

VOL. 11, NO. 1, 2017

# UPF TODAY

INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO PEACE

INTERNATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF  
PARLIAMENTARIANS  
FOR PEACE

**PLUS:**

INTERNATIONAL  
LEADERSHIP  
CONFERENCES IN  
KOREA AND USA

## FROM THE PUBLISHER

**T**his issue of UPF Today offers highlights from 2016, an extraordinary and busy year for the UPF Regions and National Chapters throughout the world. Most significantly was the resolution to establish the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) by more than 150 parliamentarians, representing more than 40 nations. That momentous event took place on Feb. 15, 2016 in the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea at an International Leadership Conference. After that inaugural event, regional chapters were launched in the Asian-Pacific, East African, West African, Japan, European, Central American and South American regions and culminated with an historic event on Nov. 30, 2016 with the founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon addressing U.S. congressional leaders and participants of the International Leadership Conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

We are extremely pleased by the outpouring of support from our dear friends, colleagues and network of Ambassadors of Peace who have continued the invaluable work to create a culture of peace.

These reports give the reader an overview of the important work being carried out by UPF chapters around the world. Our next main event will be the World Summit 2017 to be held February 1-5, 2017 in Seoul, Korea. Please also visit our website at [www.upf.org](http://www.upf.org). Thank you for your support and interest in the work of UPF. ❖



Dr. Thomas G. Walsh  
President, UPF

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## UPF TODAY

INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO PEACE

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*UPF Today* is the membership magazine of the Universal Peace Federation, founded by Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon. Envisioning peace as a state of harmonious interdependence among individuals, families, nations and peoples, UPF advocates constructive and original practices that contribute to achieving a unified world of peace, the hope of all ages. The magazine offers a forum for Ambassadors for Peace—fostering human development, good governance, public service, and collaborative peace efforts involving religions, nations and nongovernmental organizations.

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### COVER:

Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon at the Kennedy Caucus Room, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C., November 30, 2016



# RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE FORMATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR PEACE

*National Assembly of the Republic of Korea  
Seoul, Korea | February 15, 2016*

Since its inception, the Universal Peace Federation has worked closely with parliamentarians from around the world to build a world of lasting peace, based on universal principles.

The founders of the Universal Peace Federation, Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, launched the global “Parliamentarians for Peace” initiative in 2001 centered on the Ambassadors for Peace. This initiative was also a point of focus of the 2005 Universal Peace Federation Inaugural Tour to 120 nations, and has brought together many parliamentarians from around the world through diverse programs aimed at contributing to the realization of lasting peace.

These programs include UPF-Asia’s “Parliamentarians for Peace” seminars, featuring parliamentarians from Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka and other nations; UPF-Africa’s “Parliamentarians for Peace” programs in 2007, featuring parliamentarians from Nigeria and Sierra Leone; UPF-Nepal’s establishment of a “Parliamentarians Peace Council” in 2014; and UPF-Oceania’s “Parliamentarians for Peace” conferences that involved parliamentarians from Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Island nations. These programs have brought together parliamentarians from around the world, forming an international network of men and women who are committed to solving the critical challenges of our time and realizing a world of lasting peace.

As we know, our world faces a wide range of problems, including territorial disputes, religious and racial conflict, environmental degradation, climate change, violent extremism, poverty, hunger, nuclear proliferation and corruption. Each of these are serious threats to human development and to the

realization of peace in our world.

As we gather in Seoul, we are especially mindful that the Korean peninsula remains divided. North Korea continues to develop its nuclear weapons program, raising serious concerns all over the world that military tensions are rising throughout Northeast Asia. Even now, 60 years after the Korean War, it remains impossible to communicate or freely travel between the two nations. It is time for the international community to wholeheartedly contribute to the realization of peace on the Korean Peninsula.

The division of the Korean Peninsula cannot be seen as a domestic issue; it is an urgent issue that requires the interest and cooperation of Asia and the entire world. It is time for humanity to embrace universally shared values. Let us work together, going beyond differences of ideology, race, nationality and religion. Let us show the example and pursue the path of mutual cooperation and mutual prosperity, building a world of lasting and sustainable peace that can be bequeathed to future generations.

Therefore, we, the more than 150 parliamentarians, representing more than 40 nations, who are participating in the 2016 International Leadership Conference on “Addressing the Critical Challenges of our Time: The Role of Governments, Civil Society and Faith-Based Organizations,” convened in Seoul, Korea, keenly feel the necessity to form a world-level parliamentary association through which we can work together for peace and human development. Gathered at the Korean National Assembly, we hereby propose and resolve to establish the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace. ❖





# INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE HELD IN KOREA ILC2016

Seoul, Korea | February 12-16, 2016



# ILC2016

A special International Leadership Conference (ILC) convened from February 12 to 16, 2016, in Seoul, Korea, to discuss the theme, “Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: The Role of Governments, Civil Society and Faith-Based Organizations.”

More than 340 international delegates from 60 nations, including more than 140 current parliamentarians, 13 government ministers, and other leading figures in religion, media, academia, civil society and government, attended the conference at the Lotte Hotel World in Seoul’s Jamsil neighborhood. The event was co-sponsored by UPF, *The Washington Times* and the *Segye Ilbo* newspaper.

