



Newsletter

Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on
Population and Development

Third Quarter: July - September 2016

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Dr. Mika Marumoto



Snapshot of IFPPD's Local Engagement on Population Issues

Since her appointment as Chair of the Indonesian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IFPPD) in 2015, Hon. Ms. Ermalena Muslim Hasbullah (MP Indonesia) has taken numerous initiatives at the local level to address population issues. **Page 5**



AFPPD's Inaugural Standing Committee Meeting on Active Ageing Held in Hanoi

On September 8, AFPPD held its inaugural Standing Committee Meeting on Active Ageing in Hanoi, Vietnam with experts complemented by two study tours to the Vietnamese National Assembly and the Bach Nien Thien Duc Care Centre for the Elderly. **Page 10**



AFPPD-NZPPD Agenda 2030 Workshop Helps Strengthen Pacific Parliamentary Leaders' Commitments to SDGs

Over 20 representatives and parliamentary leaders from Cook Islands, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and New Zealand participated in the workshop. **Page 14**

Member National Committee Highlight: Nepal

Advocacy Workshop and Report on Investing in Teenage Girls in Nepal Released on Occasion of World Population Day



Participants of advocacy workshop on “Investing in Teenage Girls” with parliamentarians, Kathmandu, July 2016 (Photo: NFPPD)



The workshop held on the occasion of World Population Day, Kathmandu, July 2016 (Photo: NFPPD)



Participants at the opening ceremony of the workshop, Kathmandu, July 2016 (Photo: NFPPD)

KATHMANDU, NEPAL - The Nepalese Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (NFPPD) and Skill Information Society Nepal (SISo Nepal) co-organized an advocacy workshop on “Investing in Teenage Girls” on the occasion of World Population Day. The workshop on July 14 aimed to sensitize Nepalese parliamentarians on the importance of ‘investing in teenage girls,’ focusing on the demographic dividend and comprehensive sexuality education. The opening ceremony was chaired by Hon. Ms. Dina Mahalaxmi Upadhyay, NFPPD Chairperson and Co-Chair of AFPPD Standing Committee on Investing in Youth.

Participants who attended the workshop totaled 90, including over 50 Nepalese Members of Parliament, students, and representatives from the Australian Embassy, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the media. Participants actively engaged in discussions on the changing population structure in Nepal, the need to invest in adolescent sexual reproductive health and comprehensive sexuality education (CSE), and the current legal situations faced by adolescents. Parliamentarians, in particular, reaffirmed their commitments in implementing existing policies effectively, and advocating for issues related to teenage girls, high school dropouts, child marriage and CSE.



To download the full report, please [click here](#). NFPPD is the member National Committee of AFPPD in Nepal.

AFPPD Participated in Regional Experts Forum on Population Ageing



Participants at the Regional Experts Forum on Population Ageing including government focal points on ageing, policy makers, and representatives from UN and CSOs, Bangkok, July 2016 (Photo: UNESCAP)

BANGKOK, THAILAND – The Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) attended the Regional Experts Forum on Population Ageing, which was organized by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and the National Health and Family Planning Commission of China (NHFPCC) on 12-13 July 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Forum was attended by government focal points on population ageing, policymakers from many of the AFPPD member countries, development practitioners, independent experts and civil society experts such as HelpAge International.

AFPPD Executive Director, Dr. Mika Marumoto, made a presentation regarding the role of AFPPD parliamentarians in mainstreaming ageing issues in national, regional and global arenas in the Sustainable

Development Goals era. The presentation centered on the critical importance of parliamentarians, through both top-down and bottom-up approaches, to raise awareness on key challenges and opportunities to effectively address population and ageing issues, and promote the rights of older persons in Asia-Pacific in line with the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA).

AFPPD's activities in the area of population ageing are envisaged to be aligned with the Regional and Global Reviews of the MIPAA in 2017 and 2018, respectively.

