

# CHARTER OF THE ASIAN BUDDHIST CONFERENCE FOR PEACE

## PREAMBLE

The Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace (hereinafter referred to as ABCP) is a voluntary, non-governmental organisation, uniting international Buddhists under the common goal of protecting, strengthening and promoting global peace, unity, justice, human values and environment consciousness.

## ARTICLE ONE

### 1.1 MISSION

- 1.1.1 ABCP is committed to uphold global peace, morality, unity, and equality based on the teachings of Buddha Shakyamuni (*Annexure One*).
- 1.1.2 ABCP firmly stands for the promotion of Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.
- 1.1.3 ABCP stands firmly with the global community against all forms of extremism and terrorism.

### 1.2 GOALS

- 1.2.1 To promote collaboration with other religious non-governmental organisations and movements pursuing peace and with similar or identical aims and objectives of ABCP.
- 1.2.2 To safeguard human rights and values, and oppose discrimination based on race, religion and belief, and convictions.
- 1.2.3 To promote close cooperation with the United Nations and its specialised agencies in the implementation of the goals spelled out in the ABCP Charter.
- 1.2.4 To preserve and protect tangible and intangible Buddhist cultures.
- 1.2.5. To stand up against violation of human rights and freedom under the name of religion, ideology and against all forms of violence.
- 1.2.6 To uphold the teachings of Buddha Shakyamuni based on the Four Noble Truths, interdependent originations, impermanence, the law of rebirth, virtuous and non-virtuous actions, the law of Karma, Sunyata, and Bodhicitta.
- 1.2.7 To promote Sustainable Development Goals adopted in 2015 by member-states at the UN General Assembly Global Summit.
- 1.2.8 ABCP shall strive for complete disarmament and elimination of nuclear weapons.

## ARTICLE TWO

### 2. ABCP GOVERNING BODIES

#### 2.1 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 2.1.1 The General Assembly is the highest governing and decision-making body of ABCP.
- 2.1.2 The General Assembly shall consider the progress report presented by the Secretary General of the ABCP, review its activities and define the tasks of the movement.
- 2.1.3 The General Assembly shall elect the President, the Vice Presidents, the Secretary General and members of the Executive Council of ABCP.
- 2.1.4 The General Assembly shall deliberate upon and adopt amendments and additions to the ABCP Charter.
- 2.1.5 Each National Centre sends its delegates to the General Assembly. The number of delegates from each National Centre shall be decided by the host Nation.
- 2.1.6 The number of National Centres delegated to the General Assembly with the right to vote shall be determined by the Executive Council.
- 2.1.7 Associate members taking part in the General Assembly shall have no right to vote.
- 2.1.8 The quorum of the General Assembly shall be three fourths of the delegates attending the General Assembly.  
(Note: The General Assembly shall be deemed officially valid if it is attended by the ABCP President, or his authorised representatives, at least 1 of the 3 Vice Presidents, 17 members of the Executive Council, the Secretary General and Deputy Secretary Generalsof ABCP.
- 2.1.9 Decisions of the General Assembly shall be by consensus. In case of lack of unanimity, the decision shall be taken by a simple majority vote. Decisions on issues of major importance, such as new membership, amendment to the Charter etc., shall be taken in accordance with the provision of the Charter.
- 2.1.10 Decisions of the General Assembly shall be binding on all members of ABCP.
- 2.1.11 The General Assembly shall be convened at least once in **three** years. If need be, an extraordinary session of the General Assembly may be convened by the Executive Council.

## 2.2 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- 2.2.1 The Executive Council (*Annexure Two*) is the highest decision-making body of the ABCP in-between two General Assembly sessions.
- 2.2.2 The Executive Council shall be elected by the General Assembly according to the principle of "One Representative from One National Centre". The President, Vice President, Secretary General and Deputy Secretary Generals of ABCP shall be *ex-officio* members of the Executive Council.
- 2.2.3 Each National Centre shall nominate in writing a representative on the Executive Council to participate in the deliberations. His/her continuation at the Executive Council will be solely at the discretion of the National Centre concerned, through a written communication to the Secretary General.
- 2.2.4 The Executive Council shall meet **at least** once **every** year. **In addition, the President shall have the authority to call a meeting of the Executive Council at any time he/she deems it necessary.** The sessions of the Executive Council shall be presided over by the President and, in his absence, by one of the Vice Presidents, authorised by him.

