

The ICAPP Special Conference on "Russia for Asia: New Business Opportunities" (Vladivostok, Russia, May 21-23, 2015)



Vladivostok Statement on Regional Economic Cooperation

We, the leaders and representatives of 18 political parties of Azerbaijan, Cambodia, China, Japan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Thailand and Vietnam, together with representatives of business communities in Asia, in particular members of the ICAPP-COPPAL Business Council (ICBC), have participated in the ICAPP Special Conference which was convened in Vladivostok during May 22-23, 2015. The conference was also attended by representatives of the Permanent Conference of Political Parties of Latin America and the Caribbean (*COPPPAL*), and Council of African Political Parties (CAPP) as observers.

The special conference was conducted under the theme of "Regional Economic Cooperation" with focus on "Russia for Asia: New Business Opportunities" as its main topic. To promote such efforts, two roundtable discussion sessions were held simultaneously on two different sub-topics, i.e. (1) opportunities offered by Russia for business development with partners from Asia, and (2) prospects for promoting Russian business in Asia. In addition, another roundtable discussion on the role and opportunities of the ICBC and business-to-business (B2B) meetings were arranged separately for business leaders under six different sectors, i.e. (1) infrastructure, (2) manufacturing, (3) energy and natural resources, (4) technology, and (5) business promotion, such as exhibitions, fairs, and (6) cultural, and tourism exchange, etc.

During the conference, we confirmed that Asia continues to be the main source of global economic dynamism. We made a special note that East Asia still accounts for about one-third of global growth despite the risks imposed by unsteady global recovery from the recent global financial crisis and a downturn in world trade. In this regard, we agreed that countries in the region should continuously implement individual efforts to strengthen their resilience and ensure sustainable growth in the long run, such as structure reforms and deregulation. They also agreed to the need to spur investment and boost capital flow by expanding and upgrading physical infrastructure and improving public access to higher education and health care, among others.

We confirmed that growing regional integration will propel Asia's growth. We noted that Asia today faces rare and unique opportunities for economic development through expanded cooperation among countries in the region. In this regard, we welcomed the recent decision taken by H.E. Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation to establish East Economic Forum and hold its first annual meeting in Vladivostok during September 3 to 5, 2015. We also welcomed, and expressed our strong support for the launching of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), which would not only greatly contribute to regional economic development by providing adequate and timely financial services, but also promote global financial stability by complementing other existing international institutions.

We recognized the great potentialities the Far Eastern Region have not only for the expansion of economic cooperation and transactions between Asian countries but also for the linking of Asia with Europe. In this regard, we made a special note that the Primorskiy Region of the Russian Federation has become one of the main centers for regional economic integration, offering diverse business possibilities, such as trade and investment, and, in particular, promotion of international tourism. We also took note of other business opportunities, created

by various tax benefits, simplified administrative procedures, assistance for industrial infrastructure of the Government of the Primorskiy Region.

We reaffirmed our commitment to expand economic and business cooperation between Asia and Latin America, and to continue to work together to achieve bi-regional integration between the two continents through the activities of the ICAPP-COPPPAL Business Council (ICBC), which we launched in November 2014. In this regard, we noted with great satisfaction the first substantial dialogue which was held in Vladivostok among the political and business leaders of the two continents since the launching of the ICBC, and expressed our hope that more such dialogues will be held in the future.

Finally, we expressed our gratitude to the United Russia Party for hosting the ICAPP Special Conference on "Russia for Asia: New Business Opportunities." We also thanked the Governments of the Russian Federation and the Primorskiy Region for their strong support for the success of the conference and their warm hospitality extended to us during our stay. In addition, we extended our special thanks to the Eurasian Dialogue of the Russia Parliamentary European Club and the Business Forum of the Government of the Primorskiy Region for co-sponsoring the special conference.

Adopted in Vladivostok, Primorskiy Region, Russian Federation on May 22nd, 2015.