult to achieve MDGs goals particularly by low-income countries, unless disaster risk reduction is well integrated into development and poverty reduction strategies.

- ASEP Parliamentarians realized that natural disasters have widespread and cross-border impacts on human lives, properties and the environment, and reaffirmed that climate change as a global challenge is not only environmental problem, but has also a significant impact on socio-economic development as well as on international security. No one single country nor region can address these challenges.

- ASEP Parliamentarians firmly supported the existing inter-regional and international cooperation mechanisms namely: the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (ADDMER), ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), the Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), the European Commission's Directorate-General on Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection (ECHO), APEC's Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG), in a bid to reduce human and property losses. In particular, they supported strengthened cooperative measures between AHA Centre and ECHO.

- ASEP Parliamentarians stressed the need for enhancing collaboration to address the impact of climate change and natural disaster through the ongoing contribution of developing countries and further contribution to global mitigation effort. ASEP Parliamentarians reiterated the challenge of financing disaster relief and developing local capacity building and improved readiness in case of disasters in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 - 2015 and other related UN Resolutions.

- ASEP Parliamentarians called upon ASEM member countries to make concerted efforts and utilize the international experience in disaster risk deduction, exchange of innovation and knowledge, dissemination of information and education mechanisms, disaster preparedness for effective response and recovery, early warning mechanisms, technology transfer, risk assessment and management, search and rescue capacities, infrastructure development associated with disaster prevention, natural and man-made hazards, health threats pandemic diseases, industrial risks, agricultural risks, rapid response and post-disaster management, mitigation.

- In this regard, ASEP Parliamentarians stressed the need to mobilize additional resources and contributions from social partners for disaster responsive capacity building, especially for high-risk countries in ASEM; and encouraged the public-private partnership (PPP) in national and international mitigation and adaptation strategies, including promotion of public awareness and education in disaster management.

A number of delegates also referred to mechanisms established in their own countries and the efforts and achievements recorded in disaster risk reduction and management.

The Co-chair congratulated the contributions and the spirit of creative and positive views of the parliamentarians who represent the people as well as the legislative bodies in addressing the issues for the well beings of the people in the two regions and the world.

The Provisional Report of the deliberation during this Panel Discussion has also been communicated with all participating delegates for review.

Finally the Co-chair appreciated the host parliament of ASEP7 for the excellent arrangement of ASEP7 and offered gratefulness to all parliamentarians for their participation, wishing them enjoyable and pleasant stay in the beautiful and peaceful country of Lao PDR.

This Report has consolidated comments from all delegations with their approval.

The meeting closed at 12 AM of 4 October 2012

Annex 8 :

REPORT TO THE LAST PLENARY SESSION

BY PROF.DR.BOUNGNONG BOUPHA,

CHAIRPERSON OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE ON ASEP-7 DECLARATION

**Your Excellency Mme. Pany YATHOTOU, President of ASEP-7 and President of the Lao National Assembly,
Excellencies Speakers and Deputy Speakers of Asian and European Parliaments,
Honorable Fellow Parliamentarians,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is my great honor and privilege to report to the ASEP-7 Plenary Session on the outcome of the Drafting Committee Meetings on ASEP-7 Declaration which were convened on the 2nd and 4th October 2012 from 08.00 pm to 9.00 pm, and from 01.30 pm to 03.00 pm, respectively.

It was my honor to have presided over the Meetings.

With your permission, may I report the followings:

The Meetings considered the draft ASEP-7 Declaration with active participation and contribution by all Delegates from the Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership.

The Draft Declaration consists of three parts as follows:

The introduction part of the Declaration highlighted the significance of Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership for sustainable development; the warm welcome extended by the ASEP-7's President and by the Prime Minister of the Lao PDR, Chairperson of the 9th ASEM Summit; the Remarks of Honorable Senator of Belgium, head of delegation as the host Parliament of ASEP-6, recalling the conclusion of the 2010 Brussels ASEP 6 Meeting while emphasizing, among others, the importance of women's rights and equal opportunities for all; and ASEP-7 Delegates' expression of their warm welcome to Australia, Myanmar, New-Zealand and Russia as new members of ASEP.

The substantive part recalled the outcomes of the six previous Meetings held in Strasbourg (1996), Manila (2002), Hue city (2004), Helsinki (2006), Beijing (2008) and Brussels (2010),

which paved the strong foundation for sharing ideas, information, knowledge and issues of common interest and concern in order to strengthen Asia-Europe Parliamentary partnership for sustainable development.

At the ASEP-7 Plenary and two Panel meetings, Delegates thoroughly discussed and exchanged views and ideas on 3 sub-topics surrounding sustainable development, namely 1). Ensuring Food Security in the Current Situation of Global Climate Change, 2).Strengthening the Asia-Europe Cooperation in Public Debts for Sustainable Development, and 3).Asia-Europe Partnership in Increasing Social Participation for Disaster Management. In addition, Delegates proposed ways and means for cooperation in order to address the common concern and interests of both continents. Delegates from both Asia and Europe were happy to share best practices and lessons learned from each other with an aim to avoid past mistakes.

All of discussed contents were unanimously approved by all Delegates and incorporated into the draft Declaration.

In the Final part, the ASEP-7 Delegates expressed their sincere appreciation and gratitude to the host Parliament, the Government and the people of the Lao PDR, as well as to the authorities of the Vientiane Capital for their warm welcome and cordial hospitality accorded to them, and for excellent arrangements made for the meeting, which led to successful conclusion of the ASEP-7.

The ASEP-7 agreed that ASEP-8 Meeting will be held in Europe, and looked forward to the 2014 gathering

The ASEP-7 was held in the spirit of friendship, solidarity, partnership, cooperation, openness, mutual trust and understanding.

I, therefore, have the honor to present to the Plenary Session the final draft ASEP-7 Declaration for consideration and adoption.

I thank you for your kind attention!

Annex 9 :

Closing Remarks

by H.E. Madame Pany YATHOTOU, President of the ASEP 7,

Vientiane, 4th October 2012

Honorable Speakers and Deputy Speakers of Parliaments,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Over the past 2 full days, our conference has been conducted in the warm, friendly and constructive atmospheres in line with its rules of procedures. ASEP 7 has now nearly come to an end.

The conference has achieved remarkable outcomes and further strengthened mutual understanding and cooperation of the parliamentarians of Asia and Europe through the sharing of views, recommendations and measures to address various issues raised during our discussion.

Those topics are all urgent and challenging issues to the security, socio-economic stability as well as the sustainable development of the world community. The participants have actively discussed and shared their views in a spirit of friendship and constructive engagement and unanimously adopted a final outcome document of the conference.

In my capacity of Chair of the conference, I highly value the successful outcome of the meeting. All information, comments and recommendations made at the meeting testifies the unity and aspirations to bring about prosperity to the peoples of the two continents. I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to all delegates for their active participations and mutual understanding, contributions and constructive dialogue demonstrated in the course of our discussion and agreements on various issues as reflected in the ASEP7 Declaration which will be submitted at ASEM 9 to be held in early November this year. At the same time, as Parliamentarians, we have to incorporate the resolution of ASEP 7 into mandatory functions of parliaments of each countries including national legislation and oversee the implementation of related policies by the administration.