Long-Term Care for the Elderly Discussed at Meeting with Japan International Cooperation Agency



Meeting between AFPPD, JICA and the Thai Ministry of Public Health on pilot projects on long-term care for the elderly in Thailand, Bangkok, August 2016 (Photo: AFPPD)

BANGKOK, THAILAND – The Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) visited the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Office in Bangkok on August 5 to discuss JICA's pilot project on long-term care for the elderly (LTOP) in Thailand. Hon. Dr. Jetn Sirathranont, MP Thailand and AFPPD Secretary-General, and AFPPD Executive Director Mika Marumoto were briefed by Mr. Ichiro Fujita, Chief Advisor of Project of Long-Term Care Service Development for the Frail Elderly and other Vulnerable People, JICA and the Ministry of Public Health. The Project was launched by JICA in 2013 in collaboration with the Thai Ministry of Public Health and is currently implemented in 6 project sites in Thailand. Following the meeting, Hon. Dr. Jetn highlighted LTOP as a case study in his presentation at the Special Session of the 2016 HelpAge Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in Hanoi, Vietnam.

(See page 9 for more information on the Special Session at the HelpAge Asia-Pacific Regional Conference)

Member National Committee Highlight: Japan Parliamentarians Discussed Interlinkage between Population Issues and 2030 Agenda in Global Conference

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA - On August 10-12, over 80 representatives from 22 countries met in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa at the Conference titled "Enhancing the Role of Parliamentarians in the Interlinkage between Population Issues and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - Part II." It was organized by the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), the Secretariat of the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP), and hosted by the House of People's Representatives of Ethiopia. Parliamentarians from Asian, African, Arab and European Parliamentarians' Fora on Population and Development as well as representatives of international organizations and the media attended the Conference.

The objectives of the conference were: 1) to strengthen proposals for the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), in anticipation of TICAD VI, and 2) to further strengthen proposals on the role of parliamentarians in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The conference successfully closed with the adoption of a Policy Proposal. Participants also conducted a study visit to a model clinic of the Family Guidance Association of Ethiopia (FGAE), a member association of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), in Adama city. The delegation also visited the House of People's Representatives of Ethiopia.

Among the participants were Hon. Teruhiko Mashiko, Vice-Chair of JPFP and Director of APDA; Hon. Hiroyuki Nagahama, Vice-Chair of JPFP; Hon. Toshiko Abe, Deputy Executive Director of JPFP; and Hon. Dr. Jetn Sirathranont, AFPPD Secretary-General.

APDA is the Secretariat of the JPFP, the member National Committee of AFPPD in Japan.

Member National Committee Highlight: Indonesia

Snapshot of IFPPD's Local Engagement on Population Issues

INDONESIA – Since her appointment as Chair of the Indonesian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IFPPD) in 2015, Hon. Ms. Ermalena Muslim Hasbullah, MP Indonesia, has taken numerous initiatives at the local level to address and advocate for population issues such as safe motherhood, family planning, youth engagement, health services for aged groups, among others. The photos below demonstrate a snapshot of her work.



Hon. Ms. Ermalena Muslim Hasbullah initiated public dialogues on family planning (Photo: IFPPD)



Hon. Ms. Ermalena Muslim Hasbullah engaged local religious leaders in Nusa Tenggara Barat to actively address public health issues (Photo: IFPPD)



Hon. Ms. Ermalena Muslim Hasbullah engaged young people to get involved with helping aged groups at the local communities in Nusa Tenggara Barat (Photo: IFPPD)

IFPPD is the member National Committee of AFPPD in Indonesia.

Ageing Issues Raised at the 14th Asian Statesmen Forum



AFPPD Chairperson, Hon. Professor Keizo Takemi presented at the 14th Asian Statesmen Forum, Jakarta, August 2016 (Photo: AFPPD)

JAKARTA, INDONESIA - On 27-28 August 2016, the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) attended the 14th Asian Statesmen Forum (ASF) organized by the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) of Japan. Over 35 attendees were present including political leaders from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Japan.

Although discussions at ASF traditionally revolved around economic and political challenges faced by the region in the past, Hon. Professor Keizo Takemi, AFPPD Chairperson and MP Japan, successfully incorporated population and health issues into the 14th ASF agenda, along with Hon. Ms. Ermalena Muslim Hasbullah, MP Indonesia and Chairperson of the Indonesian Forum of Parliamentarians on

Population and Development (IFPPD). Hon. Professor Takemi led a session on Asia's social security system, addressing the social dimension of Asia's challenges by highlighting the rise of non-communicable disease (NCDs), the need for Universal Health Coverage (UHC), and the challenges of population ageing in the region. Hon. Ms. Hasbullah, as a discussant in the session, spoke about the challenges of providing long-term care for the elderly and the pervasive early marriage in Indonesia. The session concluded with the strong message that social components, such as population ageing, have to be taken into account in planning for sustainable development and achieving healthy economic growth.

