H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai, President of the National Assembly and Speaker of the House of Representatives, had a discussion on the phone with H.E. Mr. Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan

On 15 September 2020 at 16.00 hrs. at the VDO Conference Room, Bureau of the Inter-Parliamentary Organizations, Secretariat of the House of Representatives, H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai, President of the National Assembly and Speaker of the House of Representatives, had a discussion on telephone with H.E. Mr. Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan on the issues of the post COVID-19 cooperation between the two parliaments and the issue of voting support the Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan for the IPU presidency election.

The President of the National Assembly was very appreciated to have a conversation with the Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan. Both Thai and Pakistani parliaments had established the parliamentary friendship groups which played an important role to strengthen bilateral relationship. At present, COVID-19 pandemic was spreading across the world which had an impact to the exchange of the parliamentary visits between the two countries. The President of the National Assembly which that the Pakistani people could get through this difficult situation. For the IPU presidency election, the Thai Parliament would take this matter to discuss with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. However, the President of the National Assembly wished the Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan could succeed in the coming election.

The Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan thanked the President of the National Assembly for the conversation and agreed that the setting up of the friendship groups had led to the exchange of the visits among the members of parliaments but was later suspended because of the pandemic. Anyway, the visit exchanges could resume again after the decline of the COVID-19 situation. Finally, the Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan hoped that the Thai side would support for him to the IPU presidency post. The election would take place at the 206<sup>th</sup> visual session of the Governing Council during 1-4 November 2020



