



## **NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK**

*30 June – 1 July, 2022, Baku, Azerbaijan*

### **Statute on working modalities of the Non-Aligned Movement Parliamentary Network**

#### **PREAMBLE**

The members of the Parliaments of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Member States, having met in Baku, Azerbaijan on June 30 - July 1, 2022;

*Guided by* the vision, principles and objectives of the Non-Aligned Movement, articulated in Bandung (1955), Belgrade (1961) and Havana (2006);

*Reiterating* their strict adherence to the purposes, principles, and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations;

*Reinforcing* the values of multilateralism and international cooperation underpinning the Charter of the United Nations and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*Reiterating* the need for recommitting to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

*Recalling* the Outcome Document of the XVIII Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement held in Baku, Azerbaijan on 25-26 October 2019, in particular its paragraph 24.24, where the heads of state and government decided to expand and deepen interaction and cooperation with parliamentarians of NAM on the recognition that they can perform a constructive role towards the attainment of the principles, ideals, and purposes of the Movement;

*Welcoming* in this regard the Inaugural Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement Parliamentary Network (hereinafter “Network”) held on November 28, 2021, on the margins of the 143<sup>rd</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in Madrid, Spain;

*Acknowledging* the fundamental importance of developing and improving, as required, the working methods of the Network as an important component of its institutional formation and effective operation;

1. Agree that the Network shall function in accordance with the following rules of organisation and operation:

### **National delegations to the Network**

The Network shall be composed of the members of Parliaments of NAM Member States designated in accordance with national legislation and internal regulations of the respective Parliaments. The head of Parliament of each NAM Member State shall designate 5 members to be represented in its national delegation to the Network. The national delegations shall include both men and women delegates.

Each national delegation will be headed, where possible, by the head of their parliament in line with their national legislation.

The Member Parliaments of the Network through heads of respective parliaments may also appoint alternate members to their national delegations whose numbers shall not exceed the number of the members.

For the purposes of this Statute, a member standing for re-election to a national Parliament will be considered as a member of the Network until the results of the elections is formalized.

Following the election of the new composition of a national Member Parliament, should the member of the Network from that national delegation is expected to be replaced, he/she shall continue to act as a member of the Network for maximum up to 6 months until his/her successor in the delegation is designated, provided that he/she continues to be a member of the national parliament.

When there is an early termination of the parliamentary duties of a parliamentarian who is also part of his/her national delegation to the Network, his/her replacement should be carried out in accordance with the decision of the corresponding parliament in the same order as the designation of national delegations to the Network.

### **Membership to the Network**

Membership to the Network is open to the Parliaments of all NAM Member States in accordance with their national legislations. The Parliaments of NAM Member States which are not yet members of NAM Parliamentary Network can notify the Chairperson in writing about their desire to join the Network. The Chairperson distributes the inquiry of the candidate parliament among the Network membership and from that day the candidate parliament is considered to be a member of the Network.

## **Organs**

The Organs of the Network will be as follows:

- The Conference
- The Bureau
- Standing Committees
- The Secretariat

### **The Conference**

The Conference shall be the highest decision-making body of the Network.

The Conference shall be composed of the national delegations of the Member Parliaments to the Network.

The Conference will meet once in a year for 2 days, as a rule, in the framework of annual sessions of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and/or in the NAM Member States willing to host the event based on full respect to the principle of equitable geographic representation.

In the case of a NAM member state hosting the Conference, information on the dates and the location of the meeting shall be communicated to member parliaments, through the Secretariat, at least six months prior the meeting.

The Conference shall adopt its agenda in accordance with established practice within the Non-Aligned Movement at the first day of each session.

The Conference during its Annual Meetings may, among others:

- discuss the subjects addressed during the latest Summit of the Heads of States and Governments and Ministerial Meetings from parliamentary perspective;
- assess the implementation of the objectives of NAM as well as the documents adopted as part of the meetings of the main bodies of the Movement;
- discuss and promote the ways how parliamentarians can contribute to better implementation and further enhancement of the NAM principles;
- discuss ways to promote the values and founding principles of the Movement;
- will endeavor to adopt decisions (in the form of declarations, resolutions, decisions, recommendations) of the Standing Committees;
- consider and decide on the matters presented to it by the Bureau.

### **The Bureau**

The Bureau shall be composed of the members of national delegations entrusted with the power to make decisions on behalf of their delegations.

The Bureau shall meet at least once a year prior to the meeting of the Conference.

The Bureau shall be entrusted with the following tasks:

- Receiving and examining proposals from member delegations and submitting to the Conference;
- Consider observer status applications for accession to the Network before subsequent submission to the Conference for final decision;
- Preparing, in close consultation with Standing Committees, across the spectrum of NAM agenda, the draft documents for consideration by the Conference;
- Consideration of the annual report of the Chairperson of the Network;
- Executing other duties entrusted to it by the Conference.

### **Standing Committees**

To do the preparatory work for the annual meetings of the Bureau and the Conference, Standing Committees shall be formed on the following four spheres which also constitute the Movement's key areas of activities:

- Standing Committee on Political issues
- Standing Committee on Economic issues
- Standing Committee on Humanitarian and Social issues
- Standing Committee on Methodology

Each delegation to the Network will designate one member of their delegation to each one of the four specialized Standing Committee. The term of office of each member shall be subject to the decision of the head of respective national delegation.