In addition to the ILC program, the delegates participated in three main events: 1) a celebration of the birthdays of the UPF founders; 2) the founding of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace at the National Assembly, the seat of the Korean government; and 3) the Peace Road 2016 launching in support of the peaceful reunification of North and South Korea.

Concurrent with the ILC, an International Media Conference was held on the topic, “The Role of the

Media in Creating World Peace,” hosted by UPF, Washington Times Foundation, *Segye Times* and *Sekai Nippo*.

The successful ILC concluded on a high note, most especially with the birthday celebration of the UPF founders and the inauguration of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace at the National Assembly.

The ILC 2016 highlighted three critical challenges:

1. *Climate change*: While nations must develop their own strategies, there was a renewed call to recognize and support the UN’s efforts, notably last year’s Paris Agreement. Natural and man-made crises—such as climate change, lack of sustainable clean energy, extremism, food security, global conflict and refugees—transcend national boundaries therefore regional and international solutions are needed. Dr. Moon was praised for initiating the Sunhak Peace Prize. Last year’s awardees were Kiribati President Anote Tong



and Indian fisheries scientist Dr. M. V. Gupta for their work with climate change and aquaculture, respectively.

2. *The role of religion and faith-based organizations:* “Track two” efforts through NGOs such as UPF and faith-based organizations can play an important role in addressing the challenges of our time. The founding of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace was hailed as an outstanding initiative to bring together world legislators so their wisdom and experience can be utilized in the service of world peace.
3. *Korean Peninsula:* Korean MP Kim Eul-dong, UPF and *Segye Times* proposed that the United Nations establish a fifth headquarters office to be located in Korea and to focus on the reunification of the peninsula and regional issues. There was general agreement that strong sanctions alone will not motivate the North to come to the negotiating table. However, creating a UN office or peace zone in the DMZ might go a long way to reduce tensions in this nation and region.

Discussion led to dialogue on other pressing issues, most particularly the asylum seekers escaping from the wars in Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and other conflict zones. Wars are man-made disasters and the nations of the world are being called

on to respond in a coordinated and humanitarian manner to the displaced, innocent people.

Similarly, climate change has created a new category of people known as “climate refugees” for those who have been displaced by environmental disasters, such as sea level rise, monsoons, drought and desertification. Leaders are called to act collaboratively and reach region-wide, continent-wide and global-wide solutions.

While acknowledging the need for measured use of power—political, economic and military—UPF honors our founders’ legacy and advocates “soft power” solutions and “track two” diplomacy, emphasizing the role and responsibility of religious and spiritual leaders to shape our activities in a way that will contribute in some measure to the achievement of world peace.

Dr. Thomas Walsh, UPF president, officially concluded the ILC by encouraging the distinguished leaders from throughout the globe to expand the vision and to establish branches of Parliamentarians for Peace, which can bring concrete solutions to the pressing problems that exist in the world today. ❖

– Written by Dr. William Selig  
Deputy Director, UPF Office of Peace and  
Security Affairs-Washington, D.C.





# The First Launching of The International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace



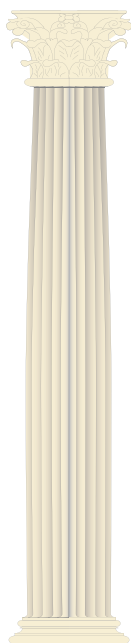
Seoul, Korea | February 15, 2016

The fifth session of the International Leadership Conference (ILC) in Korea took place at the National Assembly at the invitation of parliamentarian Kim Eul-dong and was attended by 20 other Korean lawmakers, international diplomats based in Korea from eight countries, 40 members from the Ministers for Peace association, and more than 40 journalists.

Ms. Kim said, “North Korea’s provocation is a security crisis not just for South Korea but for all East Asia.” She called for the unification of the peninsula. She said this division has “left a painful heart among the people.” Parliamentarian Kim proposed that the UN open a fifth headquarters office, to be located in Korea.

Hon. Chung Ui-hwa, speaker of the National Assembly of Korea, welcomed the ILC delegation. Regarding the recent nuclear test and intercontinental ballistic missile launching, Speaker Chung said, “This kind of careless behavior from North Korea could be addressed effectively by demonstrating a united will and collaboration from parliamentarians all over the world.”

IAPF







The keynote speech by Dr. Sun Jin Moon, UPF International chairperson, provided a good overview and explanation about the purpose and goal of the gathering. Reading a message from her mother, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, she also endorsed the idea of the UN considering an Asian office. “Whereas there are UN headquarters offices in New York, Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi, there is no such office in Asia, even though we are living increasingly in an Asian Pacific age. In many ways, the geopolitical, economic and social center of gravity of our world is shifting toward Asia.”

Congratulatory messages were read, beginning with a video message from U.S. Congressman Ed Royce of California, who recently sent a bill to U.S. President Obama calling for more and stronger sanctions against North Korea. Other speakers included members of parliament from Liberia, Jordan, the Czech Republic, Nepal and Malaysia.

A resolution to establish the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) was signed by the leaders. The IAPP will be a world-level association which will work for peace and human development. ❖

– Written by Dr. William Selig  
Deputy Director, UPF Office of Peace and  
Security Affairs-Washington, D.C.