- 2.2.5 The Executive Council shall be responsible to implement the decisions and resolutions of the General Assembly, and also take appropriate decisions and make recommendations on pressing problems of the organisation, and on the work of the Headquarters, ABCP Standing Commissions and National Centres.
- 2.2.6 The Executive Council shall, on the recommendation of the President, appoint two Deputy Secretary Generals, Chairpersons of the ABCP Standing Commissions, and Editor-in-Chief of the ABCP website and the magazine "Buddhism for Peace". They will be confirmed by a majority vote at the Executive Council regular meeting.
- 2.2.7 In case of inability of the President to discharge his official duties, the Executive Council shall appoint an acting President of the ABCP from amongst the three Vice Presidents by consensus.
- 2.2.8 The Executive Council may invite individuals and experts, other than ABCP members, to its sessions as advisers.
- 2.2.9 The Executive Council shall consider applications for admission to the ABCP and take appropriate decisions.
- 2.2.10 The Executive Council shall draft amendments and additions to the ABCP Charter and submit them to the General Assembly for its consideration and approval.

### **2.3 NATIONAL CENTRES**

- 2.3.1 The National Centres of the ABCP shall represent the organisation in their respective countries. The missions and objectives of the National Centres shall be guided and aligned with the ABCP Charter.
- 2.3.2 Only such members, which are duly recognised by the ABCP Headquarters in accordance with its Charter, shall be considered as National Centres or Associate members.
- 2.3.3 There shall not be more than 2 (two) national centres in any one country.
- 2.3.4 All National Centres shall be governed by the law of the country concerned.
- 2.3.5 The National Centres shall elect their governing bodies on their own. ABCP Headquarters shall be kept informed about the formation of the National Centre governing body and its activities.
- 2.3.6 The National Centres shall be guided in their activities by the mission and objectives of the ABCP Charter, and shall enjoy a certain degree of administrative independence within their respective countries.
- 2.3.6 The National Centres may initiate various actions and organise functions such as peace march, seminar, meeting and conference etc., independently or jointly with the ABCP Headquarters or other National Centres, but always keep ABCP Headquarters informed.
- 2.3.8 The National Centres shall support and develop measures sponsored by the ABCP Headquarters, ABCP Standing Commissions, and other National Centres as well as by peace movements and other organisations working for similar cause in their respective countries

- 2.3.9 The National Centres shall submit annual reports on their activities to the Executive Council through the Headquarters of ABCP.
- 2.3.10 The National Centres shall send also report of their activities to the Secretary General of the ABCP as soon as they are held.
- 2.3.11 The National Centres may bring out publications to publicise their activities and the mission and objectives of ABCP.
- 2.3.12 The National Centres shall meet their expenses from donations and contributions made by organisations, monasteries, temples, individuals and groups.

## **2.4 STANDING COMMISSIONS OF ABCP**

- 2.4.1 ABCP shall have the following 9 (nine) Standing Commissions (*Annexure Three*):
  - 2.4.1a Standing Commission on "Buddhist Traditions, Culture and Heritage"
  - 2.4.1b Standing Commission on "Promotion of Buddhist Ethics and Unity"
  - 2.4.1c Standing Commission on "Human Rights"
  - 2.4.1d Standing Commission on "Sustainable Development Goals"
  - 2.4.1e Standing Commission on "Peace, Disarmament and Conflict Avoidance"
  - 2.4.1f Standing Commission on "Inter-Faith Harmony"
  - 2.4.1g Standing Commission on "Women and Gender Equality"
  - 2.4.1h Standing Commission on "Children and Youth"
  - 2.4.1i Standing Commission on "Environment, Climate Change and Nature Conservation"
- 2.4.2 The Standing Commissions shall be engaged in conducting research and analysis in their respective areas of mandate and shall make appropriate recommendations to the ABCP Headquarters.
- 2.4.3 The Chairmen of the respective Standing Commissions shall be appointed by the ABCP Executive Council. They shall brief the ABCP Secretary General on the structural and organisational set of their respective Standing Commissions.
- 2.4.4 The Standing Commissions may organise functions and events, compatible with the mission and goals of ABCP, on national, regional and international levels either on their own or jointly with the Headquarters or other Commissions or National centres of ABCP.
- 2.4.5 The Standing Commissions shall regularly report on their activities to the ABCP Secretary General.

