Adopted at the Twelfth General Assembly of the Asian Buddhists Conference for Peace New Delhi, India, 17-18 January 2024

# CHARTER OF THE

ASIAN BUDDHISTS CONFERENCE FOR PEACE

(Revised and Edited Version)

### CONTENT

### **Preamble**

## Chapter I. Aims and Objectives

Article 1. Aims and objectives

## Chapter II. Organs of ABCP

Article 2. Organizational structure

Article 3. General Assembly

Article 4. Executive Council

Article 5. National Centers/Membership

Article 6. Standing Commissions

Article 7. ABCP Headquarters

Article 8. ABCP and Partnership

## Chapter III. Office Bearers

Article 9. President

Article 10. Vice President

Article 11. Secretary General

Article 12. Deputy Secretary General

Article 13. Patrons

### Chapter IV. Finances

Article 14. Finance, budget

Article 14. Financial Officer

# Chapter V. ABCP Symbol, Awards, Language, Media and Public Relations

Article 16. Emblem and flag

Article 17. Awards

Article 18. Official language

Article 19. Media and public relations

### Chapter VI. Miscellaneous

Article 20. Responsibility of Members

Article 21. Miscellaneous

#### **CHARTER OF THE**

### ASIAN BUDDHISTS CONFERENCE FOR PEACE

(Revised edited version)

#### **Preamble**

One. The Asian Buddhists Conference for Peace is a voluntary international non-governmental organization of Buddhists with a common commitment to strengthening universal peace, unity, justice and human dignity, and protecting the environment and nature.

Two. The Asian Buddhists Conference for Peace was first initiated and established by the Initiative Group, which included

- Most Venerable Samaagiin Gombojav, Khambo Lama of Gandan Tegchenling Monastery, the Center of Mongolian Buddhists,
- Most Venerable Gunaratana Thero, Representative of Mahabodhi Society of India (representing Most Ven. Kushok Bakula Rinpoche),
- Prof. S. Dylykov, Representative of the Buddhists of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (present day Russian Federation and representing Most Ven. Khamba Lama Jambaldorj Gomboev),
- Vice President of the World Fellowship of Buddhists, Most Venerable Sumanatissa
  Thero, President of Sri Lanka Buddhist Congress of Ceylon, and,
- Most Venerable Amritananda Thero, President of the Young Buddhist Council of Nepal.

The Initiative Group, with the objective of promoting the cause of peace in Asia met in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on December 5, 1969 and it agreed to call a meeting of Asian Buddhists in Ulaanbaatar and issued a communiqué. In accordance with the communiqué, the Initiative Group met in Ulaanbaatar on June 11-13, 1970 and founded the Asian Buddhists Committee for Promoting Peace.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Executive Council of the Asian Buddhists Committee for Promoting Peace, which was held in Ulaanbaatar on January 16, 1975 renamed the Committee into the Asian Buddhists Conference for Peace.

Three. The Asian Buddhists Conference for Peace(hereinafter referred to as ABCP) in pursuit of the aims and objectives spelled out in the Charter, shall be guided by the teachings on kindness, compassion, tranquility and harmony of Shakyamuni Buddha, and will carry out activities at the international level following the principles of openness, equality and independent of politics.