Member National Committee Highlight: India

Himachal Legislators Meet Towards a TB Free India

HIMACHAL PRADESH, INDIA - The Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IAPPD) and the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease jointly organized a meeting "Himachal Legislators Meet towards a TB Free India" on August 28. The meeting aimed to sensitize legislators, particularly from the northern Indian state of Himachal Pradesh, on the tuberculosis situation in India and the need to formulate an action plan.

A total number of 49 participants attended the meeting, comprised of 30 members of the Legislative Assembly from Himachal as well as prominent figures including Hon. Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh; Hon. Brij Behari Lal Butail, Speaker of the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly; Hon. Prem Kumar Dhumel, Leader of Opposition; Hon. Thakur Kaul Singh, Minister of Health and Family Welfare; Hon. Viplove Thakur, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha); and Mrs. Pratibha Singh, former Member of Parliament.

IAPPD is the member National Committee of AFPPD in India

Member National Committee Highlight: Bangladesh

Maternal Health and Youth Development Discussed in Parliament of Bangladesh



The "Improving Maternal Health Sub-Committee" Meeting with parliamentarians and experts, Dhaka, August 2016 (Photo: BAPPD)

DHAKA, BANGLADESH – On 30 August 2016, Hon. Chief Whip A.S.M. Feroz of the Bangladesh Parliament chaired a meeting of the “Improving the Maternal Health Sub-Committee” under the auspices of the Bangladesh Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (BAPPD), the member National Committee of AFPPD. Among the meeting attendees were Dr. Sathya Doraiswamy, Chief of the Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights, and Dr. Loshan Moonesinghe, Family Planning Expert from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) who provided technical support. Hon. Dr. Ruhul Haque, MP and former Health Minister, Hon. Ms. Fazilatunnessa Indira, MP, and other members of the Sub-Committee took part in the discussions as well.

The meeting concluded with several proposed actions. The BAPPD’s “Improving Maternal Health Sub-Committee” will organize consultation meetings with the Standing Committee of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to strengthen family planning services at the community level, particularly in hard-to-reach areas. Additionally, the Sub-Committee has requested UNFPA for consultation on reproductive health related laws and policies and will organize consultation meetings with the Ministry of Finance to increase budgetary provisions on reproductive health in FY2017-18. In addition to the meeting on maternal health, the

Chair and Standing Committee of the Ministry of Planning, and the Convener of the Youth Development Sub-Committee (YDSC) met on August 31 to discuss youth issues. Hon. Mr. Fakhru Imam, MP and member of the YDSC, presented on “Transforming Youth into Human Resources to Capitalize Demographic Dividend.” Attendees included Members of Parliament, Standing Committee members, senior members of the General Economic Division, as well as those of the Ministry of Planning. The meeting was concluded by the Ministry of Planning and the YDSC to confirm their future collaboration to ensure that YDSC members are engaged in all planning processes related to youth development.

BAPPD is the member National Committee of AFPPD in Bangladesh.

AFPPD Supports Parliamentarians in Kyrgyzstan to Take Action for Women and Young People



Workshop on “Legislating for the Full Achievement of the SDGs/ICPD Goals and Targets,” Issyk-Kul, September 2016 (Photo: AFPPD)

ISSYK-KUL, KYRGYZSTAN - On 2-3 September 2016, the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) held a workshop on “Legislating for the Full Achievement of the SDGs/ICPD Goals and Targets” in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan. The National Committee of Kyrgyzstan on Population and Development (NCKPD), the AFPPD member in the country, hosted the workshop. Attendees included 13 Members of Parliament; the Deputy Director of the State Agency on Youth Policy of Kyrgyz Republic; two representatives of the National Statistics Committee; UNFPA representatives in Kyrgyzstan; the Executive Director of Kyrgyz Alliance on Reproductive Rights; and the Parliament office staff.



