

**Minutes of
AFPPD 95th Executive Committee Meeting
New Delhi, India
22 August 2023 || 13:30pm ||**



The 95th Executive Committee Meeting of AFPPD

22 August 2023 || 13:30pm || New Delhi, India

(hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86493281893?pwd=MGRqeFk4TUpmenF4VTAyQVI5bHJ5UT09>

Meeting ID: 864 9328 1893

Passcode: 733855

Dr. Farrukh Usmonov, AFPPD Interim Executive Director, introduced Hon. Prof. Keizo Takemi to open the 95th Executive Committee meeting.

Hon. Prof. Keizo Takemi welcomed the parliamentarians and guests attending in person and online. He announced that with more than seven ExCom members present, a quorum is established and the meeting is declared legitimate.

Hon. Prof Takemi thanked the Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IAPPD) for their support in making the second ExCom meeting for the year, as well as the workshop, possible. The workshop was held in the morning and was attended by more than 60 parliamentarians and partners.

Hon. Prof. Takemi then gave the floor to Hon. Deepender Hooda from the IAPPD and Vice Chair of AFPPD for his opening speech. Hon. Hooda's intervention during the April 2023 ExCom meeting in Tokyo, Japan paved the way in realizing the meeting in India.

Hon. Hooda thanked Hon. Prof. Takemi and the MPs, particularly ExCom members, and national committees attending in person and online. He reminded the participants that during the ExCom meeting held in Tokyo, Japan in April, he proposed the workshop and ExCom to take place in India before September in anticipation of the huge influence of India as the President of the G20. His interest is particularly focused on the possible replication of the successful adoption of the Japan Prime Minister of the Declaration that was produced in the April meeting and presented it to the G7 Summit. Said Declaration highlights the issues of youth, ageing, gender empowerment, and human security, which are all very important issues for all the countries. Hon. Hooda is hopeful that the Indian Prime Minister would do the same and present the Declaration to the G20 Sherpa.

Hon. Hooda also shared the Indian population is now the largest in the world. He said that the current context views a big population as no longer a burden, but is something that could potentially add productive value to the world.

Hon. Prof. Takemi acknowledged and call on Hon. Josephine Veronique Lacson-Noel, MP from the Philippines and Chair of PLCPD, for her message.

Hon. Lacson-Noel confirmed that the Philippines will continue to support all the endeavors of AFPPD and work toward the attainment of the ICPD PoA.

Hon. Prof. Takemi recognized the ExCom members attending online and gave them the floor.

Hon. Dr. Jetn Sirathranont, MP Thailand and AFPPD Secretary General explained his inability to travel to India is because the Thai National Assembly voted on the Prime Minister.

Hon. Lork Keng, MP Cambodia, thanked AFPPD for its support to the meeting on Youth Empowerment held in Cambodia in February 2023. Said meeting was a huge success both for the AFPPD and the Cambodian MPs. The activity harnessed the participation of the junior and senior MPs in the same platform. Hon. Keng emphasized her appreciation to the AFPPD Chair, Hon. Prof. Takemi, for his continued support to the Cambodian Parliamentarians on Population and Development (CAPPD) and the National Assembly of The Kingdom of Cambodia and extended her invitation for him to visit the new term of the National Assembly.

On behalf of the late Hon. Ouk Damry and his family, as well as the Hon. Khuon Sodary, President of the National Assembly, Hon. Keng conveys her thanks to the members of the AFPPD Executive Committee, especially to Hon. Prof. Takemi for conveying condolences for the passing of Hon. Damry, Secretary General of CAPPD.

Hon. Prof. Takemi shared that he misses Hon. Damry.

Hon. Gu Xiaoyu, MP China, shared that he is honored to attend the 95th ExCom meeting albeit online. Hon. Xiaoyu shared that he attended the Regional Parliamentarians Workshop on Emerging Population Trends in the Asia Pacific region that was held in Bangkok, Thailand in July 2023. He shared that they will soon designate an MP to represent the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee (ESCPHC) of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China as AFPPD Vice Chairman in order to continue strengthening mutual understanding, enhancing friendship, and in promoting cooperation. He added that they will try to host a study tour for AFPPD ExCom members in the People's Republic of China within the 5-year term of the new National People's Congress.

