



THE MINUTES
Meeting of the Secretaries General
Association of Asian Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions
Constitutional Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan
August 26, 2021
Nur-Sultan city, Republic of Kazakhstan

Opening of the session

The meeting of the Secretaries General of the Association of Asian Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions (hereinafter - AACC) was held in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan, on August 26, 2021. The Secretaries General and representatives of 16 members of the Association took part in its work. The meeting was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere (list of participants, annex I).

The meeting was conducted by Bakyt Nurmukhanov, Head of the Staff of the Constitutional Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan and Head of the AACC Host Secretariat. He noted that due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, the members of the Association are once again meeting in an online format.

The agenda of the MSG includes important issues. They are preparatory in nature in relation to the meeting of the Board of Members, which will be held later that day.

Mr. Nurmukhanov expressed his gratitude to all AACC members and the Permanent Secretariats of the Association in Indonesia, Korea and Turkey for the close and fruitful cooperation with the Host Secretariat.

The moderator expressed the hope that all the efforts of the AACC members will allow the Association to achieve significant results in strengthening the rule of law in the member countries and beyond.

Adoption of the agenda

The participants adopted the agenda in accordance with annex II.

Session 1

Reports of the Permanent Secretariats:

Permanent Secretariat for Planning and Coordination (Indonesia)

The Secretary General of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Indonesia, Mr. Guntur Hamza, delivered out the performance report for the period of September 2020 to August 2021. One of the important directions in the work of the Secretariat is to support a communication platform for the effective exchange of information between the Association's liaison officers, as well as to coordinate the work on posting information on the official website of the Association. The Secretariat pays special attention to the issue of expanding the membership of the Association. Thus, the Secretariat sent invitations to the constitutional jurisdiction bodies of Nepal, Jordan, and Armenia. The result of this year's efforts was the accession of the Constitutional Court of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

The secretariat also informed the participants that it had issued the first volume of the newsletter in September 2020 and a collection of International Short Courses for 2017-2019.

Permanent Secretariat for Research and Development (Korea)

The Secretary General of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Korea, Mr. Jongmun Park, presented a detailed report on the activities of this Secretariat. The goal of the Secretariat is to conduct comparative constitutional research within the framework of the AACC.

The Secretariat has newly set up an online platform for exchanging knowledge, which is the "AACC Forum", which aims to ensure a permanent multilateral communication channel. With regard to the conference, an international symposium is planned to be held on 10 to 11 November 2021 online. Also, this year, the SRD made the period of secondment flexible by allowing it to be shorter than six months hoping to host more seconded officers from AACC members.

The Secretariat has published three volumes since 2018 and will have completed a new book titled "Constitutional Rights and AACC Members" at the end of this year. The research materials and information are available on the SRD's official website as well as the newly launched Facebook page, that provides research materials suited to the format of social media. The database in the website includes legal texts, profiles of AACC members, a growing collection of cases, and archive material.

Center for Training and Human Resources Development (Turkey)

The Secretary General of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Turkey, Mr. Murat Şen, informed on the activities of the Center. He said that the Constitutional Court of Turkey has been successfully conducting Summer

School programs for the representatives of the Association members since 2013. The 8th summer school on the issues of restricting human rights and freedoms in health emergencies was held in September 2020 via video conference.

In September this year, the 9th Summer School under the theme “The current problems in execution of justice” will be held as well online. This program creates a platform for the exchange of knowledge and discussion of topical issues in the field of human rights protection.

The Secretariat demonstrated a video film on the Summer School program.

Mr. Şen informed on the plans to create a corresponding section on the Court's website.

Session 2

Preparatory work for consideration of the issue related to publishing the annual report on the Presidency in the Association during the BoMM

B. Nurmukhanov informed that last year the Annual Report of Kazakhstan's Presidency in the Association for the period 2019-2020 was prepared and published on the AACC website. This order was positively perceived by the members of the Association. In this regard, the President of the Association is proposed to send a report on the work done to the Secretariat for Planning and Coordination, located in the Constitutional Court of Indonesia, for publication on the website.

The participants of the meeting supported this proposal.

Preparatory work for consideration of the issue related to joining the Association of the Constitutional Court of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan during the BoMM

The moderator informed that another participant, the Constitutional Court of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, expressed its willingness to join the organization.

The Planning and Coordination Secretariat in Indonesia carried out preparatory work and the application of the Constitutional Court of Jordan was supported by almost all members of the Association.

Preparatory work for consideration of the issue related to cooperation with the Conference of European Constitutional Courts and signing of a Memorandum of Understanding during the BoMM

The Head of the Host Secretariat noted that one of the important activities of the Association is the development of cooperation with other associations.

Thus, in 2020, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Eurasian Association of Constitutional Review Bodies.

This year, negotiations were held with the Conference of European Constitutional Courts, which culminated in the possibility of concluding a Memorandum of Understanding between our Association and the European Association.

The draft memorandum was presented to all AACC members in advance.

Session 3

Preparatory work for consideration of the issue related to the transfer of the presidency mission to the Constitutional Court of Mongolia during the BoMM

The Head of the Host Secretariat of the Association said that this year Kazakhstan's presidency in the Association is completed. At a meeting of the Board of Members last year, the Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court of Mongolia, Mr. Chinbat Namjil, confirmed his intention to assume the presidency in August 2021.

B. Nurmukhanov informed that the issue is on the agenda of the Board of Members, and the ceremony of handing over the flag of the association will be held during the final meeting of the BoMM.

Preparatory work for consideration of the issue related to presidency of the Constitutional Court of the Kingdom of Thailand in 2023-2025 during the BoMM

The moderator reminded that, according to a preliminary agreement reached in Indonesia in 2017, after Mongolia, the presidency of the Association passes to the Constitutional Court of the Kingdom of Thailand in the period 2023-2025. This issue will be discussed at a meeting of the Board of Members of the Association.

Other issues

The Secretaries General of the Association's members expressed their support for all issues on the agenda and wished the Host Secretariat a successful holding of meetings and the International Symposium dedicated to the Constitution Day and the 30th anniversary of Independence of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The moderator expressed his appreciation to the participants of the meeting and announced the meeting closed.

**Head
of the Host Secretariat**

Bakyt Nurmukhanov