Participants engaged in a workshop exercise, Issyk-Kul, September 2016 (Photo: AFPPD)

The workshop aimed to increase the parliamentarians’ understanding of the interlinkages between the SDGs and the ICPD Agenda, and to deepen their knowledge on relevant international standards and good practices. Among the topics discussed was the importance of data availability, particularly, the lack of access to disaggregated data in Kyrgyzstan. A member of the National Statistics Committee stated that “without monitoring and measuring progress against indicators, we cannot make any impactful decisions.” The National Statistics Committee representatives also presented a recently developed mobile app called STATKG that aims to provide easy access to Kyrgyz statistical data.

The workshop concluded with recommendations addressing the need to enhance legislation and effective implementation of legislation in four areas: sexual reproductive health and rights, gender equality, youth policy, and ageing. A comprehensive and ambitious final document, *Recommendations for Actions*, was adopted by the participants who expressed confidence in implementing action plans. Follow-up action will be taken jointly by the NCKPD and AFPPD.

For more information, please [click here](#) to download AFPPD’s Workshop Report.

AFPPD Delegation of 29 Parliamentarians at the 2016 HelpAge Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in Hanoi



AFPPD Chairperson, Hon. Professor Keizo Takemi, delivered the keynote speech at the HelpAge Asia-Pacific Regional Conference, Hanoi, September 2016 (Photo: AFPPD)



Special Session on the role of parliamentarians in creating active ageing societies was co-chaired by AFPPD and HelpAge International, Hanoi, September 2016 (Photo: AFPPD)

HANOI, VIETNAM - On 6-7 September 2016, the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) participated in the HelpAge Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in Hanoi, Vietnam, with a delegation of 29 Members of Parliament from 20 Asia-Pacific countries. This year’s conference theme centered on “The Economic Implications of Ageing,” aiming to raise awareness of the economic adaptations by low and middle income Asia-Pacific countries in response to rapid population ageing. Hon. Professor Keizo Takemi, AFPPD Chairperson and MP Japan, delivered the keynote speech on the “Sustainability of Universal Health Coverage - Asia Health and Human Well-Being Initiative” on the first day of the conference. He presented

the magnitude and speed of ageing in Asia and the Pacific over time, stressing that the demand for healthcare services for the elderly will expand in industrialized countries, and the world will see this ageing process gradually spreading like “waves” to affect middle and low income country groups as well.

On September 7, AFPPD and HelpAge International co-organized the Special Session in order to address the role of parliamentarians in creating active ageing societies and ensure that older persons are not left behind in the policy arena of their respective countries. This session provided a platform for Asia-Pacific parliamentarians and other stakeholders at the conference to discuss

challenges and opportunities, and share their country experiences and policy options in response to rapid population ageing. Three Members of Parliament from the AFPPD delegation presented case studies on Japan (super-aged society), Thailand (ageing society) and Bangladesh, showcasing the country situations at the different stages of ageing.

Hon. Professor Takemi led the Special Session by presenting on “Universal Health Coverage and Ageing Populations,” and the lessons learned in Japan. He highlighted the Integrated Community Care System as a mechanism that ensures the provision of health care, nursing care, housing and livelihood support. Hon. Dr. Jetn Sirathranont, AFPPD Secretary-General and MP Thailand, presented on the challenges of long-term care (LTC) for the elderly and the role of care-providers in Thailand, a country

that is expected to become super-aged by 2040. He also highlighted a case study on a LTC pilot project by the Thai Ministry of Public Health and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The last presentation was delivered by Hon. Chief Whip A.S.M. Feroz, MP Bangladesh, who spoke about the Bangladeshi government’s initiatives for creating an active society, the Old Age Allowance program as well as civil society organizations’ efforts to promote active ageing in cooperation with the government.

Ms. Vanessa Steinmayer, Population Affairs Officer at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), and Ms. Mega Irena, Head of Poverty Eradication and Gender Equality Division at ASEAN, shared their thoughts in response to the presentations, followed by a discussion with the audience.

For more information, please [click here](#) to download AFPPD’s Conference Report.