Agenda

1. Confirm the Minutes of the 94th Executive Committee Meeting of AFPPD
2. Confirm 14th General Assembly's Report
3. Introducing AFPPD's Resource Mobilization Plan
4. Report AFPPD Activities: From May to August 2023, by Dr. Usmonov Farrukh, Interim Executive Director
5. Discuss AFPPD's calendar of activities in 2024 and 2025 (new project proposal)
6. Propose 96th AFPPD ExCom meeting, Spring (April) 2024
7. Any other matters suggested by ExCom members
8. Discussion

1. Confirm the Minutes of the 94th Executive Committee Meeting of the AFPPD

Hon. Prof. Takemi directed the attention of the body to the minutes of the 94th Executive Committee Meeting. He said that the Minutes has been shared to the ExCom members previously for their comments. Nevertheless, he opened the floor for any comments. There having no comments on the content of the minutes from the members of the executive committee, he declared the Minutes approved and accepted as the official 94th ExCom Meeting Report.

2. Confirm the 14th General Assembly's Report

Hon. Prof. Takemi proceeded with presenting the Report of the 14th General Assembly. He underscored that the said meeting produced the Declaration, which has been shared with Prime Minister of Japan who hosted the G7 Summit. The same will now be presented to the G20 Sherpa in India as the country hosts the G20 Summit. He said that the report has been emailed to the members for comments but he is opening the floor for anyone to give their comments. There being none, Hon. Prof. Takemi declared the draft as the official 14th General Assembly Report.

3. AFPPD's Resource Mobilization Plan

Dr. Farrukh introduced AFPPD's external consultant, Ms. Charlemagne Gomez, to present their output so far.

Ms. Gomez introduced her presentation as an overview of the resource mobilization strategy (RMS). The RMS is aligned with AFPPD's Strategic Plan 2023-2025 and depending on the results, it may be extended or serve as the predecessor document for the new RMS for the next AFPPD Strategic Plan. She shared the RMS' four pillars, namely, (1) building internal capacity; (2) sustain and strengthen existing partnerships/building new partnerships; (3) focus on delivering external value [citing Hon. Hooda's example of seizing big events such as the G20 to bring AFPPD's role to prominence]; and (4) diversifying fund resources.

Building Internal Capacity

- a. Communications – beef up communications using technology such as an interactive website. There are lots of information that AFPPD is able to share but the results of what the organization is doing needs to be highlighted more to ramp up the impetus behind AFPPD's three pillars, namely, women and gender equality, youth empowerment, and active ageing. The website must be able to show success stories from AFPPD's member states, as well as the remaining challenges. Newsletters and annual reports must also be visible (the last annual report was released in 2021) to its member states, partners and potential donors to showcase the achievements of AFPPD.

- b. Networking – the potential of AFPPD as a regional network of parliamentarians has mostly been realized, but it still has an enormous potential considering its membership. AFPPD has a vast network that it can work with, but the nature of networking and partnership needs to be more nuanced. This can be addressed by an up-to-date database.
- c. Database – an external consultant can be hired to start a good database. This can be sustained by the AFPPD internal staff or interns to save on costs, and eventually improved to have different sets of databases. One crucial element that is lacking is the follow-up on the results of declaration of commitments. Different databases may include one for MPs where they can put their back-home efforts to deliver the commitments in the declaration; another one can be for supporting networks, and another for national committees. It would be good to have a dashboard to show the areas where countries are performing well and where they are lagging behind. Said dashboard can be updated by the national committees themselves. This should be visible to partners and potential donors.
- d. Repository of stories – in 2017, AFPPD had a newsletter, which was a very good way of informing the national committees and other countries on the progress being made with regard to the three AFPPD pillars, and even the cross-cutting issue of climate change and the principle of leaving no one behind. The relevant stories that NatComs have may be shared in a platform that is accessible to all.

Strengthening and building of partnerships

- a. Identify and prioritize – AFPPD’s resources need to be built over the years, so it needs to prioritize the countries that it should establish a strong rapport with.
- b. Analyze – analyze which partners can be most useful to AFPPD and vice versa, and also analyze the type of relationship that can be built.
- c. Plan – plan on the most effective strategies to harness the relationships that were established with the partners.
- d. Engage – set the plan in motion.

The main partners of AFPPD are the national committees, UN agencies, likeminded organizations, and civil society organizations.

There are national committees who are more advanced than others in terms of performance in the human development index and in passing laws, and they can support other national committees. There are other UN agencies that can be tapped such as UN Women, UNDP, UNICEF, and WHO. The IPU, Global Action for Parliamentarians, EPF, Global Equality Caucus and the Asian Parliamentarians for Human Rights are likeminded organizations that are potential partners.