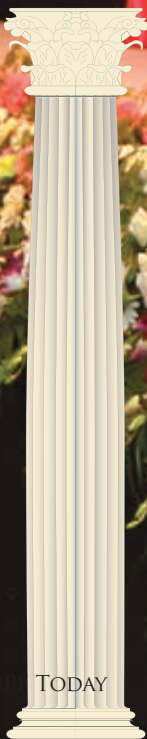




# Parliamentarians for Peace Launched in Asia-Pacific

Kathmandu, Nepal | July 28-31, 2016

IAPP



TODAY

The outgoing prime minister of Nepal and dignitaries from 29 nations attended the UPF International Leadership Conference (ILC).

Among the 700 guests attending the ILC and the launching of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) were a total of 311 current members of parliament, cabinet ministers and heads of state or government from the Asian and Pacific regions.

H.E. K.P. Sharma Oli, who was prime minister of Nepal until August 3, attended the conference along with four Nepalese cabinet ministers and 237 members of Nepal's Legislature-Parliament.

The three-day conference took place from July 28 to 31, 2016, under the title, "Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: The Role of Governments, Civil Society and Faith-Based Organizations." The Universal Peace Federation and the Parliamentarians Peace

Council of Nepal co-hosted the conference in the Hyatt Regency Kathmandu hotel.

The Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction of the Government of Nepal hosted one session and the lunch that followed. The opening and closing sessions were broadcast live by two television stations.

Session titles included: "Launching Peace Road 2016;" "UPF's Founding Vision: Realizing a World of Peace;" "Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: Peacebuilding, Human Rights and Human Responsibilities;" "Overcoming Extremism and Promoting the Peaceful Resolution of Conflict: The Role of Religion and Faith-Based Organizations;" "Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: The Role of Media;" "Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: Climate Change;" and "Making the World Better for Future Generations: International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP)."



At the end of the last session of the conference, participants showed their support for the IAPP by signing the proposal to launch the association in the Asia-Pacific region. On February 15, 2016, at the Korean National Assembly, 150 current parliamentarians from over 40 nations first proposed the IAPP. That gathering featured keynote remarks from Dr. Sun Jin Moon, chair of UPF International, and Hon. Kim Eul-dong, a member of the National Assembly of Korea.

Appreciation for the vision and global foundation of UPF was unanimous. Many of the problems today are beyond

national borders. Obviously and urgently, therefore, an international response is needed. The conference theme was referred to numerous times, namely, that the interaction of government, civil society and faith-based organizations was absolutely needed to address issues like terrorism, climate change, family fragmentation, youth problems, etc. Clearly we all need to work together to address the critical issues of our time. ❖

– Written by Dr. Robert S. Kittel  
director of education, UPF-Asia



IAPP Co-Chair Hon. Jose de Venecia, Jr. signs Asian Inaugural Resolution



H.E. K.P. Sharma Oli, prime minister of Nepal, inaugurating the ILC.





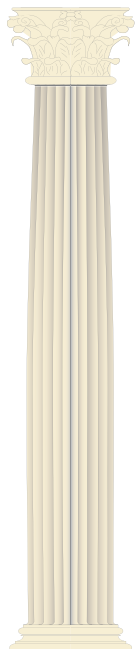
# Parliamentarians for Peace Launched in West Africa

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso | August 8-10, 2016



West Africa's branch of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace was launched with the backing of the highest levels of government. The launch took place on August 10, 2016, in the "sacred" hall of Burkina Faso's National Assembly. It was the central event of a regional International Leadership Conference (ILC) that took place on August 8 to 10, and both the launch and the ILC were organized by UPF in partnership with the National Assembly under the high patronage of Burkina Faso President Roch Marc Christian Kaboré.

# IAPP



The regional launch of IAPP was a follow-up to the international inauguration of the parliamentarians' organization by UPF Co-Founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon in Seoul, South Korea, in February 2016, when 150 parliamentarians from around the world met in the Korean National Assembly.

Hon. Leonce Sanon, a member of Burkina Faso's parliament, attended the ILC in Korea in February, and was deeply inspired not only by the conference but especially by Dr. Moon's wonderfully articulated vision and plan for a future world of peace and reconciliation. He wanted to go home and quickly start IAPP in his nation, so he was delighted to hear that the

regional meeting would take place in his home country.

On August 8, parliamentarians from 23 nations in West Africa came together with Burkina Faso parliamentarians for the welcoming banquet in the Conference and Banquet Hall of the Head of State, which was provided for the occasion by President Kaboré. All banners were prepared with the UPF logo and the National Assembly logo side by side.

A total of 294 people gathered for this welcoming event, including 58 current members of parliament from Burkina Faso and 64 current members of parliament from 23 other West African nations.





There were five current and five former presidents and vice presidents of parliament; the former president of Mali and the former first lady of Benin; four current and seven former government ministers and three current mayors; 12 foreign journalists and 31 Burkina Faso journalists; two ambassadors and nine CEOs of businesses; and 10 religious leaders, 12 tribal leaders and two high-ranking military officials. In addition, there were nine UPF leaders from West Africa and 23 leaders of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU), an affiliated organization.

On Wednesday, August 10, the highlight of the gathering was ready to begin: the inauguration of the West African branch of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace and, concurrently, the inauguration of the Burkina Faso National Association of Parliamentarians for Peace.

The launch was very beautiful. The vice president of the National Assembly presided over the ceremony in the name of Hon. Salifou Diallo, president of the National Assembly, who was hospitalized in South Africa. As the announcement was made by the chief of protocol of the House that the meeting was to begin, all the members stood and the vice president came in side by side with Dr. Walsh, representing Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.