## CHAPTER I AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF ABCP

Article 1. Aims and objectives

- 1.1. ABCP aims to pool the efforts of Buddhists to jointly address the challenges facing the international community by spreading the teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha on universal compassion, protecting international peace, unity and harmony, reducing poverty, helping people afflicted by pain and disaster, and protecting the ever degrading nature and environment owing to climate change, and contribute to universal happiness, sustainable growth and development.
  - 1.2. ABCP shall strive to accomplish the following objectives:
- 1.2.1. Protect such human values, such as basic human rights, morality and justice.
- 1.2.2.Stand steadfastly against all forms of discrimination based on the color of skin, language, religion and belief, and will fight against all forms and manifestations of violation of human rights and freedom in the name of religion and shall fight against violence.
- 1.2.3.It fully supports the policies and objectives of the United Nations and shall collaborate closely with the UN and its specialized agencies.
- 1.2.4.It will promote cooperation with other religious and non-religious organizations and movements pursuing similar aims and objectives.
- 1.2.5.It will protect both tangible and non-tangible heritage of Buddhist culture, and promote its research and study.
- 1.2.6.It will strive to disseminate and realize the teachings and the rich cultural heritage of Shakyamuni Buddha.
- 1.2.7.It will support efforts for peaceful co-existence of countries of the world without wars and conflicts, it will advance disarmament and work towards the prohibition and abolition of nuclear weapons.
  - 1.3.ABCP shall have its own emblem and flag, official letter head and official seal.

#### **CHAPER II**

#### ORGANS OF ABCP

## Article 2. Organizational structure

2.1. The organizational structure of ABCP will consist of the General Assembly, National centers, Standing Commissions and Headquarters (Coordination Center).

### Article 3. General Assembly

- 3.1. The General Assembly shall consist of all members of ABCP, which is the highest management and decision-making body of the organization.
  - 3.2. General Assembly shall have the following functions and powers:
- 3.2.1. Approve the long-, medium- and short-term programs of actions and guidelines of ABCP;
  - 3.2.2. Elect the President of ABCP;

- 3.2.3. Appoint the members of the Executive Council and the Secretary General;
- 3.2.4. Consider and approve request for new membership;
- 3.2.5. Consider and evaluate the report on the activities of ABCP President, outline future directions, and if required, discuss the report of the Secretary General's work and performance;
  - 3.2.6. Consider and approve changes and amendments to the ABCP Charter;
  - 3.2.7. Approve the composition and organizational structure of ABCP;
  - 3.2.8. Confirm and validate the ABCP Patron;
  - 3.2.9. Others.
- 3.3. The General Assembly shall convene once in three years. If necessary, the President or the Executive Council can call a special General Assembly.
- 3.4. The quorum of the General Assembly shall be three fourth of the all delegates attending the ABCP General Assembly.
- 3.5. The working of the General Assembly shall be independent, open, transparent, free discussion of issue(s) from many different angles by respecting all opinions and the relevant decision shall be taken by a majority of votes.
- 3.6. The decision(s) (resolution, notes, recommendations, appeal, statements) of the General Assembly shall be deemed valid if it is (they are) approved by a simple majority of votes (50%+1) of the General Assembly delegates, and on important matters (Election of the President, accepting new members, relieving members, making changes and amendments to the Charter) by an overwhelming majority of votes (2/3) of the delegates to the General Assembly.
- 3.7. The decision(s) of the General Assembly shall be validated with the signature of the General Assembly Meeting Chairperson and the seal of ABCP.
- 3.8. In the event if there is an equal number of votes, the final decisive voting right shall be reserved with the ABCP President.
- 3.9. The decision(s) of the General Assembly shall be binding on all members of the ABCP.
- 3.10. The number of official delegates from the National Centers to attend the General Assembly shall be maximum three (3).
- 3.11. The General Assembly shall be chaired by the ABCP President, or by a Vice President recommended by the President.
- 3.12. Representatives of the United Nations, state and government leaders of a country, non-governmental and partner organizations can attend the General Assembly at the invitation of ABCP.

