



**JOINT STATEMENT**  
**ASSOCIATION OF ASIAN CONSTITUTIONAL COURTS AND**  
**EQUIVALENT INSTITUTIONS (AACC)**  
**IN ENHANCING COOPERATION ON CORONAVIRUS DISEASE**  
**2019 (COVID-19) RESPONSE**  
May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

WE, the Association of Asian Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions (AACC), representing:

- The Independent Commission for Overseeing the Implementation of the Constitution of the Islamic State of Afghanistan;
- The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- The Supreme Court of India;
- The Constitutional Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
- The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Korea;
- The Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- The Federal Court of Malaysia;
- The Supreme Court of the Maldives;
- The Constitutional Court of Mongolia;
- The Constitutional Tribunal of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
- The Supreme Court of Pakistan;
- The Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation;
- The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Tajikistan;
- The Constitutional Court of the Kingdom of Thailand;
- The Supreme Court of the Philippines;
- The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Turkey;
- The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Indonesia.

considering the rapidly-evolving outbreak of COVID-19 which was declared by the World Health Organization (WHO) on 30th of January 2020 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), and later as a pandemic on 11th of March 2020, as an ultimate test that affected the various sectors of social life, including the work and judicial processes of many courts in members' countries;

Recognizing the significance of people's lives and safety;

Appreciating the mutual cooperation and active engagement among AACC members through various international events;

Expressing our deep condolences and sympathies to the loss of lives and those who are suffering due to the COVID-19;

Acknowledging the threat of the COVID-19 in the region and its significant impact on the important sectors in each of the AACC members' countries, without diminishing our independent standing,

we agree collectively in:

1. Acknowledging the efforts taken by each of the AACC members' countries in combating and preventing the COVID-19 outbreak;
2. Enhancing the exchange and sharing of information amongst members of the AACC on the recent situation and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to its institutions by utilizing the platforms on digital technology, as a platform for the sharing of best practices and lessons learned;
3. Continuing the existing mutual regional cooperation and cooperation with other relevant international bodies that can usefully contribute to the implementation by the constitutional review bodies of the functions assigned to them by the Constitution and other legislative acts;
4. Strengthening the ties among AACC members and acknowledging the grave impact of the pandemic as a valuable lesson particularly for our institutions protecting human rights, democracy and rule of law;
5. Wishing everyone around the world to stay healthy and safe during this arduous time;
6. Expressing our highest appreciation and support for the holding of the 4th Congress of the AACC as a biennial event that will be held shortly afterwards in Nur-Sultan city of Kazakhstan.

Here with this Joint Statement has been declared by all members of AACC.