Two parliamentarians read speeches endorsing IAPP from their nations, Hon. Jean Claude Simepoungou from Gabon and Hon. Gilbert Bangana from Benin. Hon. Bangana gave an emotional speech in which he recalled that even as a young university student in Benin, he had the chance to study the UPF Peace Principles. He couldn't understand at that time the importance of what he was learning and left for France to continue his studies. Now, he said, he is delighted that he can be reconnected to this truth that he says will change the world.

After signing the resolution, the participants were invited outside, where they enjoyed refreshments provided by the Burkina Faso National Assembly. This was followed by a ceremony in which the top officials of the National Assembly and UPF planted trees that will be the beginning of a "Garden of Peace."



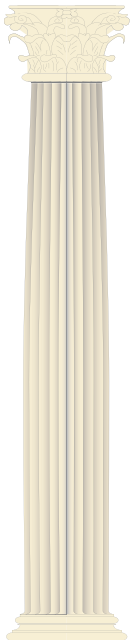
– Written by Kathy Rigney  
regional chair, UPF-Africa



# Parliamentarians for Peace Launched for Europe, Eurasia and the Middle East



# IAPP



**London, United Kingdom | September 7-9, 2016** 

The third of a series of regional conferences launching the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) was held from September 7 to 9, 2016. With the theme, “Inter-Regional Dialogue Addressing Critical Challenges: Europe, Eurasia, the Middle East and North Africa,” the International Leadership Conference organized by the Universal Peace Federation represented the official launch of IAPP in these three regions.

About 150 participants gathered from 40 nations, including political and religious leaders, women leaders and representatives of civil society.

Thirty members of parliament from 15 nations attended the event and signed the proposal to establish an International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace in Europe, Eurasia and the Middle East. Also in attendance were two former European heads of state and ten former members of parliament.

Session titles included: “A Vision for Peacebuilding in the Global Era;” “Peace and Migration: Cross Regional Perspectives;” “Addressing Peace and Security Challenges through Trade and Economic Integration;” “Introduction of Peace Road 2016;” “Overcoming Extremism and Promoting the Peaceful Resolution of Conflict: The Contribution of Religious Leadership;”

“Family, Peace and Sustainable Development; and The Launching of the IAPP for Europe, Eurasia and the Middle East.”

In the afternoon of the second day, all the participants moved to the British Parliament for two sessions that were held in Committee Room 14 of the House of Commons.

The launching of the IAPP for Europe, Eurasia and the Middle East was hosted by Hon. Virendra Sharma, a member of the House of Commons and a patron of UPF-UK, who greeted the participants. Moderating the session was Dr. Thomas Walsh, president of UPF International, who explained the purpose of this world-level association of parliamentarians as a forum through which to work together for peace and human development by going beyond differences of ideology, race, nationality and religion. He then gave the floor to Lord Rajinder Loomba,





founder of the well-known UK charity Loomba Foundation, which supports widows around the world, who greeted the participants and supported the UPF initiative.

The UPF Co-Founder's Address from Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon was delivered by her daughter Dr. Sun Jin Moon. "I will do my best to convey the warmth of love and the hopes for peace that she has in her heart," Dr. Sun Jin Moon said, "and I invite you to all pay close attention to her message."

In the address, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon recalled that when she spoke at the United Nations in Vienna in 2015, she called for a spiritual awakening and urged each member state to serve the whole, looking beyond national self-interests. She also asked the audience to consider establishing a fifth UN Office on the Korean Peninsula in order to work for peace in the Asia-Pacific region.

"I want to emphasize the importance of the role of parliamentarians," Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon said in her address. "You represent the people. You are entrusted by the people with a great responsibility. If parliamentarians of the world join together in harmony and cooperation for the sake of peace, we can transform the current reality of our world, creating a world of joy, harmony and lasting peace."

Representative members of parliament from Europe, Eurasia and the Middle East then took the floor and gave brief statements of support for the new association.

All the panelists then signed the displayed proposal for the foundation of the IAPP, joined by the former presidents of Albania

and Kosovo, the former Austrian defense minister and his wife, and the three UPF regional chairs. All the participants separately signed the proposal, then added their signature on the board.

In their evaluations, participants described their good impressions of the conference, appreciating the high quality of the speakers and the relevance of the themes discussed. They were particularly impressed by the sessions at the Parliament, by the support from prominent members of the House of Lords and the House of Commons, and by the variety of political and religious views represented in the audience. Several members of parliament expressed their desire to join the IAPP and to participate in UPF activities. ❖

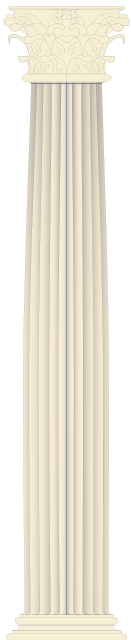
– *Written by Jacques Marion regional secretary general, UPF-Europe*







IAPP



## Parliamentarians for Peace Initiative Launched in Central America-Caribbean Region

San José, Costa Rica | October 6-8, 2016

The vice president of Costa Rica and dignitaries from Central America and the Caribbean attended the UPF International Leadership Conference (ILC) in Costa Rica. Among the 130 guests attending the ILC and the launching of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) were a total of 78 parliamentarians and government officials from the region.