## **ARTICLE THREE**

### **3.1 ABCP PATRONS**

- 3.1.1 ABCP, as an international Buddhist NGO, shall have supreme Buddhist monks/nuns as Patrons (*Annexure Four*).
- 3.1.2 ABCP shall draw on the spiritual support and guidance of such Patrons in the functioning of the organisation.

- 3.1.3 The Patrons will represent different traditions (Mahayana, Nalanda, Theravada) and regions (South Asia, Southeast Asia, North East Asia and Pacific) of Buddhism.
- 3.1.4 The Patrons will be invited to take part in ABCP General Assembly. They shall have no voting rights.

## **ARTICLE FOUR**

### **4. OFFICE BEARERS** (*Annexure Five*)

#### **4.1 PRESIDENT**

- 4.1.1 The President shall be a senior Buddhist monk/nun of high order. He/she shall be the highest elected official of the organisation. The ABCP President shall be elected from among the leaders of the ABCP National Centers and would have the general responsibility for the implementation of the mission and objectives of the organisation. The President shall be elected by the General Assembly for a period of **three (3) years or till the convening of the next ABCP General Assembly. The President** would be eligible for re-election for a second term of **three (3) years**.
- 4.1.2 The President shall take constant care to strengthen and expand the organisation, and enhance its international prestige and influence.
- 4.1.3 The President shall represent the organisation on the international scene and may issue statements and appeals on behalf of ABCP on urgent matters pertaining to the organisation as well as on the international situation, within the framework of ABCP's mission and objectives.
- 4.1.4 The President 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.

#### **4.2 VICE PRESIDENTS**

- 4.2.1 ABCP shall have three (3) Vice Presidents, each representing a region of ABCP, namely, South Asia, South East Asia and North East Asia-Pacific.
- 4.2.2 The Vice Presidents shall assist the President in the discharge of his/her duties.
- 4.2.3 In case of inability of the President to discharge **his/her** official duties, the functions shall be taken over by one of the Vice Presidents, as decided by the Executive Council, until a new President is elected.
- 4.2.4 On the advice of the President, the Vice Presidents may represent ABCP at international functions, and undertake special missions in the interest of the organisation.
- 4.2.5 The Vice Presidents, together with the National Centres in the respective Regions, shall promote the implementation of the mission and objectives of ABCP.

#### **4.3 SECRETARY GENERAL**

- 4.3.1 The Secretary General is vested with the highest administrative power, and carries direct responsibility for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the governing bodies of the organisation.
- 4.3.2 The Secretary General shall guide day-to-day work of the ABCP Headquarters and shall be responsible for correspondence with the National Centres, other organisations and movements. The Secretary General shall submit reports on various activities to the ABCP President.
- 4.3.3 The Secretary General, as the general administrator of ABCP, shall have the right to select and appoint staff of the ABCP Headquarters.
- 4.3.4 The Secretary General can, with the approval of the President, represent ABCP at international functions and events, issue statements and appeals on behalf of ABCP, which are fully compatible with the interests of the organisation, on pressing problems of the organisation.
- 4.3.5 The Secretary General shall develop the annual action plan, programme as well as annual budget of the organisation, map out practical activities of the organisation and present the same for consideration and approval by the President and the Executive Council of the ABCP.
- 4.3.6 The Secretary General shall be a joint signatory to financial and other banking documents of the organisation.