## Article 4. Executive Council

4.1. The Executive Council shall carry out the functions of the ABCP in between the General Assembly.

- 4.2. The Executive Council shall have the following rights and power:
- 4.2.1. Organize the implementation of the resolution(s) and decision(s) of the General Assembly;
- 4.2.2. Take decisions and provide guidelines on urgent matters and on issues related to the activities and functions of the National Centers and Standing Commissions;
- 4.2.3. Accept, review and discuss the material submitted by the Presidential nominee and submit the relevant conclusions and recommendations thereof to the General Assembly;
- 4.2.4. Appoint and relieve the Vice Presidents, and the Deputy Secretary Generals;
- 4.2.5. Review and discuss the application for ABCP membership, and submit the relevant suggestions and recommendations for consideration by the General Assembly;
- 4.2.6. Submit for approval the draft changes and amendments to the ABCP Charter;
  - 4.2.7. Table motion for the calling of a special General Assembly;
  - 4.2.8. Approve the date, agenda and delegates to the General Assembly;
  - 4.2.9. Determine the size of the membership fee;
  - 4.2.10. Others
- 4.3. Members of the Executive Council shall be appointed by the General Assembly on the principle of "one representative from each National Center" and the National Centers shall submit in writing to the Secretary General the name of the candidate being nominated as a member of the Executive Council.
- 4.4. The regular meeting of the Executive Council shall be held every year. The meeting of the Executive Council shall be deemed valid with a quorum of three fourths of the Executive Council members attending. The Executive Council Meeting can be held both in person and online.
- 4.5. The decision(s) (resolution, note, recommendation, appeal, statement of the Executive Council shall be deemed adopted by a simple majority of votes (50%+1) of the Executive Council members attending the Executive Council Meeting.
- 4.6. The Executive Council meeting shall be chaired by the President or by a Vice President appointed by the ABCP President.
- 4.7. ABCP President, Vice Presidents, Secretary General and Deputy Secretary Generals shall attend the Executive Council meeting with a voting right.

### Article 5. National Center (Membership)

5.1. Mongolia, India, Russia, Sri Lanka and Nepal, who attended the Initiative Group meeting held in Ulaanbaatar on June 11-13, 1970 and established the Asian Buddhists Conference for Peace, are the founding members of ABCP.

- 5.2. Every member of ABCP shall have its National Center. ABCP's policy is to have not more than two (2) National Centers in one member country.
- 5.3. National Centers shall represent ABCP in their respective countries and communities, and the procedure of operation of the National Centers shall be approved by the General Assembly.

#### 5.4. ABCP Members:

- 5.4.1. A National Center shall represent a Buddhist organization and Buddhist believers and shall have the right to vote, and carry out energetic activities;
- 5.4.2. A Member National Center that has joined the organization as a new member shall represent a Buddhist organization and the believers.
- 5.5. A Buddhist organization and Buddhists who agree with the aims and objectives, duties and responsibilities of ABCP, can join the organization as its member and can set up a National Center in their respective countries.
  - 5.6. Rules and procedures for becoming a member of ABCP:
    - 5.6.1. Submit an application to the Secretary General of ABCP;
- 5.6.2. The Secretary General shall submit the application with a proposal to the Executive council;
- 5.6.3. The Executive Council shall review the proposal related to the application, and if a consensus is reached on the application it will be submitted for consideration to the General Assembly, which will take a decision on membership if two thirds of the General Assembly delegates support the proposal.
- 5.7. If an ABCP member wishes to withdraw its membership from the organization, it shall do so by submitting a written application to the Secretary General one month prior to the date of discontinuation of membership. The Secretary General shall submit the application to the Executive Council for consideration.
- 5.8. The decision on exclusion from membership or voluntary withdrawal from membership shall be decided by a majority of votes (two thirds) of the members of the General Assembly.
  - 5.9. ABCP members shall have the following rights:
- 5.9.1. Take part in all the activities of ABCP within the framework of the organization's aims and objectives;
- 5.9.2. Submit proposals and take part in discussion of issue connected with the activities of ABCP;
- 5.9.3. Send representative delegate to the General Assembly and table motion regarding the General Assembly decision(s);
  - 5.9.4. Submit proposals and suggestion regarding the action plan of ABCP;
- 5.9.5. Nominate candidates to the managerial and executive posts of ABCP, and elect and be elected;