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to express my deepest appreciation and profound gratitude to Honorable House Speakers and Deputy Speakers of Parliaments, Head of ASEP Delegations, invited Lao and Foreign guests for your active participation and support that made our conference a great success.

Finally, I wish all delegates good health, happiness and great success in your noble task and have a safe trip back home.

On this auspicious and joyful occasion, in the capacity of the Chair, may I declare the ASEP 7 officially closed from now on.

Thank you

Annex 10 :

DECLARATION OF THE SEVENTH ASIA-EUROPE PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP MEETING 3-4 October 2012, Vientiane, Lao PDR

1. The Seventh Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership Meeting (ASEP-7) was held on 3-4 October in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) under the theme: "**Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership for Sustainable Development**" and presided over by Her Excellency Mrs. Pany YATHOTOU, Chairperson of the ASEP-7 and President of the Lao National Assembly.
2. In response to the invitation of the President of the National Assembly of the Lao PDR, Parliamentarians from ASEM partners namely: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russia, Singapore, Spain, Thailand, Vietnam and the European Parliament participated in the Meeting. The IMF, UNDP and UNISDR attended this Event as invited Guests of the Host Parliament.
3. Her Excellency Mrs. Pany YATHOTOU, the Host Speaker delivered an Opening Address at the Meeting in which, she highlighted the significance of the enlarged Asia-Europe Parliamentary Partnership over more than half a decade; the demand to ensure the sustainable economic development in each country, in particular the public debt, food security, climate change and disaster management; and the need for maintaining peace and stability. The Host Speaker called upon ASEM Governments and Parliaments to strengthen the executive and legislative partnership of Asia and Europe as a forum for joint deliberation in order to address common concerns of the two continents as well as the world as the whole.
4. His Excellency Mr. Thongsing THAMMAVONG, Prime Minister of the Lao PDR delivered a Statement as Host and Chair of the 9th ASEM Summit to be held in Vientiane on 5-6 November 2012, stressing the willingness of the people in Asia and Europe to live in peace and prosperity with one another and the world at large. He further emphasized that due to various challenges faced by the two regions, it urgently required close cooperation and collaboration to ensure the balance of socio-economic development and environmental protection.
5. Honourable Mr. Rik Torfs, Senator of Belgium, Head of Delegation as the Host Parliament of ASEP-6 gave his Remarks at the Meeting, recalling the conclusions of the 2010 Brussels ASEP-6 Meeting while emphasising among others the importance of women's rights and equal opportunities for all.

6. ASEP Parliamentarians warmly welcomed Australia, Myanmar, New-Zealand and Russia as new members of ASEP.
7. ASEP Parliamentarians expressed their condolences and sympathy over recent natural disasters that caused loss of life and property in a number of ASEM member countries.
8. ASEP Parliamentarians recalled the outcomes of the previous six meetings held in Strasbourg (1996), Manila (2002), Hue City (2004), Helsinki (2006), Beijing (2008) and Brussels (2010) which laid down a strong foundation and paved the way for sharing ideas, information, knowledge and issues of common interest and concern in order to strengthen Asia-Europe Partnership for Sustainable Development.
9. ASEP Parliamentarians reaffirmed the commitment to continue efforts in three mutually reinforcing and interdependent pillars of sustainable development, namely economic development, social equity and environmental protection. In this regard, ASEP Parliamentarians also welcomed and endorsed the outcome of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20 Conference) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 20-22 June 2012, which considers the green economy as an option in sustainable development and poverty eradication, and at the same time it may also represent more active regional response to the global climate change challenges, consistent with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and capabilities while emphasizing the need for a true commitment by all countries to tackle climate change.
10. ASEP Parliamentarians expressed their concerns over the current economic and financial crisis, and recognized that food security, climate change and natural disaster are among negative impacts. Therefore, ASEP Parliamentarians emphasized the need to further enhance cooperation in dealing with public debt, food security, climate change and disaster management, resources, in particular to ensure sustainable development and poverty eradication.

Ensuring Food Security in the Current Situation of Global Climate Change

11. ASEP Parliamentarians expressed their concerns about food security as a complex sustainable development issue, linked to health through malnutrition, but also to sustainable economic development, environment, and trade. In this regard, ASEP Parliamentarians reiterated their commitment to promote food security in terms of availability, accessibility, diversity and utilization. ASEP Parliamentarians reaffirmed that food security is heavily influenced by fair and sustainable access to, and use of water and land. ASEP Parliamentarians also stressed the importance of agriculture which remains the largest employment sector in most developing countries, and international agriculture agreements are crucial to ensure food security at national, regional and global levels.

12. ASEP Parliamentarians reiterated that eradicating extreme poverty, hunger and reducing malnutrition are common concern. As such, it requires an international response. In the search for global solution, ASEP Parliamentarians will closely cooperate to pursue food security policy supported by appropriate investment, including through the implementation of the outcomes of the G20 Summit on Food Security.
13. ASEP Parliamentarians encouraged the Governments of ASEM partners, the international institutions and the private sector to intensify joint efforts to increase food production and improve productivity through greater investment, enhanced support in capacity building and collaborative research, as well as technological development and transfer in the agricultural sector. ASEP Parliamentarians supported the promotion of triangular cooperation in agriculture, which is a good model for sustainable development.
14. ASEP Parliamentarians further encouraged and supported effective measures to improve the efficiency of agriculture and food production as a way to ensure food security for all ASEM partners, enhancing international policy coordination, transparency of international food market and avoiding trade protectionism. In this regard, ASEP Parliamentarians called for long-term and appropriate investment in agricultural sector, raising agricultural production and productivity as well as rural development in developing countries.
15. ASEP Parliamentarians expressed their concern over the scale and gravity of the negative impact of climate change affecting all countries and undermining their abilities, in particular developing countries. Therefore, ASEP Parliamentarians attached great importance in combating climate change which requires urgent and ambitious action and a strong commitment of all countries to this end, in accordance with the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities, consistent with the principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Strengthening the Asia-Europe Partnership in Public Debt for Sustainable Development

16. ASEP Parliamentarians realized that the world macro-economic environment has been undergoing unpredictable and difficult periods with new challenges, such as lack of confidence on, among others, financial market, constraint in recovery momentum, increased unemployment rate which, in the end, would adversely affect the well-being of the people.
17. ASEP Parliamentarians also acknowledged that, against the afore-mentioned backdrop, Asian and European economies and financial markets have become more integrated and inter-dependent. As such, the current Euro-zone sovereign debt crisis would not only hurt the Euro-zone but would also have major implications in Asia's economic outlook.
18. ASEP Parliamentarians reiterated that development programmes should be pro-growth, pro-job, pro-environment, and against poverty.