#### **4.4 DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL**

- 4.4.1 ABCP shall have Deputy Secretary Generals.
- 4.4.2 The Deputy Secretary Generals shall function under the supervision of the Secretary General and assist in the day-to-day work of ABCP Headquarters.
- 4.4.3 In case of inability of the Secretary General to discharge his/**her** functions, **the President shall appoint** one of the two Deputy Secretary Generals **to** take over the responsibilities of the Secretary General until a new Secretary General is elected. The Deputy Secretary Generals will be guided by the Executive Council of the ABCP.

#### **4.5 TREASURER**

- 4.5.1 ABCP Headquarters shall have one treasurer (a professional accountant).
- 4.5.2 The Treasurer shall work under the direct management of the ABCP Secretary General.
- 4.5.3 The Treasurer shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
  - 5.5.3a Maintaining the accounts books;
  - 5.5.3b Financial management;
  - 5.5.3c Preparing the annual budget of the organisation;
  - 5.5.3d Managing organisation's financial reports, and
  - 5.5.3e Managing the organisation's financial liaison.
- 4.5.4 The Treasurer shall be the primary signatory, alongside the Secretary General, of all financial and banking transactions of the organisation.

## ARTICLE FIVE

### 5. ELECTIONS AND VOTING PROCEDURES

#### 5.1 ELECTIONS

- 5.1.1 The office bearers, including the President, Vice Presidents, Secretary General and members of the Executive Council of ABCP shall be elected by the General Assembly by **raising their hands or by** secret ballot, **if necessary**.
- 5.1.2 If the number of candidates does not exceed the number of vacancies, the elections shall be by show of hand.
- 5.1.3 If there are two or more candidates for any vacancy, the candidates receiving a majority of votes through secret ballot shall be elected.

#### 5.2 VOTING PROCEDURE

- 5.2.1 Full members of ABCP shall follow the principle of “One Country, One Vote” at the General Assembly.
- 5.2.2 Associate members of ABCP shall not have the right to vote.
- 5.2.3 In the event of a tie, the President of ABCP shall have the right to cast a final and deciding vote/

## ARTICLE SIX

### 6. MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1 There shall be the following types of membership:
  - 6.1a National Centres: Representing Buddhist followers in any country/region.
  - 6.1b Associate members: Buddhist organisations and other international organisations from the regions other than the three regions defined in Article 2.1.4. can also become *Associate* Members of ABCP. Their application shall be validated by two-third votes at the General Assembly.
- 6.2 Buddhist temples, monasteries, centres, organisations and communities, subscribing to the mission and goals of ABCP, and willing to cooperate for their realisation, and want to set up ABCP National Centres in their respective countries, such procedures, as defined below, shall be followed.
  - 6.2a Submit an application to the ABCP Secretary General;
  - 6.2b After receipt of membership application, the ABCP Secretary General shall submit his/her recommendations together with the application for membership to the ABCP Executive Council;
  - 6.2c The Executive Council shall consider the recommendations of the General Secretary and, if the Executive Council members come to a unanimous decision, the request for application for membership shall be submitted for consideration to the ABCP General Assembly;

- 6.2d A newmember shall be admitted to ABCP at the General Assembly only with the unanimous agreement of all National Centres.
- 6.2e There shall not be more than 2 (two) national centres in any one country.
- 6.3 If a National Centre carries out structural or membership changes, the ABCP Secretary General shall be informed of the changes made within one month.
- 6.4 ABCP National Centres that had been full and active members of ABCP up until the 11<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of ABCP (2019) shall have the status of Permanent Members (*Annexure Six*)of ABCP. However, permanent membership does not give any extra rights over other members of ABCP. The list of Permanent Members of ABCP is appended as Annexure Six.
- 6.5 If an ABCP member wishes to withdraw its membership from the organisation, it may do so by notifying the ABCP Secretary General in writing. The ABCP Secretary General shall submit the notice to the ABCP Executive Council for consideration and final decision.
- 6.6 If an ABCP member fails to comply with the mission and goals of the ABCP Charter, and engages in activities detrimental to the interests of the organisation, the Executive Council shall be authorised to take such action as may be appropriate. The process shall be as follows.
- 6.6a Upon receiving a written complaint to this effect, the Executive Council of ABCP shall constitute a committee of its members to look into the complaint, which will submit its report to the Executive Council within one month.
- 6.6b Based on the report, if the National Centre concerned is found to have violated the ABCP Charter or engaged in activities detrimental to the interest of the organisation, the Executive Council may call for the suspension of the concerned National Centre's membership, or (in a more serious instance), expulsion from ABCP.
- 6.6c This decision shall be by a simple majority of those present and voting.