Focusing on delivering external values

AFPPD is an entity in its own right. Nevertheless, it has to increase its visibility in important events such as G20 and other regional and global, ASEAN, Commonwealth events to represent its member states and to push the three pillars.

- a. Networking
- b. Sharing of best practices/research
- c. Representation of AFPPD in regional and global fora

Diversifying fund sources

- a. UN agencies
- b. CSOs
- c. Foundations (such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation)
- d. Business
- e. Regional and global organizations

AFPPD may secure the assistance of partners in developing project proposals.

During the Q&A, *Hon. Prof. Takemi* commented that AFPPD has attempted to diversify AFPPD's funding sources several times but was never successful. The organization continues to rely almost 100% of its funding needs on the Japan Trust Fund and UNFPA. He said that AFPPD would welcome additional funding support. He also shared that AFPPD used to receive funding from the Australian Aid and other aid agencies, especially for gender-related issues. He then asked Ms. Gomez for any concrete ideas on how AFPPD can possibly diversify its funding sources.

Ms. Gomez replied that building the internal capacity is key because without it, the other components, including the diversification of funding sources, will not work. She reiterated her recommendation to prioritize partnerships with countries that are already strong and whose agenda is aligned with the three pillars and together, they can generate small funding project-based support and AFPPD can slowly build up on it. Due to Covid-19 lockdowns, AFPPD's visibility has been limited. It needs to rebuild its reputation and re-establish itself as a formidable organization. Constant visibility of AFPPD in countries will build rapport and trust.

AFPPD can also try working with likeminded organizations such as the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association who is very keen to present a joint funding proposal with AFPPD.

Hon. Hooda requested Ms. Gomez to elaborate on the intended partnership with AFPPD by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA).

Ms. Gomez said that she knows the Vice President and they talked about the recent approval of CPA’s partnership with UNDP. CPA only works in countries which are members of the Commonwealth but it said that it is willing to work with AFPPD in a joint proposal considering that they both do youth, gender equality, climate change, and to a limited extent, active ageing. She gave her commitment to facilitate a connection between CPA and AFPPD.

Hon. Hooda addressed the Chair and manifest his interest to pursue the meeting with CPA if the latter wants to present a concept on a possible collaboration.

Hon. Prof. Takemi commented that indeed there are likeminded organizations and parliamentarians’ organizations but in order to establish a strategic partnership, they need to have common subject or agenda. He admitted that AFPPD has not yet achieved success in this manner thus far, but he is willing to accept the challenge.

4. AFPPD Activities from May to August 2023

Dr. Usmonov Farrukh, Interim Executive Director, shared the activities that AFPPD organized for period of May to August 2023. He said that the reports of and information about these activities are already uploaded in the AFPPD website and Facebook page. *Dr. Usmonov* also appealed to the participants to frequently visit these AFPPD digital platforms.

May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concluded minutes of 94th ExCom • Concluded the report of 14th General Assembly 	Info on AFPPD website
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received the applications by the member-states to host AFPPD events in 2024-2025 • Drafted 2024-2025 Project proposal 	
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultative discussion with UNFPA APRO on 2024-2025 projects. (Interim ED met with APRO’s officer in charge in Bangkok) • ICPD30: Regional parliamentarian workshop on emerging population trends in the Asia-Pacific region, 10 July 2023 Bangkok, Thailand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opening speech by Hon. Prof. Keizo Takemi, Chair of AFPPD - Opening speech by Hon. Dr. Jetn Sirathranont, Secretary General of AFPPD 	Posted on Facebook

August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring and Evaluation Plan Resource Mobilization Plan 	First draft has been received
June-August 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation for Workshop and 95th ExCom meeting in New Delhi 	First draft has been received

Hon. Prof. Takemi clarified that what was presented the report of completed activities. He validated that during the General Assembly held in Tokyo, Japan in April, Dr. Usmonov Farrukh already shared the approval of the next action plan where some member states are being requested to host the upcoming series of meetings, which will focus on women empowerment, investing in youth and active ageing.

5. *AFPPD's calendar of activities in 2024 and 2025 (new project proposal)*

Dr. Usmonov supported *Hon. Prof. Takemi's* statement that several NatCom will be requested to host the three standing committee meetings. In addition to this, there will be one regional conference where all member states will be invited to attend in person, if possible. There will also be national-level activities.

Dr. Usmonov informed the body that AFPPD has received more than ten applications. Some countries applied for several events. However, in order to accommodate as many countries as possible, AFPPD has decided to give each country one event to host.