19. ASEP Parliamentarians stressed the importance of self-reliant fiscal efforts by each country, and enhanced cooperation between Asia and Europe to overcome the consequences of the current debt crisis, which could be seen as a significant lesson for the evolving regional economic architecture. ASEP Parliamentarians emphasized the need for ASEM partners to cooperate in experience sharing, technical assistance, and strengthening capacity building in public debt management, particularly for developing countries.
20. ASEP Parliamentarians welcomed all efforts made to enhance intra-regional and inter-continental cooperation to address public debt related issues, particularly the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) and the Chiang Mai Initiative Multi-lateralization (CMIM). ASEP Parliamentarians also supported G20 initiatives on the reform of international financial architecture, which would provide stability and integrity of international monetary and financial system.
21. ASEP Parliamentarians expressed their strong commitment to strengthen parliamentary oversight over governments' monetary policies, financial market governance and state budget expenses, which are the most crucial elements of public debt; and urged the governments of countries which either have vulnerable financial sectors, and public debts or government deficits beyond sustainable levels to introduce early warning mechanisms on financial stability to minimize the risk of increased debt levels, and large bailout packages provided to the financial sector.
22. ASEP Parliamentarians pledged to urge respective governments to adopt tools: ensure macro-economic policy flexibility, including for addressing asset price bubbles; maintain sustainable fiscal and debt position; and to develop strong prudential regulation, including for the informal banking sector and resolution mechanism for systematically important financial institutions that would help contain high-risk lending and borrowing practices.
23. ASEP Parliamentarians noted that sovereign debt crisis and related problems should be addressed in a responsible and timely manner, which could otherwise affect efforts to attain the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015.

***Promoting Asia-Europe Partnership in Disaster Management,
Including Social Participation***

24. ASEP Parliamentarians noted that hundreds of millions of poor people, particularly women and children, are extremely vulnerable to natural calamities, namely earthquakes, storms, tsunamis, and severe floods and droughts, which put development at risk. In this regard, ASEP Parliamentarians emphasized the importance of ensuring disaster risk reduction, and disaster management is well integrated into development and poverty reduction strategies.
25. ASEP Parliamentarians realized that natural disasters have widespread, cross-border impacts on human lives and the environment. Neither a single country nor a region alone can address these challenges.

26. ASEP Parliamentarians underscored and supported the 8th ASEM's Chair Statement on the four humanitarian principles of disaster relief – humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence – and considered these principles to be the foundation for humanitarian actions.
27. ASEP Parliamentarians firmly supported the existing inter-regional and international cooperation mechanisms, namely the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), the Asian Disaster Reduction Centre (ADRC), the European Commission's Directorate-General on Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection (ECHO), APEC's Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG), etc..., in a bid to reduce human and property losses. In particular, ASEP Parliamentarians supported the strengthening of cooperative measures between AHA Centre and ECHO.
28. ASEP Parliamentarians stressed the need for enhancing collaboration to address the impact of natural disasters through financial and technological support and capacity building in developing countries. ASEP Parliamentarians reiterated the challenge of financing disaster risk reduction, disaster relief, and developing local capacity building and improved readiness in case of disasters in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 - 2015 and other related UN Resolutions.
29. ASEP Parliamentarians called upon ASEM partners to make concerted efforts and utilize the international experience in disaster risk reduction, exchange of innovation and knowledge, dissemination of information and education mechanisms, disaster preparedness for effective response and recovery, early warning mechanisms, risk assessment and management, search and rescue capacities, infrastructure development associated with disaster prevention, natural and man-made hazards, health threats pandemic diseases, industrial risks, agricultural risks, rapid response and post-disaster management, and mitigation.
30. ASEP Parliamentarians also reiterated the need for ASEM partners to make more concerted efforts to ensure that several key areas of the disaster management such as in preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation can be met by investigating the establishment of new institutions, creating a regional framework for emergency response, mainstreaming gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction at each level of our public policy, and more importantly ensuring adequate financial support.
31. ASEP Parliamentarians stressed the need to mobilize additional resources and contributions from social partners for capacity building in disaster response, especially for high-risk countries in Asia and Europe; and encouraged the public-private partnership (PPP) in national and international mitigation and adaptation strategies, including promotion of public awareness and education in disaster management.

32. ASEP Parliamentarians also called upon ASEM partners particularly those, which are vulnerable towards disaster risks to utilize the important role of public and private sector stakeholders to help governments in the disaster risk management, including societal organisations, research and academic institutions, and media.

OTHER MATTERS

33. ASEP Parliamentarians underscored that economic integration needs to be complemented by deepening political cooperation in addressing issues of common interest. Energy policy – both production and conservation – should have a more prominent role in Asia-Europe cooperation. Also in this respect, cooperation in transport and logistics will become increasingly important. Possibilities to use new and shorter shipping lanes between Asia and Europe through the High North are emerging.

FINAL CLAUSES

34. ASEP Parliamentarians reiterated their wish to further the work of ASEP by strengthening the leadership and establishing follow-up mechanisms of the meetings, and by giving ASEP work more continuity on a national level, as outlined in the Brussels ASEP-6 Declaration 2010.
35. ASEP Parliamentarians fully supported key ASEM activities carried out by respective ASEM Partners, in particular the Government of the Lao PDR in preparing for the 9th ASEM Summit to be held in Vientiane on 5-6 November 2012, under the theme “Friends for Peace, Partners for Prosperity” which will further strengthen ASEM cooperation and partnership. In this connection, ASEP Parliamentarians called upon all ASEM Leaders to attend the 9th ASEM Summit to reflect their high commitment to the ASEM process.
36. ASEP-7 Delegates expressed their sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Lao National Assembly, the Government and people of the Lao PDR, in particular, the authority and people of Vientiane for their warm welcome and cordial hospitality accorded to them, as well as for excellent arrangements made for the Meeting which led to successful conclusion of the ASEP-7.
37. ASEP Parliamentarians agreed that ASEP-8 Meeting will be held in Europe, and looked forward to the 2014 gathering.

Annex 11 :

MEETING PROCEDURE

1. Background

The ASEP-7 Meeting Procedure has been prepared in accordance with ASEP Rules of Procedure, taking into account the practical conditions of the host country (LAO PDR), best practices of previous ASEP Meetings, to facilitate the conduct of the meetings during ASEP-7.

2. Preparatory Meeting

A Preparatory Meeting is scheduled at 20.00 hours on October 2nd, 2012 at the Meeting Room on the 1st Floor, Don Chan Palace Hotel. Head of Delegation (or their representative) plus one are invited to this Preparatory Meeting, which will consider organizational and practical issues, such as agenda, program of activities, meeting officers, Meeting Procedure and Administrative Arrangements. This meeting will be chaired by the host parliament.

3. The Drafting Committee Meeting

The first session of Drafting Committee Meeting will meet on Tuesday, October 2nd at 20:00, and the second session on Thursday, October 4th 2012 at 13:30. The Drafting Committee, chaired by the host parliament, will finalize the draft ASEP-7 Declaration. The ASEP-7 Declaration will incorporate the main themes and decisions of the meeting as well as recommendations to the upcoming ASEM Summit.

Interested delegations are invited to participate in this meeting with one Official Delegate per Delegation. Inputs and comments on the first draft of ASEP-7 Declaration should be submitted to ASEP-7 Secretariat no later than Monday, October 1st 2012. Any further proposal for amendment during the Drafting Committee Meeting is strongly encouraged to be in written form and communicated with ASEP-7 Secretariat:

- Contact person / Phone / Email:

Decisions at the ASEP Meeting are made by consensus among official delegations.