- 5.10. ABCP members shall have the following responsibilities:
- 5.10.1. Shall strictly abide by the Charter of ABCP, make active efforts for the realization of the aims and objectives of ABCP, and implement the decision(s) passed by the General Assembly, the Executive Council and the ABCP Headquarters;
- 5.10.2. Shall expand the ranks of the organization with Buddhists, and make efforts for broadening the reach of activities of ABCP and strengthen its unity;
- 5.10.3. Shall promote the aims, objectives and activities of ABCP, propagate the teachings, heritage and culture of Shakyamuni Buddha, and promote the importance of the ideas of inter-country relations and cooperation;
- 5.10.4. Shall render financial and other support to ABCP, pay membership fees regularly;
- 5.10.5. Through the ABCP Headquarters, members shall submit to the Executive Council the annual performance report and new year's action plan of the National Center and the respective Standing Commission before every December 15;

5.10.6. Others

- 5.11. National Centers shall conduct their business and activities within the framework of the laws and legislation of their respective countries;
- 5.12. National Centers shall themselves elect their office bearers and inform the ABCP Headquarters of the same;
- 5.13. National Centers may, on its own, or in collaboration with other national centers hold peace marches, conduct workshops, meetings and conferences.
- 5.14. National Centers shall finance their activities and operational spending with donations and contributions from temples, monasteries and other organizations.

### Article 6. Standing Commission

- 6.1. The Standing Commission within the framework of the respective mandate responsible for the Standing Commission shall conduct research and analysis, and shall have the responsibility of submitting to the ABCP Headquarters in the form of recommendation the result of their work for reflection in the policy and actions of ABCP.
  - 6.2. ABCP shall have the following Standing Commissions:
    - 6.2.1. Standing Commission on Buddhist Traditions, Culture and Heritage;
    - 6.2.2. Standing Commission on Promotion of Buddhist Ethics and Unity;
    - 6.2.3. Standing Commission on Human Rights;
    - 6.2.4. Standing Commission on Sustainable Development Goals;
    - 6.2.5. Standing Commission on Peace, Disarmament and Conflict Avoidance;
    - 6.2.6. Standing Commission on Inter-Faith Harmony;
    - 6.2.7. Standing Commission on Women and Gender Equality;

- 6.2.8. Standing Commission on Children and Youth;
- 6.2.9. Standing Commission on Environment, Climate Change and Nature Conservation.
- 6.3. The Executive Council shall decide which National Center shall be responsible for one of the nine Standing Commissions.
- 6.4. The National Center shall be responsible for the office bearers of their respective Standing Commission and this shall be informed to the ABCP Headquarters.
- 6.5. The Standing Commission shall, every year by December 15, submit to the ABCP Headquarters through their National Center the performance report for the given year and action plan for the next year.
- 6.6. A Standing Commission, on its own or in collaboration with the ABCP Headquarters, other National Centers and Standing Commissions, may organize activities at the national, regional and international levels.
- 6.7. Operational expenditures of the Standing Commissions shall be financed by the concerned National Center.

## Article 7. ABCP Headquarters

- 7.1. The Headquarters of ABCP shall be seated at Gandan Tegchenling Monastery, the Center of Mongolian Buddhists in Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia.
- 7.2. The Headquarters shall have the responsibility of coordinating the activities of the ABCP system bodies, providing professional and methodological guidance, and providing support and assistance to the President in carrying out his/her duties and functions.
  - 7.3. The ABCP Headquarters shall be managed by the ABCP Secretary General.
- 7.4. ABCP Headquarters, with the objective of promoting the activities of the organization and promoting closer working relationship with the members, shall have a Regional Coordinating Center at the most sacred site of the Buddhists Bodhgaya in Bihar, India.
- 7.5. The rules of procedures of the ABCP Headquarters, and rules of procedure of the Regional Coordination Center shall be approved by the Executive Council.