AFPPD’s Inaugural Standing Committee Meeting on Active Ageing Held in Hanoi



AFPPD delegation of parliamentarians during their study visit to the Vietnamese National Assembly, Hanoi, September 2016 (Photo: AFPPD)



Hon. Prof. Keizo Takemi, Chair of AFPPD and MP Japan, talking to Mr. Ngoc Tuan Nguyen, Director of the Thien Duc Care Centre for the Elderly, Hanoi, September 2016 (Photo: AFPPD)



Signing of MOU between AFPPD and HelpAge International presented by Hon. Professor Keizo Takemi, Chair of AFPPD and MP Japan, and Mr. Arun Maira, Chair of HelpAge International, Hanoi, September 2016 (Photo: AFPPD)



AFPPD Inaugural Standing Committee Meeting on Active Ageing, Hanoi, September 2016 (Photo: AFPPD)

HANOI, VIETNAM - On September 8, AFPPD held its inaugural Standing Committee Meeting on Active Ageing in Hanoi, Vietnam with experts from the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (Japan), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), the World Health Organization (WHO), HelpAge International, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

The Meeting was structured with four sessions and five presentations on:

- The Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing Regional and Global Review Processes
- The Global Strategy and Action Plan on Ageing and Health
- Evidence-based Holistic Policymaking on Ageing
- Understanding Gender Norms in Ageing and Policy Implications
- Financial Sustainability of Social Security System.

Following the presentations, AFPPD parliamentarians were engaged in an open discussion on AFPPD's future activities for the current strategic cycle (2016-2019) and advocacy plans on active ageing. General recommendations were made by participants to address ageing issues. Country-specific future action plans were also presented by Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Cook Islands, Malaysia and Kazakhstan. A tentative proposal based on the recommendations will be discussed at the upcoming 81st AFPPD Executive Committee Meeting on November 3, 2016. Additionally, the Standing Committee meeting was also complemented by two study tours to the Vietnamese National Assembly and the Bach Nien Thien Duc Care Centre for the Elderly.

For more information, please [click here](#) to download AFPPD's Conference Report.

AFPPD Participation in Conference on Reproductive Health in Timor-Leste



AFPPD Executive Director Mika Marumoto was among the panelists at the GMPTL National Conference, Dili, September 2016 (Photo: AFPPD)

DILI, TIMOR-LESTE - On 21-22 September 2016, the Women's Parliamentary Caucus of Timor-Leste (GMPTL) organized the national conference on reproductive health entitled "Investment in Women's Health is Investment for Timor-Leste's Bright Future." The conference participants included Members of Parliament of Timor-Leste, representatives from the country's regions, government institutions, CSOs, religious groups, UN and other donor agencies. Upon the GMPTL's request, Dr. Mika Marumoto, AFPPD Executive Director, delivered a presentation on "AFPPD's Strategic Framework and Activities (2016-2019) and Timor-Leste's Population Dynamics and Policy Implications." During the presentation, Dr. Marumoto briefed the conference participants on AFPPD's strategic priorities for 2016-2019, and activities at the global, regional, sub-regional and national levels. Special attention was given to the importance of Timor-Leste's reaping a demographic dividend by investing in health and education for its youth population, and Thailand's Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention and Alleviation Act (2016) as a model legislation for Timor-Leste to refer to.

During the second day of the conference, the participants developed a set of recommendations based on the *Convention on the Elimination of all Forms*

of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Concluding Observations for Timor-Leste. The recommendations will be incorporated into the *Road Map for Action for 2016-2019*. During the final session of the conference, the recommendations were endorsed by the participants and submitted to the representatives of the Timor-Leste Government for further actions.



Participants at the GMPTL National Conference (Photo: AFPPD)

Member National Committee Highlight: Kyrgyzstan

NCKPD Chair Raised Kyrgyzstan's SDGs Planning and Implementation Issues in Parliament; Promoting "Ageing with Dignity"



Hon. Osmonbek Atrykbayev, MP Kyrgyzstan and Chair of NCKPD, raised the issue of the SDGs implementation at the Parliament Session, Bishkek, September 2016 (Photo: NCKPD)

BISHKEK, KYRGYZSTAN - On 22 September 2016, Hon. Mr. Osmonbek Atrykbayev raised the issue of Kyrgyzstan's delayed planning and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) during the Parliament session. In his speech, Hon. Mr. Artykbayev attributed this lagging to the lack of institutional capacity for effective implementation of legislation among other reasons. He further added that national laws are implemented only by 30% in Kyrgyzstan. He proposed the creation of a Commission under the Committee on Social Issues, Education, Science, Culture and Healthcare to monitor the implementation of related laws in order to achieve the SDGs.

In addition, Hon. Mr. Artykbayev also raised the issue of insufficient access to contraception in the Parliament session, emphasizing the fact that international organizations have recently terminated their contraceptive supply to

Kyrgyzstan. He stated that the country would need to set a separate national budget line to provide contraceptives to the Kyrgyz people for free of charge.

