



## **AFPPD National Committees Sub-Regional Strategy Meeting 2017 (1)**

**23 March 2017 | Bangkok, Thailand**

### **Concept Note**

The Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) will hold a series of National Committees Sub-Regional Strategy Meetings in 2017. National Committees serve as the basic platform for parliamentary advocacy and policy dialogue at the country level. Active and well-functioning National Committees supported by capable secretariats contribute to the success of AFPPD's work to advance parliamentarians' policy recommendations and make political commitments at regional and global forums.

National Committees Sub-Regional Strategy Meetings will be attached to selected sub-regional meetings, regional conferences, and the 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. The meetings are intended to provide opportunities for National Committees (parliamentarians and/or secretariat staff), AFPPD Secretariat, and AFPPD's major partner organizations including UNFPA Country Offices to align and synergize national and regional advocacy plans to advance the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3 (Health) & 5 (Gender), with a special reference to AFPPD's Strategic Priorities Framework.

#### **Primary Objectives:**

1. To share and critically review National Committees' existing activity plans and on-going activities on parliamentary advocacy at national and regional levels in the context of the SDGs national planning and implementation, as well as their voluntary review processes.
2. To identify national-level priority issues and ways to consolidate parliamentary advocacy plans and activities for 2017-2019, while taking into consideration the results of AFPPD's on-going legislation gap analysis between the respective countries' international and regional commitments and their domestic laws and policies.
3. To strengthen coordination and communication mechanisms at the country, sub-regional and regional levels among National Committees, the Executive Committee, Standing Committees, AFPPD Secretariat, and partner organizations in order to achieve better policy results.



### **Expected Results:**<sup>1</sup>

1. Shared and increased knowledge on National Committees' activities in 2016-2017 and on-going advocacy work as well as activity plans for 2017. National Committees' efforts will be documented and consolidated in a publication in preparation for the 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.
2. Consolidated advocacy plans for 2017 between AFPPD, National Committees and other partner organizations especially UNFPA Country Offices with an emphasis on the ICPD agenda in the SDGs.
3. Identified areas for National Committees' capacity building and technical support plan for 2017 with respect to the results identified in AFPPD's legislation gap analysis, which may be supported under the 2017 small grants programme.

### **Format:**

Participating National Committees are expected to submit a brief report and make a presentation (5-7 minutes each) about the following topics:

1. National Committees' advocacy work in 2016 and on-going work and plans for 2017.
2. Progress being made in achieving the SDGs and ICPD goals and targets at the national level, with a special reference to the status of the SDGs voluntary review processes for applicable countries.
3. Good practices and programme interventions in the areas of AFPPD strategic priority issues (gender equality and women's empowerment, investing in youth, and active ageing) that National Committees would like to share for mutual learning.

Depending on the number of participants and identified common priority issues at the national level, small groups will be formed for more specific discussions and mutual learning opportunities, as well as for identifying the areas of potential future collaboration (e.g., study tours)

**Participants:** National Committee representatives (parliamentarian or designated secretariat staff member), AFPPD Secretariat staff, and representatives from partner organizations.

### **Date and Venue:**

March 23, 2017 (PM). Bangkok, Thailand

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<sup>1</sup> Indicators: Number of National Committees that present annual activity report 2016 and annual work plans of 2017.

\* Note: AFPPD has 29 National Committees of which 26 are in the UNFPA Asia Pacific Regional Office Region (APRO) and 3 in Central Asia. Of 26 National Committees in APRO, four National Committees need to be re-activated (Maldives, Mongolia, Iran, and Pakistan).



Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development

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TIME	AGENDA ITEMS (As of 16 March 2017)
14:00	<p><b>Opening Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Hon. Mr. S. B. Dissanayake</b>, Minister of Social Empowerment and Welfare, Sri Lanka and Chairperson, Sri Lanka Forum for Parliamentarians on Population and Sustainable Development (SLPPD)</li> <li>➤ <b>UNFPA Representative</b> (TBD)</li> </ul>
14:15	<p><b>Agenda Overview, National Committees Annual Updates for Implementation of Monitoring &amp; Evaluation (IME) of AFPPD Strategic Plan (2016-2019)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Dr. Mika Marumoto</b>, Executive Director, AFPPD</li> </ul>
14:25	<p><b>SDGs National Voluntary Reviews &amp; AFPPD Legislation Analysis Project Case Study</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Ms. Seema Gaikwad</b>, Policy Research &amp; Advocacy Advisor, AFPPD</li> <li>➤ <b>Ms. Olesya Kochkina</b>, Programme Specialist, AFPPD</li> </ul>
14:45	<p><b>Country Activities Report 2016 / 2017 and SDGs National Voluntary Reviews and Advocacy Plans</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Country Presentations: (15 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. M.A. Kamal Billah, Bangladesh Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (BAPPD), Bangladesh</li> <li>• Lord Fusitu'a, Co-Chair AFPPD Standing Committee on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, Tonga</li> <li>• Mr. David Newton, Secretariat, PNG Parliamentary Group for Population and Sustainable Development</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Open Discussion (15 minutes)</li> <li>➤ National Committees Advocacy Plans Group Work / Small Grants Application Consultation* (45 minutes)</li> </ul>
16:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>
16:15	<p><b>(To be continued)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Selected Country Presentations &amp; Discussion / Group Work (TBD) (60 minutes)</li> <li>➤ Feedback from expert(s) (10 minutes)</li> <li>➤ Wrap-up &amp; Recommendations (5 minutes)</li> </ul>
17:15	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <p><b>Next Steps:</b> National Committee Sub-Regional Strategy Meeting (2) &amp; AFPPD's Upcoming Events &amp; Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>National Committees Representative(s)</b> (TBD)</li> <li>➤ <b>Dr. Mika Marumoto</b>, Executive Director, AFPPD</li> </ul> <p><b>Wrap-up &amp; Evaluation</b></p>
17:30	<b>Closing</b>

\* For those National Committees which have already submitted the Annual Updates to AFPPD Secretariat, small grants application consultation can be arranged with AFPPD ED and/or Programme Staff.