## Article 8. ABCP Partnership

- 8.1. ABCP shall strive to develop Partnership with an individual, association, union, national and international organizations and the private sector that wish to work with the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace in a sense of collaboration and cooperation in promoting, preserving, protecting and disseminating Lord Buddha's teachings on peace, unity, harmony and compassion.
- 8.2. ABCP shall jointly carry out projects and programs with partner organizations and individuals in order to address such issues as limited resources whether financial, technological and human, engage in humanitarian assistance, jointly conduct research in a business-like and result-oriented spirit for the common benefit.

8.3. ABCP shall collaborate with partner organizations and individuals by way of defining mutual responsibilities and action guidelines through the signing of memorandum of understanding and agreement.

#### **CHAPTER III**

### OFFICE BEARERS OF ABCP

#### Article 9. President

- 9.1. The President is the senior-most post of ABCP.
- 9.2. The President shall have the following prerogative rights and duties:
  - 9.2.1. Represent ABCP internationally;
- 9.2.2. Issue statements and appeals on pressing global issues and that of the organization;
- 9.2.3. Shall be active and display initiative in ensuring the continued realization of ABCP's aims and objectives, expanding the scale of activities and ranks of membership of the organization, and strengthening the international prestige and influence of ABCP;
- 9.2.4. Shall chair the General Assembly and the meetings of the Executive Council;
- 9.2.5. Calla special session of the General Assembly and a special meeting of the Executive Council;
- 9.2.6.May summon a meeting of ABCP Executive Council, Vice Presidents and other office bearers and experts to exchange information and deliberate upon pressing concerns before the organization;
- 9.3. ABCP President shall be a senior monk/nun of high order with international prestige, with high leadership qualities, with certain experience in diplomacy and international relations.
- 9.4. ABCP President shall be nominated from the Center of Mongolian Buddhists -Gandan Tegchenling Monastery, headquartered in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, and the nominee shall be approved at the General Assembly of ABCP.
  - 9.4. There is no age limit to the post of ABCP President.
- 9.5. In the event the President is unable to carry out his/her duties, one of the Vice Presidents of ABCP shall be appointed as Acting President by a decision of the Executive Council.

#### Article 10. Vice Presidents

- 10.1. ABCP shall have three Vice Presidents representing the three regions of South Asia, South East Asia and North Asia and the Pacific.
- 10.2. The Vice President shall assist the President in the discharge his/her duties and also support and assist the Executive Council in carrying out its functions.
- 10.3. The term of office of the Vice Presidents shall be three (3) years, and the three ABCP regions shall nominate one Vice President each from their respective regions and submit the candidature for consideration and approval by the Executive Council.

10.4. On the advice of the President, the Vice Presidents may represent ABCP at international events, and together with the National Centers in their respective regions, show initiative in realizing the aims, objectives and decisions of ABCP.

## Article 11. Secretary General

- 11.1. The Secretary General shall lead and manage the day-to-day work of the ABCP Headquarters, regulate and coordinate the activities of the different organizations of ABCP, and oversee the implementation of the ABCP decisions and recommendations.
- 11.2. A person with administrative and management experience nominated by Gandan Tegchenling Monastery, the Center of Mongolian Buddhists to the post of Secretary General of ABCP, and having reached a consensus with the ABCP President, shall be appointed for a term of 4 (four) years by the Executive Council of ABCP at its meeting.
  - 11.3. The Secretary General shall have the following prerogative rights:
- 11.3.1. Shall draft the Development and Action Programs of ABCP (Short- and long-term), draft budget and finances, and submit the relevant proposals to the ABCP President and the Executive Council for submission for consideration and approval by the General Assembly of ABCP;
- 11.3.2. Plan and organize the realization of ABCP decisions and recommendations, and monitor their implementation;
- 11.3.3. Appoint and relieve the staff of the ABCP Headquarters and the Regional Coordination Center in India;
- 11.3.4. Maintain close working relationship with the Executive Council, National Centers, Standing Commissions and other organizations and movements;
- 11.3.5. As approved by the ABCP President represent the organization and take part in international events;
- 11.3.6. Manage the budget and finance in accordance with the relevant rules and procedures;
- 11.3.7. Publicize the activities of the organization, and develop cooperative partnership with governmental and non-governmental organizations, business entities and the media within the framework of the objectives outlined in this Charter;
- 11.3.8. Submit motion on calling into session special meeting of the Executive Council;
  - 11.3.9. Manage and oversee fund-raising activities of the organizations;
  - 11.3.10. Appoint and relieve chief editor of the "Dhammaduta" magazine;
- 11.4. The Secretary General shall present performance report to the Executive Council every year and to the General Assembly once in three years.