The Standing Committees shall meet at least once a year. One of the meetings shall immediately precede the meetings of the Bureau and the Conference.

The Standing Committees, based on the latest documents adopted by different Organs of the Network, will identify and examine key priorities and areas of concern for the Network, relevant to their area of competence, to prepare detailed and thorough recommendations to the Bureau for its appropriate consideration and providing policy guidance to the work of the Secretariat, when necessary.

### **Secretariat**

The administrative body of the Network will be the Secretariat.

The parliamentary apparatus of the country from where the Chairperson is elected, will play the role of Secretariat and all resources required to sustain the Secretariat will be borne by that country.

The Secretariat shall be entrusted with:

- Facilitating continued contacts among the members of the Network and the Network with other regional and international parliamentary organizations and bodies;
- Strengthening institutional cooperation between the Network and the NAM in promoting values and principles of the Movement;

- Communicating the resolutions, decisions and recommendations adopted by the Conference and the Bureau to the members of the Network and other international parliamentary organizations;
- Receiving applications for accession to the Network in observer status and transmitting it to the Bureau for elaboration
- Taking appropriate measures to promote the implementation of decisions of the Network,
- Maintaining the website and social media accounts of the Network; the modalities of operating the website and social media accounts shall be decided by the Conference

### **Chairperson and Vice-chairpersons of the Network**

The Network shall be chaired by the Chairperson who will act in that capacity and perform other functions entrusted to him/her by the Organs of the Network.

The Chairperson of the Network shall be elected by the Conference upon the nomination by the delegations of member parliaments to the Network in full respect to the principle of equitable geographical representation.

The candidates should be the head of parliaments in their respective countries.

The Chairperson shall be elected by consensus, to the extent possible and otherwise by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting.

The Conference shall also elect, by the same rules, three Vice-chairpersons of the Network based on equitable geographical representation provided that the Chairperson and Vice-chairpersons shall not be from the same regional group.

The term of office of the Chairperson and Vice-chairpersons shall be three years with a possibility of renewal for one more term.

Chairperson shall, with prior approval of the Network membership in line with established methodology, be entitled to:

- represent the Network in international fora;
- speak in capacity of the Chair of the NAM Parliamentary Network;
- convene events together with the parliamentary structures of other international organizations; and
- sign Memoranda of Understanding with different partners on the matters concerning the work and objectives of the Network.

Any official statements issued by the Chairperson on behalf of the Network must be approved by the member parliaments of the Network in line with established methodology and practices within NAM.

Chairperson will have the authority to delegate his/her powers to Vice-chairpersons when necessary. It will also be in Chairperson's capacity to choose which of the Vice-chairperson will replace him/her whenever such situations arise.

## **Annual Report**

The Chairperson shall prepare an annual report in which he/she presents activities and achievements of the Network in the previous year, and international parliamentary developments of concern to Members of the Network. Member Parliaments shall provide the Chairperson with necessary information in this regard at least three months prior to the meeting of the Bureau and the Conference.

This report shall provide the basis for a general debate upon which the Bureau and the Conference will commence their proceedings.

## **Extraordinary meetings**

Extraordinary meetings of the Conference and the Bureau are convened upon the proposal by Member Parliament(s) provided that such proposal, is supported by two-thirds majority of the Network membership.

## **Observers**

Representatives of the international parliamentary organizations and national parliaments of other countries – member states of the United Nations – that are not members of the Network can participate in the sessions of the Network as observers subject to the decision of the Conference adopted by consensus. Observers may attend and with the Chairman's permission address the annual Conference. However, they shall not participate in the meetings of the other Organs and they shall not have a right to vote.

## **Amendments**

The Conference may, on the request of a Member Parliament of the Network consider amending this Statute. Such proposal shall be submitted to the Bureau to be examined and further presented to the next annual meeting of the Conference together with the viewpoints of the Committee on Methodology. The amendments shall not be effective unless approved by consensus of the Conference.

## **Languages**

Simultaneous interpretation to all official languages of the Non-Aligned Movement (English, Arabic, French and Spanish), shall be organized during the proceedings of the Network, while the official documentation and written communication will be carried out only in English.

## **Decisions**

The Network expresses its position on issues of common concern for the member parliaments by adoption of decisions which are mainly in the form of resolution, decision or declaration.

## **Decision making**

Each member of national delegations to the Network shall have one vote.

Only those representatives or, in their absence, the substitutes duly designated by the national delegation who have signed the register of attendance for a specific sitting, shall be entitled to vote.

The Network will endeavor to maintain the practice of the Movement to make all decisions by consensus, where possible. Where it is not possible to maintain the consensus, the decisions will be made by a two thirds majority of the delegates present and voting.

The Network shall vote by show of hands except in cases where a roll-call vote or secret ballot is required. Only affirmative and negative votes shall count in calculating the number of votes cast. The number of abstentions shall be recorded.

## **Participation at the meetings of the Network**

Each national delegation shall submit an official list of its members to the Secretariat before each meeting of the organs of the Network.

Each member parliament shall cover all expenses of its delegation's participation at meetings of the Network.

An alternate member may take the place of a member who is unable to attend a meeting of the Network and when the Secretariat has been duly informed of this by the Head of Delegation.

The credentials of members shall be verified based on the official documents or communications supplied by their National Parliaments.