Costa Rican Vice President Hon. Ana Helena Chacón attended the conference along with the president and vice president of the Legislative Assembly and the minister of foreign trade of Costa Rica.

The three-day conference took place from October 6 to 8, 2016, under the title, “Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: The Role of Governments, Civil Society and Faith-Based Organizations.” UPF co-hosted the conference.

Session titles included: “Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: Peacebuilding, Human Rights and Human Responsibilities;” “Launching ‘Peace Road 2016;” “UPF’s Founding Vision: Realizing a World of Peace;” “Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: Peace-building, Human Rights and Human Responsibilities;” “Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: Climate Change;” “Strengthening Family to Build a Safe and Harmonious





Society: The Role of Religion and Faith-Based Organizations;” and “Making the World Better for Future Generations: International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP).”

**Making the World Better for Future Generations**

The vice president of the National Assembly of Costa Rica and the ambassador of the Dominican Republic to Costa Rica were among the speakers in this session. The speakers highlighted the vision of Rev. Moon and Mrs. Moon for the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP). The speakers and participants agreed that this initiative is a good driving force to promote dialogue among lawmakers and

other leaders in Central America and the Caribbean region.

Throughout the conference, different participants committed themselves to work continuously for world peace. The delegation from the Dominican Republic decided to draft a resolution for peace to promote peace in its nation and beyond.

At the end of the ILC, several new Ambassadors for Peace were appointed and the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica recognized UPF and its co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon for fostering a culture of peace and promoting family values, interreligious dialogue and altruistic leadership, under the premise, “we are one global family.” ❖

– Written by UPF-Costa Rica





# Parliamentarians for Peace Initiative Launched in South America

Asunción, Paraguay | October 10-12, 2016

The vice president of Paraguay and dignitaries from South America attended the UPF International Leadership Conference (ILC) in Paraguay. Among the 150 guests attending the ILC and the launching of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) were parliamentarians, former presidents, former first ladies and government officers from 13 countries.

The two-day conference took place from October 10 to 12, 2016 at the Bourbon Asunción Convention Hotel, under the title, “Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: The Role of Governments, Civil Society and Faith-Based Organizations.”

At the opening session, welcoming remarks were given by the vice president of Paraguay, Hon. Juan Eudes Afara Maciel, and the president of the Chamber of Deputies of Paraguay (the lower house of Paraguay’s National Congress), Hon. Hugo Adalberto Velázquez Moreno. Paraguayan Congresswoman Hon. Cynthia Tarragó Elizabeth Diaz and UPF-South America president, Rev. Dong Mo Shin, also gave remarks.

On October 11, all the participants attended a special session at the National Congress of Paraguay, where the South America branch of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) was launched. The president of the National Congress, Hon. Roberto Acevedo Quevedo, welcomed the Paraguayan and international parliamentarians.

Speakers of the session included Paraguayan Senator Hon. Emilia Alfaro de Franco; Congresswoman Diaz; Mr. Kwon Jin Moon, who read the Founder’s Address on behalf of UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon; Dr. Thomas Walsh, president of UPF International; and Rev. Shin.

*At the end of the ILC, 16 parliamentarians – from Bolivia, Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay – were appointed as Ambassadors for Peace, and the National Congress recognized the work of Rev. and Mrs. Moon with an award, which was received by Mr. Kwon Jin Moon, Rev. and Mrs. Moon’s son.*





Among the other speakers at the ILC were former President of Paraguay (1995-2000, 1985-1990) Hon. Don Julio Maria Sanguinetti; former President of Paraguay (2012-2013, 2008-2012) Hon. Luis Federico Franco Gómez; and Deputy Hon. José Domingo Adorno Mazacotte.

National and international media, including from the United States and Korea, covered the event.

At the end of the ILC, 16 parliamentarians – from Bolivia, Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay – were appointed as Ambassadors for Peace, and the National Congress recognized the work of Rev. and Mrs. Moon with an award, which was received by Mr. Kwon Jin Moon, Rev. and Mrs. Moon's son. ❖

– Written by UPF-Paraguay





# Parliamentarians for Peace Launched in East Africa

Lusaka, Zambia | November 5-7, 2016



**E**ast African parliamentarians and religious leaders and Zambian traditional leaders attended an International Leadership Conference at which an international parliamentarians' organization was launched.

Uganda's minister for ethics and integrity, Uganda's minister of energy and mineral development, and Lesotho's minister of tourism, environment and culture joined 72 parliamentarians from 15 countries of Eastern and Southern Africa, including Zambia. More than 70 Zambian traditional leaders, 33 religious leaders and 17 media houses were present at the regional ILC.

The conference was held at the InterContinental Lusaka hotel from November 5 to 7, 2016, under the theme "Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: The Role of Governments, Civil Society and Faith-Based Organizations." Session themes dealt with the problem of extremism and how to overcome it, teachings and principles that guide the worldwide movement, and human rights and good governance.

The question-and-answer session that followed was quite heated, as religious leaders and political leaders were identified as culprits by the traditional leaders. These traditional leaders said they were disappointed by the attitudes of political leaders, who, they said, came for votes making empty promises and not caring enough for the people who had to vote for them. The religious leaders were seen often as cowards who were afraid to stand up for the rights of the people by speaking the truth to power.