## Article 12. Deputy Secretary General

- 12.1. ABCP shall have three Deputy Secretary Generals, one each from the three ABCP regions;
- 12.2. The Deputy Secretary Generals shall report to the Secretary General and shall be duty-bound to support the daily activities of the ABCP Headquarters;
- 12.3. The Deputy Secretary General shall temporarily perform the duties of the Secretary General in the absence of the latter.

#### Article 13. ABCP Patrons

- 13.1. ABCP shall have patrons from among supreme and well-known Buddhist monks/nuns to draw on their spiritual support, advice and guidance in the realization of the ABCP policy and activities.
- 13.2. The Patrons shall represent different traditions (Mahayana, Nalanda, Theravada) of Buddhism and different ABCP regions (South Asia, South East Asia, North East Asia and the Pacific).
- 13.3. The Patrons can take part in the ABCP General Assembly but without any voting rights.

#### **CHAPTER IV**

#### FINANCING AND BUDGETING OF THEABCP

## Article 14. Budget and Finance

- 14.1. Funding for the ABCP is derived from the following sources:
  - 14.1.1. Membership fees and donations from the National Centers of ABCP;
  - 14.1.2. Donations and support from individuals and organizations;
- 14.1.3. Funds provided by enterprises, governmental, non-governmental, international and partner organizations for project implementation;
  - 14.1.4. Other sources not prohibited by law.
- 14.2. The budget of ABCP shall be used only to realize the goals and objectives specified in this Charter.
- 14.3. The Secretary General shall have the authority to be the primary signatory of ABCP financial documents, and the financial officer of the organization shall have the right to secondary signature and the financial document shall be deemed valid after it is duly stamped.
- 14.4. The financial year begins on 1st of January and ends on the 31st of December of each calendar year.
- 14.5. The budget and financing of the ABCP shall be transparent, free of corruption and bribery.
- 14.6. The membership fee payable to the ABCP shall be determined by the Executive Council. The size of the membership fee can be changed to adjust according to the size and scale of operation and international financial situation.

14.7. Membership fee serves as a crucial leverage to ensure ABCP's normal operation, and ABCP members are obligated to pay their annual membership dues.

## Article 15. Financial Officer

- 15.1. The Headquarters of the ABCP shall select and appoint an individual with financial and accounting background, known for honesty and high moral standards, as the Financial Officer of ABCP.
- 15.2. The Financial Officer shall report to the Secretary General and shall carry out accounting activities in conformity with accounting laws and standards.

### CHAPTER V

#### **OTHERS**

## Article 16. Emblem and Flag of ABCP

- 16.1. The Emblem of the ABCP features a symbol of Vajra with a dove at its center. (see Appendix 1)
- 16.2. ABCP shall have a six-colored flag, with a ratio of 1:2 in breadth and length, consisting of a vertical yellow stripe, one fifth of the length of the flag, symbolizing the teachings of Lord Buddha, and five horizontal stripes of blue, yellow, red, white, and orange, symbolizing the five wisdoms, reflecting the transcendence of attachment, aversion, ignorance, pride, and jealousy. (see Appendix 1)
  - 16.3. The emblem of ABCP is positioned at the top of the flag's vertical stripe.
- 16.4. The emblem and flag of the ABCP shall be used during the General Assembly, Executive Council meeting, and events officially organized by ABCP. National Centers and Standing Commissions may use the emblem and flag of ABCP when organizing events to promote the goals and objectives of this Charter, subject to approval from the Headquarters.