## **ARTICLE SEVEN**

### **7. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ABCP MEMBERS**

- 7.1 ABCP members shall enjoy the following rights:
- 7.1a Take part in all activities of ABCP within the framework of the mission and goals outlined in the ABCP Charter;
- 7.1b Make suggestions and proposals concerning activities of ABCP, take part in activity planning and participate in their execution;
- 7.1c Elect and to be elected to the governing and executives bodies of ABCP.
- 7.2 ABCP members shall have the following responsibilities:
- 7.2a Strictly adhere to the Charter of ABCP, actively work for the realisation of its missions and goals, and to implement decisions taken by the governing bodies of ABCP;

- 7.2b Strive for strengthening the unity and expanding the ranks of ABCP by drawing as many Buddhists as possible into the activities of the organisation aimed at realising Lord Buddha's teachings on peace and removing the threats of war;
- 7.2c Educate the public on the mission and goals of ABCP, the Teachings of BuddhaShakyamuni and the importance of friendly and mutually beneficial relationship and cooperation among nations;
- 7.2d Render financial and other support to ABCP and to pay membership dues regularly.

## **ARTICLE EIGHT**

### **8. FINANCES**

- 8.1 The objective of ABCP, with regard to its finance, is to ensure the continuity, normal and effective functioning of ABCP, towards implementing the mission and objectives of the ABCP charter.
- 8.2 ABCP finances shall be composed of the following:
  - 8.2a Dues and contributions from the ABCP National Centres;
  - 8.2b Donations and financial assistance by organisations and individuals;
  - 8.2c International project and programme financing, foundations and fund-raising activities;
  - 8.2d Other incomes compatible with the laws.
- 8.3 The financial year of ABCP shall be from 1 January to 31 December of every year.

## **ARTICLE NINE**

### **9. THE ABCP HEADQUARTERS**

- 9.1 The Headquarters of the ABCP shall be located at the Gandan Tegchenling Monastery in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- 9.2 To facilitate proper functioning of ABCP activities, and in view of the globally recognised importance of Bodh Gaya, the holiest place of pilgrimage for Buddhists and a sacred site of Buddha's Enlightened Awakening, ABCP Headquarters shall have an "ABCP Coordination Centre" at Bodh Gaya, India under ABCP Headquarters.
- 9.3 The ABCP Coordination Centre shall function under the supervision of ABCP Headquarters.

## **ARTICLE TEN**

### **10. ABCP EMBLEM AND FLAG**

- 10.1 The ABCP has the Vajra seal with a pigeon on the Three Gems in the centre of its Emblem.
- 10.2 The ABCP shall have a six-colored flag, consisting of a vertical yellow stripe, being one fifth of the length, symbolising the Buddha's teaching and five horizontal stripes of blue, yellow, red, white and saffron colours from top to bottom.

- 10.3 The five colours of the ABCP Flag shall denote wisdom, humility, righteousness, reason and generosity by eliminating anger, arrogance, greed, ignorance and jealousy.
- 10.4 The Flag shall carry the ABCP Emblem – Vajra, on the upper part of the vertical stripe.
- 10.5 The length of the flag shall be twice its breadth.
- 10.6 Photos of the authorised emblem and flag of ABCP are in Annexure Seven.