The participation of the traditional leaders from Zambia was exemplary and very astonishing. They were always on time and very engaged during the question-and-answer sessions.

## Special message from the vice president

Hon. Professor Geoffrey Lungwangwa, a Zambian Member of Parliament, introduced the guest of honor, Mrs. Evelyn Manda. Professor Lungwangwa recalled his association with the UPF founders since becoming a member of the Professors World Peace Academy (PWPA), an affiliated organization, in the 1980s.

Mrs. Manda, the CEO of Pillars of Peace, delivered a message on behalf of Zambian Vice President Inonge Mutukwa Wina. The vice president in her message said: "I wish ... to applaud the Universal Peace Federation for the role they are playing in promoting peace through various peace initiatives. ... We are happy about the concept of the Universal Peace Federation of 'One Family under God.' We sincerely believe that family is the building block of a nation and it is a very important component towards the development of our continent. Conversely, one of the critical challenges we face today is the crucial breakdown of the family unit, resulting in a wide range of social problems."

The vice president called the inauguration of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace "a very important initiative." She expressed her hope that IAPP will achieve its objectives and that "we shall all endeavor to apply the resolutions of this conference in our respective leadership roles. With these remarks I wish to declare this leadership conference officially opened."

## Inauguration of the IAPP

In the afternoon of the last day, the National Assembly hall was the setting for the inauguration of the IAPP, with Mr.





Robert Williamson as master of ceremonies. The program began with an invocation from Bishop Masupa. Then the MC called on Hon. Victoria Kalima, the Zambian minister of gender, to give the Opening Remarks. She recognized the important role of IAPP in building and maintaining peace in Zambia. On behalf of the chair of IAPP, Hon. Dr. Kambwili, she urged the parliamentarians to join the IAPP.

Dr. Thomas Walsh was then called to the podium to give his welcoming remarks. He said he was pleased to announce that the co-founder of UPF and IAPP, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, had proposed to provide a special grant of \$500,000 for sustainable development programs in East Africa, centering on the Universal Peace Federation and the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace.

“The funds are to be used to address the root causes of, and provide humanitarian relief from, the critical challenges being faced in this region, including problems of environmental degradation, deforestation, desertification, scarcity of water, threats to food security and human wellness, lack of sanitation,

as well as problems associated with corruption, family breakdown, and poverty,” Dr. Walsh said.

This was welcomed with gratitude, enthusiasm and expectation by all the participants. Dr. Moon’s gift could not be timelier. Zambia, Malawi, South Africa, Mozambique, Namibia, Kenya, and other nations are all suffering from climate change and drought.

Dr. Walsh introduced Mr. Kwon Jin Moon, one of the founders’ sons, who read the Founder’s Keynote Address of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. In her message, the UPF founder stressed that good governance is not secured only by the policies and laws of the political system. To secure good governance, it is also necessary that those who hold positions of power be people of good character, guided by their conscience and universal moral principles. Good governance also depends upon a well-educated and morally responsible citizenry.

“It is for this reason, throughout history, religion has been an important factor in contributing to the moral and spiritual development of both the political leaders and the citizens. It is

imperative that, within modern democratic systems, we do not lose sight of God, our Creator and Heavenly Parent, nor of the spiritual principles and laws that have been taught throughout the ages,” Dr. Moon stated in her message.

At the end of the speech the Zambian Minister of Gender joined most of the guests in a standing ovation. She later joined the other VIPs in signing the declaration for the launching of the IAPP.

It was a new beginning for Zambia and East Africa. ❖

– Written by Rev. Jean Augustin Ghomsi, acting secretary general of UPF-Africa East





# Parliamentarians for Peace Initiative Launched in Japan

Tokyo, Japan | November 15-17, 2016



The UPF International Leadership Conference (ILC) was held in Japan on November 11 and from November 16 to 17, 2016 under the auspices of UPF-Japan and the Institute for Peace Policies (IPP).

Among the 800 guests attending the ILC and launching of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) were parliamentarians; current and former diplomats; academic, religious, NGO and youth leaders; representatives from the media; and Ambassadors for Peace.

The conference addressed a wide range of international issues, including issues relating to the USA, Europe, Russia and the Middle East. The role of youth in Japan's future was also discussed. The keynote speeches and comments from the experts as well as from the audience led to substantive debates.

On November 16, the Opening Session, three consecutive sessions on the theme "Japan's Choice in a Turbulent World" and a fourth session on the role of young people in revitalizing Japan were held. A total of 600 people,







including experts and Ambassadors for Peace, attended the three sessions, and about 150 youth attended the fourth session.

The themes of the main sessions were, “New Administration of the US and Prospects of Japan-US alliance,” “Turmoil in the Middle East and Its Peace Process,” “Growing Tension in Northeast Asia and Prospects of Japan-Russia Relationship,” and “Potential of Vitalization of Japan and the Role of Young People.”

### **The Role of Parliamentarians for World Peace**

The special session, “The Role of Parliamentarians for World Peace,” was the final session of the ILC, and took place on November 17 in a conference room in the Diet facilities. About 100 people, including dozens of members of the Diet, attended the program.

Although the Diet was in session, many of its members joined the event. One member of the House of Representatives (the lower house of the Diet) expressed his aspiration for the new roles of parliamentarians. He said, “We are in an uncertain and tumultuous world. But this may be a blessing in disguise, if we all can open a new path by mustering our dedication and wisdoms for a better world.”

