

Busan Declaration on Cooperation among High Level Prosecutors

- I. Leading prosecutors from 19 Asia-Pacific countries¹ held the Asia-Pacific High Level Prosecutors' Meeting in Busan, South Korea (June 11 – 12, 2008), to discuss the 'Networking of Prosecution Services in the Asia-Pacific Region', immediately following the 5th IAP Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in Seoul, South Korea (June 8 – 10, 2008).

All participants agreed on the necessity of strengthening cooperation among the Prosecution Services in the region, and recommended that High Level Prosecutors' Meetings be held annually along with the IAP Regional Conference.

- II. We, prosecutors,

1. Concerned about the growing sophistication of transnational organized crime with the advancement of globalization, and recognizing the importance of international cooperation in criminal matters to respond to this challenge,
2. Mindful of the imperative for direct and continuous cooperation among the high level prosecutors to establish an effective and efficient cooperative mechanism for combating transnational crime,

- III. Declare as follows:

1. We will strengthen and continuously improve a network for constant and close future collaboration.
2. We will endeavor to gradually expand the legal basis for bilateral cooperation by extending, when feasible, the reach of Extradition Treaties and Treaties on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters for successful cooperation.
3. We appreciate the international community's efforts to improve multilateral cooperation through the international bodies like IAP, and will strive to increase Asia-Pacific countries' contribution in advancing this collaboration.
4. We will enhance technical cooperation in special fields of crime to efficiently respond to transnational crimes by enhancing the capacity of each country.
5. We will continuously seek inclusive cooperation methods on the basis of understanding and respecting the different legal systems of each country.

¹ High level prosecutors from Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Myanmar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Thailand, and United Arab Emirates participated in the conference. President François Falletti, Secretary General Henk Marquart Scholtz, and Executive Committee member Joon Gyu Kim of the IAP were present as special guests at the High Level Prosecutors' Meeting.