67 UNGA/6 COM

STATEMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

ON BEHALF OF THE CO-SPONSORS

Item 167 - Observer Status for the International Conference
on Asian Political Parties in the General Assembly

Friday, 16 November 2012 (10:00 AM)

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I take the floor on behalf of the sponsors of this proposal, namely, Cambodia, Japan, Nepal, Republic of Korea, Vietnam, and my own country, the Philippines.

As we had indicated before, the Philippines facilitated an informal consultation on
this item which took place last Tuesday, November 13.

At that consultation, no consensus could still be achieved.

Some delegations reiterated their suggestion to withdraw the item from further consideration by the Sixth Committee, stating once again, as was done before this body, that they did not consider the ICAPP as meeting the requirements for UNGA Observer Status.

We thank them sincerely for their candor in explaining their position and constructive suggestions on the next steps that could be taken.

On the other hand, other delegations, specifically the co-sponsors, recognizing the present difficulty, suggested that this issue should still be explored due to new and material conditions that may arise, or possible amendment of the criteria under Resolution 49/426, or other possibilities. The Philippines itself feels that ICAPP is in fact entitled to observer status.

In view of the clear divergence of views, it is therefore, our recommendation that for
this Session of the UNGA, this Committee take no action on this item, while we co-sponsors reserve our right to present this proposal again in a future session of the Committee. 'This ,.,request for deferment of· consideration of the item comes with a clear commitment and understanding:-- tl ,at tor next year's Session of the Committee, we will request-for coRGideration of this item once again only if oonsensus has been aohieved bef:orelia11d.

Once again, we take this occasion to thank other delegations that have expressed,
and continue to express, support for this proposal.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.