Dr. Yong Cheon Song of UPF-Japan spoke about the significance of the session, which was especially designed for the parliamentarians: “This format is the brainchild of Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, the co-founders of UPF, in their aspiration for genuine peace overcoming narrow national interests, age-old walls of civilizations and the modern division between religion and politics.”

UPF Chair Sun Jin Moon delivered a message on behalf of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. In her message, Dr. Moon

emphasized the role of parliaments and their members, saying, “You are servants of the people, and, as such, are expected to serve the public good, guided by the basic principles of good governance: accountability, transparency, collegiality, inclusivity, and respect for human rights and the rule of law.”

Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon also introduced the founders’ vision for peace and highlighted various peace projects initiated by the UPF founders. She also appealed to the parliamentarians to preserve the environment. Furthermore, she made specific proposals for the creation of an interreligious council at the United Nations and of a fifth UN office on the Korean Peninsula.

The UPF Chair concluded Dr. Moon’s message by saying, “If parliamentarians of the world can join together in harmony and cooperation for the sake of peace, we can transform the current reality of our world, creating a world of joy, harmony and lasting peace.”

Dr. Thomas Walsh of UPF International addressed the important roles of parliamentarians, particularly for peace and human development. He explained the vision of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace as well as that the creation of an international network of parliamentarians was proposed by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. He expressed his anticipation for the initiative: “IAPP will assemble parliamentarians committed to world peace who can build bridges of trust among their nations.” He reported that the IAPP has been launched in several regions of the world.

Many participants, including members of the Diet, signed the proposal to establish the IAPP in Japan. ❖

– Written by UPF-Japan



# Parliamentarians for Peace Initiative Launched in the US

**Kennedy Caucus Room, U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C., November 30, 2016**





## Launch of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace

A bipartisan group of former U.S. congressmen invited colleagues from Capitol Hill to a reception in the Russell Senate Office Building on the evening of November 30, 2016. The event was held in honor of 56 legislators from nearly as many countries who had come to Washington to form a global organization of parliamentarians who want to work beyond the boundaries of partisanship to address pivotal issues involving terrorism, the environment, freedom of conscience and other pivotal issues common to all nations.

At the event, held in the Kennedy Caucus Room, Dr. Thomas Walsh, the president of Universal Peace Federation, introduced the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace and its co-chairs, Hon. Dan Burton, a former U.S. congressman from Indiana, and Hon. Jose De Venecia Jr., former speaker of the House of the Philippines. The two co-chairs lauded the organization's purpose, calling for those who guide policy in their nations to look beyond their borders to their neighbors worldwide who have the same concerns as they do. "The world is a global community, and together we can make positive differences," Hon. De Venecia said.

The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, who founded the parliamentarians association. She was introduced by Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah, the president pro tempore of the U.S. Senate.

Dr. Moon spoke of the responsibility of global leaders to work together to create peace and called for a new and international commitment to unselfish good governance. She spoke of the challenges that have stood in the way of world peace throughout human history to this day, and introduced the proposal for an International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP). "We look at this world and see unspeakable, inarticulate misery happening all around the globe," she said. "This is impossible to solve with mere human power."

She concluded: "All of you esteemed leaders, members of parliament, beloved leaders who have gathered here, members of parliament from all over the world, your responsibility is great and important. You are extremely important, especially in this era when a new providence is unfolding. More than just one person, you who represent the people, you are the mediator. God needs each one of you." ❖

– Written by Jeanne Castillo







ILC2016

## International Leadership Conference Held in United States

Washington, D.C., United States | November 28-December 1, 2016

More than 200 leaders from 54 nations attended an International Leadership Conference (ILC) which featured the launch of a parliamentarians' peacebuilding association known as the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP).





The international and interreligious assembly, held from November 28 to December 1, 2016, was the culmination of other ILCs that were held worldwide this year, in South Korea, Nepal, Burkina Faso, the United Kingdom, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Zambia, and Japan.

With the theme “Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: The Role of Government, Civil Society and Faith-Based Organizations,” the ILC was organized jointly by the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) and The Washington Times Foundation (TWTF), an affiliated organization.

The participants of the assembly, which was held in the J.W. Marriott hotel, included parliamentarians from around the world, members of the U.S. Congress, elected officials and civic, religious, policy and NGO leaders. During the four days of the conference these leaders would discuss the most pressing and challenging issues of our time, including global conflict, the breakdown of the family, and protection of the environment.

Nine sessions took place with the following themes: “Principles and Best Practices in Leadership and Governance,” “Securing Freedom of Conscience—A Universal Concern,” “Why Marriage and Family Are Important for a Healthy and Stable Society,” “Protecting Our Environment—Public and Private Sector Solutions,” “The Role of Media—Freedom and Responsibility of the Press,” “Northeast Asia Issues and Solutions,” “Global and Local Responses to Terrorism,” “Foreign Policy Priorities for the U.S. and Global Community” and “New Leadership and New Scenarios for Global Collaboration.”

In line with the ILC’s goal of building a growing leadership network that can contribute to world peace, the participants reached across political and national lines in the search for solutions.