## Article 17. Official Language

- 17.1. The official language of ABCP shall be English.
- 17.2. All official documents shall be done in English.
- 17.3. National Centers are responsible for translating from the official language to their national language and vice versa. Only the English version is accepted for official use.

#### Article 18. ABCP Award

- 18.1. The highest award of ABCP is the "Medal of Honor." The "Medal of Honor" shall be awarded to an individual who has played a distinctive role in fortifying global peace, fostering interfaith harmony, enlightening communities, championing human rights and freedom, and disseminating the teachings of Lord Buddha Shakyamuni.
- 18.2. The "Medal of Honor" of ABCP shall be granted to individuals who have made substantial contribution to implementing the goals and objectives of ABCP.
- 18.3. The General Secretary shall identify and nominate eligible individuals for the award based on the aforementioned criteria and present the recommendations to the President.
- 18.4. National Centers reserve the right to nominate individuals for the reward, who have met the stipulations outlined in this Charter.

18.5. The presentation of the award shall be conducted during a ceremony held in the presence of the members at the General Assembly.

### Article 19. Media and Public Relations

- 19.1. The ABCP shall have an English-language magazine called "Dhammaduta" and maintain an English language website accessible at "https://abcp.mn", and a Facebook account "Facebook.com/Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace ABCP" designed at internationally promoting its goals and objectives. National Centers shall be responsible for timely submission of news and information to the Headquarters for inclusion in the "Dhammaduta" magazine, website and Facebook account.
  - 19.2. The media arm of the ABCP serves the following functions:
- 19.2.1. Promoting and publicizing the goals and activities of ABCP and National Centers to the general public.
- 19.2.2. Disseminating Buddha's teachings on peace, tolerance, and compassion to the wider public.
- 19.2.3. Publishing primary documents and resolutions of the ABCP for public awareness.
- 19.2.4. Conveying the stance of ABCP concerning Asia, and global peace and security.
- 19.2.5. Reporting on the collaborative efforts of religious and non-religious organizations working towards peace.
- 19.3. National Centers may have their own media outlets to publicize the activities and goals of ABCP.

## Article 20. Responsibilities of Members

- 20.1. It is incumbent on the ABCP members to abide by and realize this Charter.
- 20.2. Should a National Center/Member fail to report its activities or fulfill its financial obligations for two consecutive years, it will forfeit its voting rights at the General Assembly.
- 20.3. In the event that a member engages in activities contrary to the goals and objectives set forth in the ABCP Charter or persistently violates its provisions, the Executive Council will bring the matter of membership removal to the attention of the General Assembly.

### Article 21. Miscellaneous

- 21.1. This Charter shall take come into force from the date of its adoption by the General Assembly.
- 21.2. Members are required to submit proposed amendments to this Charter to the Head-quarters. The Executive Council shall deliberate on the proposals during its meetings and present its recommendations and findings to the General Assembly for final decision.
- THE CHARTER OF THE ASIAN BUSSHISTS CONFERENCE FOR PEACE ADOPTED on this day the 18<sup>th</sup> of January 2024, by the delegates of the 12<sup>th</sup> ABCP General Assembly, which was held in New Delhi on 17-18 January 2024.

# First adopted by the 6<sup>th</sup> General Conference

of the ABCP, Ulaanbaatar, August 16, 1982.

Word changes were made at the 8<sup>th</sup> General Conference on the ABCP Ulaanbaatar, 23 September 1990.

The revised amended version of the ABCP Charter was discussed and adopted by the 11<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of ABCP held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on 21-23 June 2019.

The Revised and Edited version of the ABCP Charter was discussed and adopted by the 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of ABCP held in New Delhi, India on 17-18 January 2024.