4. First Plenary Session

In addition to the agenda provided by ASEP Rules of Procedure, the First Plenary Session shall allocate time for Heads of Delegation - upon request in advance - to make their statements on the theme of "Asia -Europe Parliamentary Partnership for Sustainable Development", within 5 minutes each, on first come first serve basis and taking into account the schedule of the First Plenary Session.

5. Panel Discussion

There will be two parallel Panels during the meeting:

- Panel 1: economic matters;
- Panel 2: social and environmental matters.

Panel Discussion will be co-chaired by one representative from Asia and one from Europe. Each Panel will also have keynote speakers, who will be allocated 15 minutes each to make their presentations on the respective subject matters. Each Panel Discussion will have one rapporteur, who will report the Panel's proceedings to the Last Plenary Session. Please refer to section 8 of this Meeting Procedure for further information.

Any proposal or intervention is strongly encouraged to be in written form and communicated with the ASEP-7 Secretariat before the accomplishment of the respective Panel Discussion.

- Contact person / Phone / Email: (For Panel 1)
- Contact person / Phone / Email: (For Panel 2)

6. Last Plenary Session

The Last Plenary Session will be reported on the outcomes of Panel Discussion sessions. The Plenary will also approve the ASEP-7 Declaration proposed by the Drafting Committee and consider the hosting of the next ASEP meeting.

7. Language and Interpretation

The working language of the Meeting is English. In compliance with the Rules of Procedure, participating delegations are asked to provide their own interpreters in case they wish to have the proceedings interpreted into another language. The host country provides simultaneous interpretation facilities to the extent technically possible on first come first serve basis.

8. Floor Taking

Delegates may address the meeting only at the call of the chair. Delegates who wish to take the floor during the debates are asked to register by using a Floor Request Form available in the meeting rooms and in the Secretariat. The Co-Chairs of the meeting establish a list of speakers taking into consideration the registered order and regional balance and balance between different delegations. To ensure broad participation in debates and time efficiency, first interventions are limited to five minutes each, and supplementary interventions are limited to three minutes each. This time limit may be decided by the chair if necessary.

9. Written Documents

Delegates who have prepared texts in advance are kindly asked to submit to the ASEP-7 Secretariat for copy and distribution. Speeches and other related documents will be available at the meeting rooms.

10. Summary Report

The host Parliament will prepare a Summary Report of the Meeting. The draft Report will be circulated to each delegation for comments before being published.

Annex 12 :

THE SEVENTH ASIA-EUROPE PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP MEETING

Vientiane, 3-5 October, 2012

Administrative Arrangements

1. The ASEP-7 administrative arrangements are being prepared on the basis of, and in addition to, the ASEP Rules of Procedures to facilitate the conduct of the meeting within the context of the host country Lao PDR. Best practice and lessons learned from previous ASEP meetings were also taken into account.
2. A Preparatory Meeting will be held at the **Done Chan Palace Hotel** in the evening of Tuesday, October 2nd, 2012 at 20:00. National delegations are invited to attend with their heads of delegation (or their representative) plus one other official delegate. The meeting will discuss organizational and practical issues such as the agenda, selection of meetings officers, organization of proceedings and administrative arrangements. The meeting will be chaired by the host country.
3. The Drafting Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 2nd at 20:00 and on Thursday, October 4th, 2012 at 13:30. Drafting Committee will finalize the work on the draft ASEP-7 Declaration. Interested delegations are invited to participate in this meeting with one official delegate per country. The meeting will be chaired by the host country.
4. The ASEP-7 Declaration will incorporate the main themes and decisions of the meeting as well as recommendations to the upcoming ASEM Summit. Delegations are invited to submit contributions and comments to the first draft declaration by the date of Friday, September 28, 2012 to the ASEP VII secretariat. Decisions at the ASEP Meeting are made by consensus among official delegations.
5. The ASEP-7 inaugural ceremony will proceed as follows:
 - Cultural performance
 - Opening address by the President of the Lao National Assembly, President of ASEP VII
 - Address by the Prime minister of Lao PDR, President of ASEM-9
 - Address by the Head of Delegation from Belgium, the host of ASEP-6
6. The ASEP-7 Accession Ceremony will proceed as follows:
 1. Announcing the list of new ASEP member countries
 2. Accession ceremony for each country in alphabetical order:
 - repositioning of national flag by the Guards of Honor Squad followed by the Head of the National Delegation

- national anthem

3. Address by the ASEP-7 President

7. The first plenary session, in addition to what has already been mentioned in the Rule of Procedure, will hear an on-demand, 5 minute address by heads of delegation on sustainable development according to the list and order established by the Chair of the session.
8. There will be two parallel Panel Discussions during the meeting:
 - Panel 1 : economic matters
 - Panel 2 : social and environmental matters

Panel discussions will be co-chaired by one representative from Asia and one from Europe. There will also be a 15 minute presentation by 4 keynote speakers in each Panel discussion. The Panel discussions will also have one rapporteur each, one from Asia and one from Europe. The rapporteurs will give short summaries of the Panel discussions at the second plenary session.
9. The working language of the Meeting is English. In compliance with the Rules of Procedure participating delegations are asked to provide their own interpreters in case they wish to have the proceedings interpreted into another language. The host country provides simultaneous interpretation facilities to the extent technically possible.
10. Delegates may address the meeting only at the call of the chair. Delegates wanting to take the floor during the debates are asked to register by using a special form available in the meeting rooms and in the secretariat. The chair of the meeting establishes a list of speakers taking into consideration the order in which delegates have asked for the floor as well as regional balance and balance between different delegations.
11. To ensure broad participation in debates and efficiency in the sessions all interventions will be limited to five minutes. If necessary this time limit will be additionally shortened during the meeting.
12. Delegates who have prepared texts in advance are kindly asked to hand them to the secretariat for copying and for distribution to the interpreters. Speeches and other documents related to the meeting will be available outside the meeting room.
13. The host country will prepare a summary report of the conference. The draft report will be circulated to each delegation for comments before it is published.

Annex 13 :

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

DELEGATIONS

AUSTRALIA

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. Hon. Ms. Anna Burke, | Deputy Speaker (House of Representatives) Head of the Delegation |
| 2. Hon. Mr. Stephen Parry, | Deputy President (Senate) |

EMBASSY OF AUSTRALIA

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| 1. H. E. Ms. Lynda Worthaisong, | Australian Ambassador to Lao PDR |
| 2. Ms. Kimberly Radford, | Second Secretary, Australian Embassy, Vientiane |

AUSTRIA

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| 1. Hon. Mr. Stefan Markowitz, | Member of the National Council |
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BELGIUM

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| 1. Hon. Mr. RikTorfs, | Senator |
| 2. Mr. Tim De Bondt, | Adviser |

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

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| 1. H. E. PehinDato Haji Isa Bin Ibrahim, | Speaker of the Legislative Council Leader of Delegation, |
| 2. Hon. PehinDato Haji YaakubPehinDatoHjZainal, | Member of Delegation, Member of the Legislative Council |