At the opening banquet, Dr. Thomas Walsh, president of UPF International, drew the connection between this conference, those that came before it, and the culminating launch of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) that would take place on November 30, “drawing together parliamentarians from all political parties and nationalities to form a global network that represents the people and every faith background.” He also invoked the guiding principle of unselfishness as the golden rule of peacebuilding.

During the second day, the ILC discussed freedom of conscience, marriage and family, protecting the environment, and freedom and responsibility of the press.

Participants also took part in a much-anticipated highlight of the conference: the announcement of the recipients of the 2017 Sunhak Peace Prize, awarded to the person or persons who best contribute to human development in the spheres of stewardship of the environment and sustainable peace.

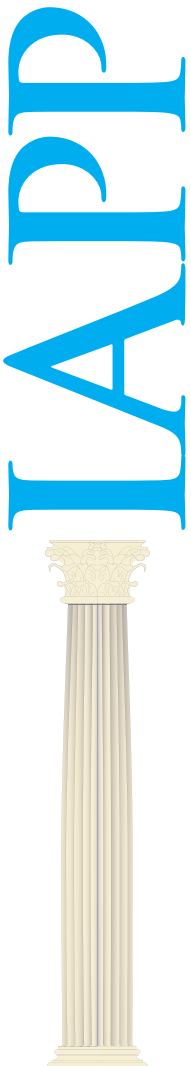
The panel discussions during the third day of the conference focused on national and global security, foreign policy, solutions to terrorism, and global collaboration.❖

– Written by Jeanne Castillo





# Parliamentarians for Peace Initiatives in the Regions



As the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) was launched in 2016 in the various regions of the world, individual nations also began chapters of the organization, which unites parliamentarians who have dedicated themselves to peacebuilding.

In each of these nations the official inauguration of the national IAPP was an occasion for a grand celebration, with members of parliament, government officials and other dignitaries taking part.

By the time this issue went to press, IAPP

national launches had been held in 2016 in six nations: Azerbaijan, the Czech Republic, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nigeria.

We present here the reports from two of these nations: Cambodia and Azerbaijan.

### Parliamentarians for Peace Launched in Cambodia

Phnom Penh, Cambodia—The Minister of Civil Service and dignitaries from Cambodia attended the UPF Cambodia Leadership Conference (CLC) at





the Royal School of Administration (RSA). Among the 540 government officers were 56 high-ranking civil servants, 378 middle-ranking civil servants, 38 government lawyers, 32 senior officers and 26 Ambassadors for Peace.

During the two-day conference, Cambodia's branch of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) was launched. At the IAPP program there were a total of 46 current members of Parliament (MPs), senators, cabinet ministers and secretaries of state from various ministries; specifically, these included: 9 MPs, 23 senators, 2 ministers and 12 secretaries of state.

The CLC took place from November 2 to 3, 2016, under the title, "Providing a Vision of Peace and Security for Cambodia." The Ministry of Civil Service of Cambodia and UPF co-hosted the conference. The Opening Session and launching of the IAPP were broadcast live by two television stations: the National Television of Kampuchea and Bayon Television.

The final session of the conference was the launch of the IAPP. Hon. Ek Nath Dhakal, a former cabinet minister of Nepal and chair of UPF-Nepal, explained the vision of the IAPP, which has already been launched in several countries in Asia—including in Nepal, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. IAPP programs have also been held in Africa, Europe, Central America and the Caribbean, and South America.

The launching of the IAPP began with a performance by a local Cambodian folk group of the Apsara Dance (Apsara in Cambodian means "angels"). Several women wearing traditional dresses played Apsara. Their graceful, sinuous gestures were codified to narrate classical myth. This launching of IAPP-Cambodia was co-hosted by the Ministry of Civil Service and the Ministry of the Royal Palace of Cambodia. The staging, musical performances and entertainment were prepared by the Ministry of the Royal Palace.

At the end of the program, the MPs, senators, ministers, other VIPs, international guests and participants showed their support for the Parliamentarians for Peace initiative by signing

a proposal for launching the IAPP-Cambodia. Throughout the remainder of this year, UPF held a series of conferences to launch IAPP globally. A global debut of this worldwide parliamentarians' association was held in Washington D.C. at the beginning of December in the United States.

### Parliamentarians Association Welcomed in Azerbaijan

Baku, Azerbaijan—The former prime minister of Azerbaijan chaired a forum at which dignitaries heard about a new parliamentarians' peacebuilding association.

Former Prime Minister Rahim Huseynov welcomed delegates from Georgia, Russia, Japan and the Republic of Korea, as well as guests from Azerbaijan, at the Irshad conference center on November 26, 2016. Among the guests were members of Parliament, representatives of government agencies, academic and higher educational institutions, as well as leaders of the Foundation for Knowledge under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Dr. Katsumi Otsuka, regional chair of UPF-Eurasia, spoke on "Fundamental Principles of Sustainable Peace." He described the vision of UPF founders Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and emphasized the role of Azerbaijan in promoting peace, based on its geographical and historical features.

In his presentation on UPF's global activities, UPF-Eurasia Regional Secretary General Konstantin Krylov reported on the launching in 2016 of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP). Mr. Krylov also described UPF's programs for the moral education of young people and for creating stable families.

Public and government leaders warmly welcomed the establishment of IAPP. In September 2016 several members of the Azerbaijani Parliament had attended the International Leadership Conference in London at which the IAPP was launched in Europe. ❖







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