Following the Parliament session, Hon. Mr. Artykbayev also conducted a meeting on September 28 with Mr. Kudaibergen Bazarbayev, Minister of Labour and Social Development. They discussed the situation of ageing in Kyrgyzstan, highlighting the government's efforts in developing a national programme called "Ageing with Dignity." Parliamentary members of the NCKPD are actively participating in this initiative. In addition to ageing issues, they also discussed the possibility of establishing the Population and Social Security Research Institute under the Ministry of Labour and Social Development. This was suggested by Hon. Mr. Artykbayev based on his visit to Japan's National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, organized by AFPPD in April this year.

NCKPD is the member National Committee of AFPPD in Kyrgyzstan.

AFPPD-NZPPD Agenda 2030 Workshop Helps Strengthen Pacific Parliamentary Leaders' Commitments to SDGs



The AFPPD-NZPPD Workshop participants including parliamentary leaders from 9 Pacific nations and experts, Wellington, September 2016 (Photo: AFPPD)



Hon. Ms. Fiaame Naomi Mata'afa, Deputy Prime Minister of Samoa and Minister for Natural Resources and the Environment, presenting at the AFPPD-NZPPD Agenda 2030 Workshop in Wellington, September 2016 (Photo: AFPPD)



Participants engaged in a group work exercise on data availability and access in Wellington, September 2016 (Photo: AFPPD)

WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND – On September 28-29, the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) and the New Zealand Parliamentarians' Group on Population and Development (NZPPD) held the "AFPPD-NZPPD Agenda 2030 Workshop for Pacific Parliaments on Prioritizing the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Agenda in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)" at the Bowen House Parliament Building in Wellington, New Zealand. Over 20 representatives and parliamentary leaders from Cook Islands, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and New Zealand participated in the workshop, and discussed their opportunities and challenges to implement SDG3 (Health) and SDG5 (Gender Equality) as part of their national plans.

The workshop concluded with all parliamentary representatives sharing their commitments to implement these ICPD-related SDG targets. NZPPD Chair Barbara Kuriger highlighted that it was "incredibly valuable to have nine Pacific countries in the room to hear about how they're approaching the SDGs, measuring them and getting their constituents engaged in finding solutions." AFPPD Executive Director Mika Marumoto added that "AFPPD will continue to provide a knowledge sharing platform for Pacific nations to learn from each other to come up with effective advocacy plans. It is increasingly crucial for Pacific parliamentarians to voice their shared concern as one in the regional and global arenas."

For more information, please visit [AFPPD's website](#) for AFPPD's Workshop Report (coming soon).

Member National Committee Highlight: India

Report with Parliamentary Questions Submitted to President of India



IAPPD submitted the report "Content Analysis of Parliamentary Questions of Both Houses of Parliament (2014-2016)" to the Honourable President of India, New Delhi, September 2016 (Photo: IAPPD)

NEW DELHI, INDIA – The Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IAPPD) recently submitted a report "Content Analysis of Parliamentary Questions of Both Houses of Parliament (2014-2016)" to the Honourable President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee. Hon. Professor P.J. Kurien, Deputy Chairman of the Upper

House of Indian Parliament and Vice-Chairperson of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD), presented the report on 26 September 2016. The report was produced by IAPPD under the auspices of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) Small Grants Program.

IAPPD is the member National Committee of AFPPD in India.

Member National Committee Highlight: New Zealand

International Day of Older Persons: Speech by NZPPD Member, Ms. Louisa Wall

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND – On September 29, Ms. Louisa Wall, MP New Zealand and a member of the New Zealand Parliamentarians’ Group on Population and Development (NZPPD), delivered a speech in celebration of the 2016 International Day of Older Persons at the Auckland University of Technology (AUT). The speech also marked the launch of the Silver Line, a helpline that provides information, friendship and advice to older people, and the AUT Centre for Active Ageing. Here is the excerpt of Ms. Wall’s speech note:

“The theme for 2016, Take a Stand Against Ageism, challenges everyone to consider the negative attitudes and discrimination based on age and the detrimental impact this has on older people.

I note ageism was coined by Robert Butler in 1969 to describe discrimination against seniors and pattern on sexism and racism that perpetrate negative stereotypes about older people.