## **ARTICLE ELEVEN**

### **11. ABCP PUBLICATIONS**

- 11.1 ABCP shall publish an English-language magazine "Buddhism for Peace" and also shall have a dedicated website (www.abcp.mn) in English. "Buddhism for Peace" magazine shall be an annual magazine. ABCP National Centres shall regularly and in a timely manner supply news and materials to the "Buddhism for Peace" magazine and the website.
- 11.2 The main task of the ABCP Publication shall be to:
  - 11.2a To raise awareness of the public about the mission, objectives and activities of ABCP and its National Centres;
  - 11.2b Disseminate Lord Buddha's teachings on peace, tranquility and compassion;
  - 11.2c Publish important documents and resolutions of the governing bodies of the organisation;
  - 11.2d Highlight the issues of peace and security in Asia and the world over, and present the ABCP's stand on these;
  - 11.2e Publish information on peace-building activities of religious and non-religious organisations, working with ABCP.

## **ARTICLE TWELVE**

### **12. AWARDS**

- 12.1 "ABCP Medal of Honour" shall be the highest award of ABCP. The "Medal of Honour" shall be awarded to an individual for his/her exceptional contribution to strengthening global peace and tranquillity, ensuring inter-faith unity and harmony, educating and enlightening the people, upholding human rights and freedom, and spreading the teachings of Buddha Shakyamuni.
- 12.2 "Honorary Certificate of ABCP" shall be awarded to an individual who has made a tangible contribution to implementing the mission and objectives of ABCP.
- 12.3 ABCP Secretary General shall nominate for the ABCP Medal of Honour and Honorary Certificate of ABCP, such individuals who have fulfilled the above requirements and shall submit the names of the nominees to the ABCP President.
- 12.4 The National Centres can also nominate candidates for ABCP awards, which shall be reviewed by the Secretary General and recommended to the President of ABCP.
- 12.5 ABCP awards shall be presented at special ceremonies during successive ABCP General Assemblies.

12.6 National Centres may have their own awards.

## **ARTICLE THIRTEEN**

### **13. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF ABCP**

13.1 The official language of the ABCP shall be English.

13.2 All official documents shall be published in the English language.

13.3 Translation from the official into national languages and from national languages to ABCP official language shall be the responsibility of the National Centres, but only the English version shall be considered authentic.

## **ARTICLE FOURTEEN**

### **14. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS TO THE ABCP CHARTER**

14.1 The Constitution of the ABCP shall come into force from the date of its adoption by the General Assembly.

14.2 Proposals on changes and amendments to the Charter shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary General of the ABCP for consideration by the Executive Council of ABCP.

14.3 Changes and amendments to the Charter, introduced on the recommendation of the Executive Council, shall come into force after their adoption by the General Assembly.

**ADOPTED** on this day the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June 2019, at the 11th ABCP General Assembly held at the ABCP Headquarters at the GandanTegchenlingMonastery, the Centre of Mongolian Buddhists in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia by the heads of delegations of the ABCP National Centres.