3. Hon. PehinDatoGoh King Chin, Member of Delegation,
Member of the Legislative Council
4. Hon. DatinPadukaHajahSalbiah Haji Sulaiman, Member of Delegation,
Member of the Legislative Council
5. Hon. Haji Zulkipli Haji Abdul Hamid, Member of Delegation,
Member of the Legislative Council
6. Hon. Haji Mohd. Shafiee Ahmad, Member of Delegation,
Member of the Legislative Council
7. Mr. PehinDato Haji Judin Haji Asar, Member of Delegation,
Secretary to the Cabinet Minister's
Council & Clerk I (first) to the
Legislative Council
8. Mr. Haji Abd Salam AbdMomin, Clerk II (Second) to the Legislative
Council
9. Ms. Rose Aminah Haji Ismail, Advisor/Secretary to the Delegation,
Deputy Clerk of Council
10. Mr. Haji Adanan Haji Manggong, Advisor/Secretary to the Delegation,
Special Duties Officer
11. Ms. SitiBismiNurulimanEmzah, Advisor/Secretary to the Delegation,
Public Relations Officer
12. MDM. DatinHajahRosnah Abdullah, Spouse of Leader of Delegation
13. MDM. DatinHjh. RahmahDato Haji Mohd. Daud, Spouse of Member of
Delegation
14. MDM. Datin Chang NyukKee, Spouse of Member of Delegation
15. MDM. DatinHajahZaharah Haji Ja'afar, Spouse of Member of Delegation

CAMBODIA

1. H. E. Ms. KhuonSudary, Second Vice-President of the National
Assembly (Head of Delegation)
2. H. E. Mr. ChheangVun, Chairman of the Commission on Foreign
Affairs (Member)

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| 3. H. E. Mr. Chea Chet, | Chairman of the Commission on Economy, Finance, Banking and Audit of the Senate (Member) |
| 4. H. E. Mr. PrakThuch, | Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Public Health, Social Work, Veteran Youth, Rehabilitation, Labor, Vocational and Women's Affairs (Member) |
| 5. H. E. Mr. Men Kuon, | Member of the Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media (Member) |
| 6. H. E. Mrs. TroeungThavy, | Secretary of the Commission on Education, Youth, Sport, Religious Affairs, Culture and Tourism (NA) (Member) |
| 7. H. E. Mr. Mean Chanyada, | Chief of Cabinet of Second Vice-President (Assistant) |
| 8. H. E. Mrs. Ban Sreymom, | Vice-Chief of Cabinet of Second Vice-President (Assistant) |
| 9. H. E. Mr. UyVisal, | Director of International Relations Department (Assistant) |
| 10. Mr. MeasSiphandorn, | Chief of Bilateral Office (Assistant) |
| 11. Mr. Penh MengHuoth, | Vice-Chief of Bilateral Office (Assistant) |
| 12. Mr. Koy Malay Vireak, | Deputy Director of International Relations Department (Senate) |
| 13. Ms. Men Sophorn, | Assistant to the National Assembly (Assistant) |
| 14. Mr. Vat Saphiny, | Cameraman |

CHINA

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| 1. Hon. Mr. Nan Zhenzhong, | Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress |
| 2. Hon. Mr. Zhang Xiaoshan, | Member of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress |

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| 3. Mr. Xiong Wei, | Director of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the General Office of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress |
| 4. Mr. Wang Fei, | Secretary to Mr. Nan Zhenzhong |
| 5. Mr. Jin Leiming, | Third Secretary of the International and Regional Issue of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| 6. Ms. Hou Dong, | Principal Staff of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the General Office of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress |
| 7. Ms. Tang Yu, | Interpreter |
| 8. Ms. Zhao Tianming, | Interpreter |

DENMARK

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| 1. Ms. Karin Gaardsted, | Member of Parliament |
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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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| 1. Mr. George Sabin CUTAS, | Chair, Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (S&D Romania) |
| 2. Mr. Francesco SPERONI, | Committee on Legal Affairs (EFD Italy) |
| 3. Mr. David MARTIN, | Committee on International Trade, Committee on Constitutional Affairs, Subcommittee on Human Rights (S&D) |
| 4. Ms. Anna ROSBACH, | Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ECR Denmark) |
| 5. Ms. Elisabeth JEGGLE, | Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, Subcommittee on Human Rights (EPP Germany) |

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| 6. Mr. Niccolo RINALDI, | Committee on International Trade (ALDE Italy) |
| 7. Ms. Katarina NEVEDALOVA, | Committee on Culture and Education (S&D, Slovakia) |
| 8. Mr. Jonas CONDOMINES, | Head of Unit, Secretariat |
| 9. Ms. Claudia SCHWENDENWEIN, | Assistant, Secretariat |
| 10. Mr. Christopher WILLIAMS, | S&D, Political Group |

FINLAND

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|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Ms. AilaPaloniemi, | Member of Parliament |
| 1. Ms. PaiviLipponen, | Member of Parliament |
| 2. Mr. Guy Lindstrom, | Deputy Director of International Department |
| 3. Ms. SatuWastimo, | Accompanying Person |

GERMANY

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| 1. Hon. Dr. Christian Ruck, | Deputy Chairman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group/German Bundestag |
| 2. Hon. Mr. Patrick Kurth, | Member of German Parliament |

HUNGARY

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| 1. Hon. Mr. Andor Nagy, | Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Sustainable Development |
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IMF

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| 1. Mr. Sanjay Kalra, | Senior Resident Representative |
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INDIA

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| 1. Hon. Mr. KrishnasswamyMurugagounder, | Member of Parliament |
| 2. Hon. Mr. Sanjay Jaiswal, | Member of Parliament |
| 3. Hon. Mr. Bibhu Prasad Tarai, | Member of Parliament |
| 4. Hon. Mr. Devi Prasad Tripathi, | Member of Parliament |
| 5. Mr. Surender Singh, | Secretary to the Delegation |
| 6. Mr. SushantaMallik, | Private Secretary to Shri D.P. Tripathi (No.4) |

EMBASSY OF INDIA

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| 1. H. E. Mr. C. GururajRao, | Ambassador of India to Lao PDR |
| 2. Mr. Naresh Kumar, | Second Secretary & Head of Chancery |
| 3. Mr. SuprasunLahiri, | Second Secretary |

INDONESIA

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| 1. Hon. Mr. HayonoIsman, | A Senior Parliamentarian and Vice-Chairperson of the House Committee of the Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation to Lead the Delegation |
| 2. Hon. Mr. Al Muzammi Yusuf, | Member |
| 3. Hon. Mr. Daniel Lumbantobing | Member |
| 4. Hon. Mr. JuhainiAlie, | Member |
| 5. Mr. Hariyadi, | Adviser |
| 6. Ms. LeniMailaini, | Adviser |
| 7. Mr. BowoHoetomo, | Secretary |

EMBASSY OF INDONESIA

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| 1. H. E. Mr. KriaFahmiPasaribu, | Ambassador |
| 2. Mr. BambangEkoSukartono, | Counsellor |
| 3. Mrs. SeptaniaRubiPrameswari, | Third Secretary |
| 4. Mr. BayuYuswanSatria, | Consular Staff |