# APPENDIX OF THE CHARTER OF ABCP

Appendix 1





Emblem and Flag of ABCP

### **ABCP PATRONS:**

- 1. His Holiness The Dalai Lama (CTA, Dharamsala, India)
- 2. His Holiness SamdechTepVong (Cambodia –26 February 2024)
- 3. His Holiness SuddhanandaMahathero (Bangladesh- 4 March 2002)
- 4. His Eminence Thich Thien Nhon (Vietnam)
- 5. Ven. Prof. Mahinda Sangharakhita Mahathero (Sri Lanka)
- 6. Most Ven. Pyun Baegun (Republic of Korea)

### **ABCP OFFICE BEARERS**

## PRESIDENT:

His Eminence Gabju Demberel Choijamts (Mongolia)

## VICE PRESIDENTS:

- 1. Ven. Konchok Wangdu (India, 2024)
- 2. Ven. Dr. Thich Duc Thien (Vietnam)
- 3. Ven. Damba Ayusheev (Buryatia, Russia)

## ABCP SECRETARY GENERAL:

Ven. Da Lama Khunkhur Byambajav (Mongolia)

## ABCP DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL:

- 1. Mr. Sonam Wangchuk Shakspo (India)
- 2. Mr. Khy Sovanaratana (Cambodia)
- 3. (Vacant)

### MEMBERS OF ABCP

- 1. Bangladesh National Center 1 (Bouddha Kristi Prachar Sangha)
- 2. Bangladesh National Center 2 (Bangladesh ABCP National Center)
- 3. ABCP Bhutan National Center Central Monastic Body of Bhutan (2024)
- 4. Cambodia ABCP National Center
- 5. Department of Religion and Culture, Central Tibetan Administration, Dharamsala, India
- 6. Indian ABCP National Center
- 7. ABCP Japan National Center Japan Religious Persons Council for Peace
- 8. ABCP Korean National Center DPRK
- 9. ABCP Korean National Center Taego Order, Republic of Korea
- 10. Buddhist fellowship Organization of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
- 11. ABCP National Center Gandan Tegchenling Monastery, Mongolia
- 12. ABCP National Center Dashichoiling Monastery, Mongolia
- 13. Nepal ABCP National Center Anandkuti Vihar
- 14. Buddhist Traditional Sangha of Russia, Ivolginsky Datsan Ulan Ude, Republic of Buryatia, Russian Federation
- 15. Aginsky Datsan ABCP National Center, Russian Federation
- 16. ABCP Sri Lanka National Center (Ven. Dr. Sumatissa Chapter)
- 17. ABCP Sri Lanka National Center(Ven. Dr. Wipulasara Chapter)
- 18. ABCP Thai National Center Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University
- ABCP Vietnam National Center 1 Vietnam Buddhist University (Chairman Most. Ven. Prof. Thich Nhat Tu)
- 20. ABCP Vietnam National Center 2 Vietnam Buddhist Research Institute (Chairman Prof. Le Manh That)

### ABCP STANDING COMMISSIONS

ABCP shall have the following 9 (nine) Standing Commissions

- Standing Commission on "Buddhist Traditions, Culture and Heritage," with its center in Mongolia.
- 2. Standing Commission on "Promotion of Buddhist Ethics and Unity," with its center in Dharamsala, Himachal Pradesh, India.
- 3. Standing Commission on "Human Rights," based in Bangladesh. (National Center 2 of Bangladesh)
- 4. Standing Commission on "Sustainable Development Goals," with its Center in India.
- 5. Standing Commission on "Peace, Disarmament and Conflict Avoidance," with its center in Japan.
- 6. Standing Commission on "Inter-Faith Harmony" with its center in Russia.
- 7. Standing Commission on "Women and Gender Equality" with its center in Sri Lanka.
- 8. Standing Commission on "Children and Youth" with its center in Sri Lanka and Vietnam.
- Standing Commission on "Environment, Climate Change and Nature Conservation" with its center in Vietnam.