ABCP Bangladesh National Centre 1

Most Ven. Sanghanayaka  
SuddhanandaMahathero

ABCP Bangladesh National Centre 2

JibananandaBarua

Cambodia National Centre

His Holiness SamdechPreahTep  
Vong

Department of Religion and Culture,  
CTA, Dharamsala

Most Ven. ThuptenNgodup

ABCP India National Centre

His Eminence LochenTulku Rinpoche

Japan Religious Persons Council for Peace

Most Ven. ShohakuKishida

ABCP Korean National Centre, DPRK	Most Ven. Kang Su Rin
ABCP Korean National Centre, Taego Order, Republic of Korea	Ven. Dr. Woneung Lee Chi Ran
Buddhist Fellowship Organisation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic	Most Ven. KhamvanVoradeth
ABCP National Centre Gandan Tegchenling Monastery	Most Ven. Da Lama Kh. Byambajav
ABCP National Centre Dashichoiling Monastery	His Eminence Dr. Ch. Dambajav Khamba Lama
ABCP Nepal National Centre AnandkutiVihar	Ven. BhikkhuMaitriMahthera
Buddhist Traditional Sangha of Russia, IvolginskyDatsan Ulan-Ude, Buryatia	Most Ven. Khamba Lama Damba Ayusheev
Russian Federation, AginskyDatsan ABCP National Centre	DedKhamba Lama Ven. Tsyren Dondukbaev
ABCP Sri Lanka Centre (Ven. Dr. Sumatissa Chapter)	Ven. Prof. PallekandeRathanasara Mahathero
ABCP Sri Lanka National Centre (Ven. Dr. Wipulasara Chapter)	Ven. Dr. MaitipeWimalasara Mahathero
National Vietnam Buddhist Sangha, Vietnam	Most Ven.Dr. ThichDucThien
Combined Buddhist Universities of Vietnam	Prof. Dr. Le Manh That

**First adopted by the Sixth General Conference**

**of the ABCP, Ulaanbaatar, August 16, 1982**

**Word changes were made at the Eighth General Conference on the ABCP Ulaanbaatar, 23 September 1990.**

**The revised amended version of the ABCP Charter was discussed and adopted by the Eleventh General Assembly of ABCP held on 21-23 June 2019 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.**

**TERMS AND TERMINOLOGY**

1. **Teachings of Buddha Shakyamuni:** Virtuous and non-virtuous action, impermanence, interdependent originations, the law of Karma, Sunyata, and Bodhicitta.
2. **Sustainable Human Development:** The 2030 Sustainable Development Goals with 17 goals, adopted in 2015 by the UN member-states at the UN General Assembly Global Summit.
3. **Membership Dues:** is defined as the financial capacity of ABCP, as an international non-governmental organisation (NGO), which shall be paid by the member organisations to ensure that the activities of ABCP shall be continuous, sustainable, energetic and effective.
4. **ABCP Regions:** ABCP member organisations will be categorized according to the regions they are located in, that is, South Asia, South East Asia and North Asia-Pacific Regions. Future members will be suitably placed within respective regions, based on consensus.
5. **Treasurer** (This item is provided in Article Six, Para D): is a financial and accounting specialist working at the ABCP Headquarters.

**ABCP EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

1. Bangladesh National Centre 1 (Bangladesh Bouddha Kristi PracharSangha) - HH SuddhanandaMahathero
2. (ABCP Bangladesh National Centre) – Mr. JibanandaBarua
3. Cambodia ABCP National Centre – Ven. Dr. Khy Sovanratana
4. Central Tibetan Administration, Dharamsala, India – Ven. Karma GelekYuthok
5. ABCP India National Centre – Mr. Ashok K. Wangdi
6. Japan Religious Persons Council for Peace – Most Ven. Shohaku Kishida
7. ABCP Korean National Centre (DPRK) - Most Ven. Kang Su Rin
8. ABCP Korean National Centre – Taego Order, RoK – Ven. Dr. Woneung Lee Chi Ran
9. Buddhist Fellowship Organisation of Lao People’s Democratic Republic – Ven. Dr. Hongsa Boriboun
10. Mongolia – ABCP National Centre GandanTegchenling Monastery – Most Ven. Byambajav Khunkur
11. Mongolia – ABCP National Centre Dashichoiling Monastery – Ven. Altankhuu Tserenjav
12. ABCP Nepal National Centre AnandkutiVihar – Ven. Maitri Bhikkhu
13. Buddhist Traditional Sangha of Russia, IvolginskyDatsan – Most Ven. Khambo Lama Damba Ayushev
14. Aginsky Datsan ABCP National Centre, Russia – Ven. Tsyren Lama (Andrey Dondukbaev)
15. Sri Lanka (Late Ven. Sumanatissa Chapter) – Ven. Prof. Pallekande Mahathero
16. Sri Lanka (Late Ven. Wipulasara Chapter) – Ven. Dr. Maitipe Wimalasara Mahathere
17. National Vietnam Buddhist Sangha – Ven. Dr. Thich Nhat Tu
18. Combined Buddhist Universities of Vietnam – Prof. Le Manh That