IRELAND

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| 1. Mr. Dominic Hannigan, | Deputy, Chairman, European Union Affairs Committee |
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JAPAN

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| 1. Hon. Mr. Motoyuki FUJII, | Member of the House of Councilors |
| 2. Hon. Mr. Koji HIRAYAMA, | Member of the House of Councilors |
| 3. Mr. Ken SHIMIZU, | Director, International Conferences Division |

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| 4. Mr. Ryunosuke NAKAZONE, | Secretary, International Conferences Division |
| 5. Ms. Yayoi SHIRAI, | Interpreter (House of Councilors) |
| 6. Ms. Mayumi ICHIKAWA, | Interpreter (House of Councilors) |
| 7. Ms. Satoko WATANABE, | Interpreter (House of Councilors) |
| 8. Ms. Akiko SHIMODA, | Interpreter (House of Councilors) |

LAO PDR

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| 1. H.E. Mrs. Pany YATHOTOU, | President of the National |
| Assembly Leader of Delegation | |
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| 2. Hon. Dr. Mr. Xaysomphone PHOMVIHAN, | Vice-President |
| 3. Hon. Mr. Somphanh PHAENGKHAMMY, | Vice-President |
| 4. Hon. Prof. Mr. Davone VANGVICHIT, | Member |
| 5. Hon. Dr. Mr. Koukeo AKHAMOUNTRY, | Member |
| 6. Hon. Prof. Dr. Phonethep PHOLSENA, | Member |
| 7. Hon. Dr. Mrs. Souvanpheng BOUPHANOUVONG, | Member |
| 8. Hon. Mr. Duangdy OUTTHACHACK, | Member |
| 9. Hon. Police Brigadier General Mr. Vilay DUANGMANY, | Member |
| 10. Hon. Dr. Mr. Ounkeo VOUTHILATH, | Member |
| 11. Hon. Prof. Dr. Mr. Kikeo KHAYKHAMPHITHOUN | Member |
| 12. Hon. Dr. Mr. Khampheuy PANMALAYTHONG | Member |
| 13. Hon. Dr. Mr. Bounthavy SISOUPHANTHONG, | Member |
| 14. Hon. Mr. Buagneun SAPHOUVONG, | Member |
| 15. Hon. Prof. Dr. MsBoungnong BOUPHA, | Member |
| 16. Hon. Mr. Khammany INTHIRATH, | Member |
| 17. Hon. Mr. Kisin SINPHANGNAM, | Member |
| 18. Hon. Dr. Mr. Somphou DUANGSAVANH, | Member |
| 19. Hon. Mrs. Buaphan LEEKAIYA, | Member |
| 20. Hon. Mr. Colonel Khamsouk VI-INTHAVONG, | Member |
| 21. Hon. Mr. Bounpone SISOULATH, | Member |
| 22. Hon. Mr. Khamxao KAYXONG, | Member |
| 23. Hon. MrsBandith PATHOUMVANH, | Member |
| 24. Hon. MrsSuansavanh VIGNAKET, | Member |
| 25. Hon. Ms. Thatsadaphone SAENGSOULIYA, | Member |
| 26. Hon. Ms. Bounkham GNAOPHASIRI, | Member |
| 27. Hon. Mrs. Buaphanh THIPPHAVONG, | Member |
| 28. Hon. Dr. Mr. Onekeo PHOMMAKONE, | Member |
| 29. Hon. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mr. Bounpong KEORODOM, | Member |
| 30. Hon. Dr. Mr. Ketkeo SIHALATH, | Member |
| 31. Hon. Dr. Mr. Sisaliew SVENGSAUKSA, | Member |
| 32. Hon. Mr. Lasanivong AMMALATHITHADA, | Member |

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| 33. Hon. Mr. Khamchanh KHAMVONGCHAY, | Member |
| 34. Hon. Mr. Vonekham PHETHAVONG, | Member |
| 35. Hon. Mrs. Khamphone PHIMMACHANH, | Member |
| 36. Hon. Mrs. Khamchomphou SIRITHAM, | Member |
| 37. Hon. Mr. Houmphanh THAMMOUNGKHOUN | Member |
| 38. Hon. Mr. Kamsouk THOR, | Member |
| 39. Hon. Mr. Khamvone BOUNTHAVONG, | Member |
| 40. Hon. Mr. Bounton CHANTHAPHONE, | Member |
| 41. Hon. Mr. Somdy KEODALAVIN, | Member |
| 42. Hon. Mr. Bounseng PATHAMMAVONG, | Member |
| 43. Hon. Mr. Sengthong PHAKHAOUNTHONG, | Member |
| 44. Hon. Mr. Vankham INTHICHACK, | Member |
| 45. Hon. Mrs. Manixong LEUSISAMOUTH, | Member |
| 46. Hon. Mr. Bounthiem THONGKEO, | Member |
| 47. Hon. Mr. Khamdeng KOMMADAM, | Member |
| 48. Hon. Mr. Bounxay KHAMMANIVONG, | Member |

MALAYSIA

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| 1. H. E. Sen. Tan Sri Abu ZaharUjang, | President of the Senate |
| 2. Hon. Sen.Mrs. Datuk Doris Sophia Brodi, | Deputy President of the Senate |
| 3. Hon. Sen. Mdm. NoriahMahat, | Member of the Senate |
| 4. Hon. Sen. Dato' Dr. Firdaus Abdullah, | Member of the Senate |
| 5. Hon. Sen. Dato' Abdul Rahim Abdul Rahman, | Member of the Senate |
| 6. Hon. Sen. Dato' Abdul RahmanBakar, | Member of the Senate |
| 7. Hon. Sen. Mr. KhooSooSeang, | Member of the Senate |
| 8. Hon. Sen. Dato' Nallakaruppan a/l Solaimalai, | Member of the Senate |
| 9. Hon. Sen. Mr. SubramaniamVeruthasalam, | Member of the Senate |
| 10. Mr. Dato' LamienSawiyo, | Chief Administrator of Parliament |
| 11. Mr. DatukZamaniSulaiman, | Secretary of the Senate |
| 12. Mr. ShamsulBahriShamsudin, | Principal Private Secretary |
| 13. Mr. TengkuNasaruddinTengku Mohamed, | Delegation Secretary I |
| 14. Mr. AdlanSalleh, | Delegation Secretary II |
| 15. Mrs. Puan Sri SarifahRugayah Syed Jaffar, | Spouse to the President of the Senate (No. 1) |
| 16. Dr. Mr. Chua Beng Leong, | Spouse to the Deputy President of the Senate (No. 2) |