Congratulations Stephen and Valerie on the establishment of the AUT Centre for Active Aging and John and your Team for your establishment of the Silver Line Trust.

I note that the kaupapa of The Silver Line Helpline service is to provide necessary services for the nearly 160,000 over 65 years living alone.

In Auckland, there are 36,000 people over 65 years living alone. In my electorate of Manurewa, between census data collection, I’ve had a 28% increase in those over 65 years - that’s nearly 7,000 people.

The issues for those over 65 years living alone, many of them the hardest to reach, the most isolated, many disabled, those who don’t have

anyone else in their lives based on the Angelia Ruskin evaluation of Silver Line in the UK. I acknowledge its founder Dame Esther Rantzen for the establishment of this critical service for older people.

We must address the issue of intense loneliness. From July 2007 to December 2012, there were 225 suicides by those aged over 65 years in New Zealand. That is on average 42 seniors every year. Last year as advised by John, there were over 80 suicides. We must do all we can to end this outcome.

I am very pleased to be part of this event as an Age Concern Dignity Champion, to stand up for respect for the older people in our lives that we love and cherish. As an Age Concern Dignity Champion, I have pledged to:

- 1. Reject stereotypes and focus on the uniqueness of every individual;*
- 2. Speak up when they hear people speaking negatively about growing old;*
- 3. Have the courage to question practices they feel are disrespectful to older people;*
- 4. Not patronise older people;*
- 5. Be patient, polite and friendly;*
- 6. Have zero tolerance for abuse or neglect; and*
- 7. Build relationships – they combat isolation and loneliness by getting to know the older people in their lives.*

To that end, I’ve had an idea about addressing the issue of loneliness. An idea that would enable those over 65 years to have access to a pet if they want one. So I am working with a range of organizations including Salvation Army and Countdown, Auckland Council, SPCA and Age Concern to make this initiative happen.

I look forward to working with you all to ensure we can effectively meet the needs of older New Zealanders.”

NZPPD is the member National Committee of AFPPD in New Zealand.

PUBLICATION CORNER



**Parliamentarian Workshop:
Legislating for the Full
Achievement of the SDGs/
ICPD Goals and Targets**
*September 2 -3, Issyk-Kul
Kyrgyzstan*

PARTICIPANT STATISTICS
Total: 27

Members of Parliament: 13
Male: 7
Female: 6

Resource Persons: 4
**Parliamentary/National
Committee/International
Organization Staff: 6**
AFPPD Staff: 4

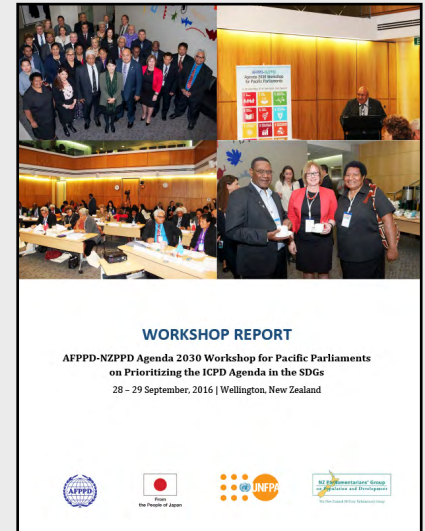


**HelpAge Asia-Pacific
Regional Conference and
AFPPD 1st Standing
Committee on Active Ageing**
September 6 - 8, Hanoi, Vietnam

PARTICIPANT STATISTICS
Total: 62

Members of Parliament: 29
Male: 21
Female: 8

Resource Persons: 8
Observers: 8
**Parliamentary/Government/
National Committee Staff: 11**
AFPPD Staff: 6



**AFPPD-NZPPD Agenda
2030 Workshop for Pacific
Parliaments**
*September 28 - 29, Wellington
New Zealand*

PARTICIPANT STATISTICS
Total: 52

Members of Parliament: 25
Male: 14
Female: 11

Resource Persons: 8
**Parliamentary/National
Committee/International
Organization Staff: 14**
AFPPD Staff: 5

AFPPD's UPCOMING EVENTS

81st Executive Committee Meeting
3 November 2016, Bangkok, Thailand

11th Women Ministers and Parliamentarians Conference
4-5 November 2016, Bangkok, Thailand



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