**ABCP STANDING COMMISSIONS AND CENTRES**

ABCP shall have the following 9 (nine) Standing Commissions:

1. Standing Commission on "Buddhist Traditions, Culture and Heritage" with its Centre in Mongolia,
2. Standing Commission on "Promotion of Buddhist Ethics and Unity", with its Centre in Dharamsala,
3. Standing Commission on "Human Rights" with its centre in Bangladesh **(National Centre 2 of Bangladesh headed by D. P. Barua)**,
4. Standing Commission on "Sustainable Development Goals", with its Centre in India,
5. 2.4.1e Standing Commission on "Peace, Disarmament and Conflict Avoidance", with its Centre in Japan,
6. Standing Commission on "Inter-Faith Harmony" with its Centre in Russia,
7. Standing Commission on "Women and Gender Equality" with its Centre in Sri Lanka,
8. Standing Commission on Children and Youth, with its Centre in Sri Lanka and Vietnam,
9. Standing Commission on "Environment, Climate Change and Nature Conservation", with its Centre in Vietnam.

**ABCP PATRONS**

1. His Holiness The 14th Dalai Lama (CTA, Dharamsala)
2. His Holiness SamdechTepVong (Cambodia)
3. His Holiness Suddhananda Mahathero (Bangladesh)
4. His Eminence Thich Thien Nhon (Vietnam)
5. Ven. Prof. Mahinda Sangharakhita Mahathero (Sri Lanka)

**ABCP OFFICE BEARERS**

**PRESIDENT:**

1. His Eminence Khamba Lama Dembereliin Choijamts (Mongolia)

**VICE PRESIDENTS:**

1. Most Ven. Geshe Jangchub Choeden (India)
2. Most Ven. Dr. Thich Duc Thien (Vietnam)
3. Most Ven. Damba Ayusheev (Buryatia, Russia)

**ABCP SECRETARY GENERAL**

1. Ven. Da Lama Kh. Byambajav (Mongolia)

**DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL**

1. Mr. Sonam Wangchuk (India)
2. Ven. Khy Suvanaratana (Cambodia)

**PERMANENT MEMBERS OF ABCP**

1. Bangladesh National Centre 1 (Bangladesh Bouddha Kristi PracharSangha)
2. Bangladesh National Centre 2 (ABCP Bangladesh National Centre)
3. Cambodia ABCP National Centre
4. Department of Religion and Culture, Central Tibetan Administration
5. ABCP India National Centre
6. Japan Religious Persons Council for Peace
7. ABCP Korean National Centre (DPRK)
8. ABCP Korean National Centre – Taego Order, RoK
9. Buddhist Fellowship Organisation of Lao People’s Democratic Republic
10. Mongolia – ABCP National Centre GandanTegchenling Monastery
11. Mongolia – ABCP National Centre Dashichoiling Monastery
12. ABCP Nepal National Centre AnandkutiVihar
13. Buddhist Traditional Sangha of Russia, IvolginskyDatsan
14. Aginsky Datsan ABCP National Centre, Russia
15. ABCP Sri Lanka National Centre (Ven. Dr. Sumatissa Chapter)
16. ABCP Sri Lanka National Centre (Ven. Dr. Wipulasara Chapter)
17. National Vietnam Buddhist Sangha
18. Combined Buddhist Universities of Vietnam

**AUTHORISED EMBLEM AND FLAG OF ABCP**

**- NOTE - PRESENTLY UNDER FINAL DEVELOPMENT WITH DUE CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS BY SOME OF THE NATIONAL CENTRE MEMBERS TO INCLUDE THE "PIGEON" IN THE LOGO ON TOP OF THE THREE RATNA (THE FINAL LOGO AND FLAG OF ABCP WILL BE SHARED ONCE READY AND APPROVED BY THE ABCP PRESIDENT)**