MYANMAR

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| 1. H. E. Mr. U KhinAungMyint, | Speaker of PyidaungsuHluttaw (Parliament) Speaker of AmyothaHluttaw |
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| 2. H. E. Mr. U Thein Win, | Chairman of Public Accounts Committee, Member of Bill committee, AmyothaHluttaw |
| 3. H. E. Mr. U Saw Maw Tun, | Secretary, Farmers, Local and Overseas Workers Affairs Committee, Secretary, ASEAN Political-Security Community Committee |
| 4. H. E. Mr. U SoeMyint, | Member of Bill Committee, Member of ASEAN Economic Community Committee, AmyothaHluttaw |
| 5. H. E. Mr. U HtayMaung, | Secretary of International Relations Committee Member of International Non-government Organization Committee, AmyothaHluttaw |
| 6. H. E. Dr. Mr. Soe Win, | Member of Commerce Committee Member of ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Committee, AmyothaHluttaw |
| 7. Mr. U KyawSoe, | Director-General, Hluttaw Office |
| 8. Ms. DawThidaTun, | Deputy Director-General, Hluttaw Office |
| 9. Mr. WannaAungMyint, | Assistant Director, Hluttaw Office |
| 10. Mr. U Chit Win, | Assistant Director (Interpreter), Ministry of Foreign Affairs |

EMBASSY OF MYANMAR

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. H. E. Mr. KyawSoe Win, | Ambassador |
| 2. Mrs. Aye AyeNwe, | Spouse of Ambassador |
| 3. Brig-Gen. Win Myint, | Military Attache |
| 4. Mrs. MyaMya Aye, | Spouse of Military Attache |
| 5. Ms. MyatThida Aye, | Counsellor and DCM |
| 6. Ms. Ngu War Swe, | Second Secretary |
| 7. Mr. MaungMaung Chit San Oo, | Attaché |
| 8. Sgt. Than ZawOo, | Attaché |
| 9. Mr. VilakoneSidlakone, | Translator (local Staff) |
| 10. Mr. SanyaInthavong, | Driver (local Staff) |

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| 11. Mr. SylipanyaPhilavanh, | Driver (local Staff) |
| 12. Mr. ViraphonBounpaseth, | Driver (local Staff) |
| 13. Mr. KidoneOuntady, | Messenger and Supporting Staff |

NEW ZEALANDS

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| 1. Hon. Mr. John Hayes MP, | Parliamentary Private Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Chair of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Select Committee |
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PAKISTAN (Senate)

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| 1. Hon. Sen. Mr. Sabir Ali Baloch, | Deputy Chairman Senate |
| 2. Hon. Sen. Mr. Molana Abdul GhafoorHaideri, | Senator |
| 3. Hon. Sen. Dr. Mrs. SaeedaIqbal, | Senator |
| 4. Hon. Sen. Mr. Abbas Khan Afridi, | Senator |
| 5. Hon. Sen. Mr. Muhammad Yusuf, | Senator |
| 6. Mr. Syed WaqarYousaf, | Secretary, Senate Secretariat |

PAKISTAN (National Assembly)

- | | |
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| 1. Hon. Mr. AkramMasih Gill, | Minister for National Harmony, Leader of Delegation |
| 2. Hon. Ms. Palwasha Mohammed Zai Khan, | Member National Assembly |
| 3. Hon. Mr. Bilal Yasin, | Member National Assembly |
| 4. Mr. Wajahat Ahmed, | Parliamentary Staff |

EMBASSY OF PAKISTAN

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| 1. H. E. Mr. ShahidMasroorGulKiani, | Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to Vietnam Accrediting to Lao PDR. |
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PORTUGAL

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| 1. Hon. Mrs. Angela Guerra, | Member of Parliament |
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REPUBLIC OF KOREA

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Hon. Mr. Kiwoon BAE, | Member of Parliament |
| 2. Hon. Mr. Cheik LEE, | Member of Parliament |
| 3. Mr. Daehyung LEE, | Deputy Director of National Assembly |
| 4. Ms. Soyoung JEONG, | Interpreter |
| 5. Ms. Seoyeon CHO, | Interpreter |

REPUBLIC OF KOREA EMBASSY

- | | |
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| 1. H. E. Mr. Gun-tae Lee, | Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Lao PDR |
| 2. Ms. Ga-Yeon Jung, | Counselor, Embassy of the Republic of Korea |

RUSSIA

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Hon. Mr. AndreyKlimov, | Member of the Committee for Foreign Affairs, Head of the Delegation (The Council) |
| 2. Hon. Mr. AkhmetPalankoev, | Member of the Committee for Foreign Affairs (The Council) |
| 3. Hon. Mr. Maxim Shngarkin, | Vice-Chairman, Committee on Natural Resource (State Duma) |
| 4. H. E. Mr. Oleg Kabanov, | Ambassador |
| 5. Ms. Irina Zolotareva, | Advisor of the Department for Foreign Affairs (The Council) |
| 6. Mr. Alexey Bykov, | Chief Specialist-Expert of the Secretariat, (Advisor) (The Council) |
| 7. Mrs. Elena Chistyakova, | Advisor (State Duma) |
| 8. Mr. Vladimir Lakeev, | Interpreter (The Council) |
| 9. Dr. Mr. Alexander Artamonov, | Russian Embassy |
| 10. Mr. RuslanUshakov, | Assistant Military Attache |
| 11. Mr. Alexey Bulkin, | Second Secretary |

SINGAPORE

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. Hon. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim, | Member of Parliament |
| 2. Dr. Lim Wee Kiak, | Member of Parliament |
| 3. Ms. Anne Quah, | Senior Assistant Clerk |

EMBASSY OF SINGAPORE

- | | |
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| 1. H. E. Mr. Dileep Nair, | Singapore Ambassador |
| 2. Mr. Ivan Chia, | Deputy Chief of Mission |

SPAIN

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Hon. Mr. Jane Jordi, | 4 th Deputy Chairman |
| 2. Mr. Santiago Cervera, | Second Secretary of the Bureau |
| 3. Mr. Fernando Galindo, | Accompany Person |

THAILAND

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| 1. Hon. Mr. Surachai Liengboonlertchai, | First Vice-President of the Senate Leader of the Delegation |
| 2. H. E. Mr. Vitavas Srivihok, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to Lao People's Democratic Republic | |
| 3. Hon. Mr. Sunai Chulpongsatorn, | Chairman of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, Delegate |
| 4. Hon. Mr. Thanate Kruarat, | Chairman of the Standing Committee on Tourism and Sports, House of Representatives, Delegate |
| 5. Hon. Mr. Thongdee Manissarn, | 1 st Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee on Labour, House of Representatives, Delegate |
| 6. Hon. Mrs. Pikulkeaw Krairiksh, | Chairwoman of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Senate, Delegate |

7. Hon. Mr. SurajitChirawate, 1st Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee on Natural Resource and Environment, Senate, Delegate
8. Hon. Assoc. Prof. VichudaRattanapian, Member and Vice-Chairwoman of the Advisor of the Standing Committee on Monetary, Finance, Banking and Financial Institutions, Senate, Delegate
9. Hon. Assoc. Prof. Dr. LalitaLerksamran, Advisor to the Thai Delegation
10. Mr. SompolVanigbandhu, Deputy Secretary General of the House of Representatives
11. Mr. VarayudhChaiyakul, Minister, Royal Thai Embassy in Vientiane
12. Mrs. SamonrutaiAksornmat, Supervisor of the Special Affairs Division, Bureau of Inter-Parliamentary Organizations, Secretariat of the House of Representatives
13. Mrs. ThippawanSupamitkitja, Minister Counsellor, Royal Thai Embassy in Vientiane
14. Ms. PanaddaSunghum, Foreign Relations Officer, Special Affairs Division, Bureau of Inter-Parliamentary Organizations, Secretariat of the House of Representatives, Assistant Secretary to the Delegation
15. Ms. KanteeraLeelanond, Foreign Affairs Officer, Association of Parliaments and Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments Division, Bureau of Inter-Parliamentary Organizations, Secretariat of the House of Representatives, Assistant Secretary to the Delegation
16. Mr. Kran CHANCHARASWAT, Foreign Relations Officer, Special Affairs Division, Bureau of Inter-Parliamentary

Organizations, Secretariat of the House of
Representatives, Assistant Secretary to the
Delegation

THE PHILIPPINES

1. Mr. Antonio De Guzman Jr., Director-General, Office of International Relation and Protocol, Senate of the Philippines
2. Ms. Analyn de Leon-RATONEL, Third Secretary and Vice Consul, Philippine Embassy in Vientiane
3. Mr. Ronaldo B. VILLANUEVA, Administrative Officer, Philippine Embassy in Vientiane

UNDP

1. Mr. Minh Pham, UN Resident Coordinator
2. Ms. Maya Lindberg Brink, UN Head of the Resident Coordinator Office
3. Mr. SurithSengsavang, UNDP Laos Staff
4. Mr. PhetChanthabandith, UNDP Driver

UNISDR

1. Ms. Margareta Wahlstrom, Special Representatives of UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Chief of UNISDR
2. Ms. Pham ThiThanh Hang, UNISDR
3. Ms. Brigitte Leoni, UNISDR Regional Communications Officer
4. Ms. Ana Christina Angulo Smith, UNISDR Programme Officer

VIETNAM

1. H. E. Mr. Nguyen Sinh Hung, President of the National Assembly
Head of Delegation
2. Hon. Mr. Uong Chu Luu, Vice-President of the National Assembly
Vice Head of Delegation
3. Hon. Mrs. Nguyen ThiNuong, Member of the Standing Committee,
Chairwoman of the Deputies Affairs of the
National Assembly Standing Committee,
Member of Delegation
4. Hon. Mr. Nguyen HanhPhuc, Member of the Standing Committee, Chairman
of the National Assembly Office,
Member of Delegation
5. H. E. Mr. Ta Minh Chau, Vietnam Ambassador to Laos
6. Hon. Mr. Nguyen ManhTien, Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Affairs
Committee, Member of Delegation
7. Hon. Mr. Nguyen Van Tien, Vice-Chairman of the Social Affairs
Committee of the National Assembly,
Member of Delegation
8. Hon. Mr. Nguyen DucKien, Vice-Chairman of the Economic Affairs
Committee of the National Assembly,
Member of Delegation
9. Hon. Mr. Tran Van, Vice-Chairman of the Finance and Budgetary
Affairs Committee of the National Assembly,
Member of Delegation
10. Hon. Mr. Nguyen Vinh Ha, Vice-Chairman of the Science, Technology and
Environment Committee of the National
Assembly, Member of Delegation
11. Hon. Mr. Vu Hai Ha, Permanent Member of the Foreign Affairs
Committee of the National Assembly,
Member of Delegation

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| 12. Mr. Nguyen Truong Giang, | Director General, Secretary to the Vice-President of the National Assembly |
| 13. Mrs. Nguyen Tuong Van, | Deputy Director General of the Foreign Affairs Department, Office of the National Assembly |
| 14. Mr. Le Anh Tuan, | Deputy Director General of the Foreign Affairs Department, Office of the National Assembly, Secretary to the President of the National Assembly |
| 15. Mr. Nguyen Manh Hung, | Deputy Director General of the General Affairs Department, Secretary to the Chairman of the National Assembly Office |
| 16. Mr. Dao Duy Trung, | Chief of the Parliamentary Multilateral Relations Section, Foreign Affairs Department |
| 17. Mr. Phung Trung Kien, | Chief of the Protocol and Administrative Section, Foreign Affairs Department |
| 18. Ms. Tran Kim Chi, | Vice-Chief of the Bilateral Affairs Section, Foreign Affairs Department |
| 19. Mr. Nguyen Chung Viet, | Official, Foreign Affairs Department |
| 20. Ms. Pham Thi Ngoc Ha, | Official, Foreign Affairs Department |
| 21. Ms. Pham Thi Thu Huong, | Official, Foreign Affairs Department |
| 22. Mr. Nguyen Dung Thanh, | Official, Foreign Affairs Department |
| 23. Mr. Phan Huu Tuan, | Senior Official |
| 24. Mr. Tran Quoc Khanh, | Senior Official |
| 25. Mr. Pham Binh Dam, | English Interpreter |
| 26. Mr. Nguyen Van Dung, | English Interpreter |
| 27. Mr. Dang Quoc An, | Lao Interpreter |
| 28. Mr. Nguyen Huu Quang, | Vice Chief, Security Protection Service |
| 29. Mr. Duong Van Hong, | Security Officer |
| 30. Mr. Do Xuan Tiep, | Security Officer to President |
| 31. Mr. Nguyen Vanh Dong, | Security Officer to President |
| 32. Mr. Ho Quang Dai, | Security Officer to Vice President |
| 33. Mr. Le Van Hoa, | Security Officer |
| 34. Mr. Le Van Phung, | Security Officer |
| 35. Mr. Hoang Duy Duc, | Security Officer |
| 36. Mr. Tran Quang Vinh, | Security Officer |

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| 37. Mr. Ho Van Dinh, | Security Officer |
| 38. Mr. Phan Cao Thanh, | Security Officer |
| 39. Mr. Phung Van Loi, | Security Officer |
| 40. Mr. Vu Van Huyen, | Security Officer |
| 41. Mr. NghiemHuuThanh, | Medical Doctor |
| 42. Mr. Nguyen XuanHoai, | Medical Doctor |
| 43. Mr. Nguyen Quang Vu, | Correspondent, Vietnam News Agency |
| 44. Mr. NhanHuu Sang, | Correspondent, Vietnam News Agency |
| 45. Ms. Phi Thi Thu Tra, | Correspondent, Vietnam Television VTV |
| 46. Mr. Cao Duc Tri, | Correspondent, Vietnam Television VTV |
| 47. Mr. Nguyen TrungThanh, | Correspondent, Vietnam Television VTV |
| 48. Mr. Nguyen Anh Dung, | Correspondent |
| 49. Mr. Van NghiepChuc, | Correspondent |
| 50. Mr. Hoang Gia Minh, | Correspondent |
| 51. Mr. Nguyen Van Thao, | Correspondent |
| 52. Mr. Vu Lam Hien, | Correspondent |
| 53. Mr. Ngo QuangXuan, | Former Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly, Former Vietnamese Ambassador to UN |
| 54. Mr. Nguyen ThanhChau, | Former Vietnamese Ambassador to UN |
| 55. Mr. Nguyen Dai Vu, | Deputy Director General of the Informatics Technology IT Center |
| 56. Mr. Cao Tran QuocHai, | Deputy Director General of the Multilateral Economic Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| 57. Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Quy, | Official of the Informatics Technology IT Center |
| 58. Mr. Nguyen Dang Quang, | Former Head of Secretariat ASEM-5 |