2024

Period	Event	Country	Comment
February	National-level activity	Colombo, Sri Lanka	Building resilience and Mental Health Capacity of University Students.
April 22 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 96th ExCom Standing Committee on active ageing 	Tokyo, Japan	ExCom members will be invited AFPPD members from 10-12 countries, relevant to the topic will be invited
May	National level activity	Vientiane, Lao PDR	Training for the NC on SDGs
June	Standing Committee meeting on investing in youth	Dushanbe, Tajikistan	Impact of climate change and water management on youth and gender. AFPPD members from 10-12 countries, relevant

			to the topic will be invited
August/September	AFPPD regional Conference	Bali, Indonesia	Three pillars of AFPPD will be discussed under ICPD30
	Standing Committee on gender equality and women empowerment	Country in Pacific sub-region	AFPPD members from 10-12 countries, mainly from Pacific sub-region, relevant to the issue will be invited

Regional Conference:

Indonesia

Standing Committee

Ageing – Japan

Gender -Pacific country (TBC)

Youth – Tajikistan

National-level

Sri Lanka

Lao

Hon. Prof. Takemi thinks it's wonderful that AFPPD has received plenty of proposals from NatCom to host AFPPD activities. He assured the body that there is sufficient budget to carry out the activities. He added that he has spoken with a Co-Chair for the Active Ageing Standing Committee, representative from the People's Republic of China, to host a study tour for members to study the implications of increasing elderly population in a country. He addressed the MPs attending online and inquired on the possibility of them hosting a meeting or a study tour in the future.

The Chinese delegation replied that they will try to host the study tour after the year 2025.

Hon. Prof. Takemi said that the door is always open to welcome China's gracious hosting of the study tour to better understand the issue of ageing.

Hon. Lacson-Noel inquired on the plans of AFPPD to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the ICPD.

Hon. Prof. Takemi replied that the Standing Committee on Gender Equality should take the lead in the celebration. A Pacific country will be hosting said meeting. Nevertheless, he said that if the Philippines is willing to host the meeting in 2024 to celebrate the ICPD@30, then AFPPD will be happy to oblige.

Dr. Usmonov intervened and presented the 2025 calendar of activities where the role of Philippines is included. He also concurred with the Chair that each of the standing committees will have a commemoration of the ICPD@30 that is focused on their issue. However, the regional meeting in Bali, Indonesia in 2024 will comprehensively discuss the three pillars in relation to the ICPD@30.

Hon. Prof. Takemi reminded Hon. Lacson-Noel that she has an idea on how to accelerate the achievement of the ICPD PoA, then she may suggest.

Dr. Usmonov presented the 2025 calendar of activities.

2025

Period	Event	Country	Comment
February	Standing Committee meeting on gender equality and women empowerment	Islamabad, Pakistan	AFPPD members from 10-12 countries, relevant to the topic will be invited
February	National-level activity	Kathmandu, Nepal	1. Training on SDGs and ICPD25 2. Training Workshop for Women MPs on SRHR
April-May	- Standing Committee meeting on active ageing - 97 th ExCom meeting	TBC	AFPPD members from 10-12 countries, relevant to the topic will be invited ExCom members will be invited
July	Standing Committee meeting on investing in youth	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (TBC)	Secretariat officers of the National-Committees will be invited to have trainings
July	National-level activity	Phnom Penh, Cambodia (TBC)	Series of programs, including workshop to raise awareness among MPs and key stakeholders on ICPD25 commitment and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
September	- AFPPD regional Conference - 98 th ExCom - 16 th General Assembly - 99 th ExCom	Cebu, Philippines	During the General Assembly, new office bearers will be elected. All AFPPD member-states will be invited to attend the regional Conference and the General Assembly. New ExCom members will hold the first meeting

September- November	Concluding the 2-years projects; External evaluation of the Strategic Plan for 2023-25
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Regional Conference:	Standing Committee	National-level
Philippines	Ageing – (TBC) Gender -Pakistan Youth – Malaysia (TBC)	Nepal Cambodia

Hon. Lork Keng said that she will submit a proposal to AFPPD to support the Cambodian MPs to achieve the ICPD 25 commitments as well as in accelerating the 2030 agenda for sustainable development goals.

Hon. Prof. Takemi said that AFPPD will seriously consider the proposal.

6. Propose 96th AFPPD ExCom meeting, Spring (22 April) 2024

Dr. Usmonov requested the ExCom members to include in their calendar the 96th ExCom Meeting in Tokyo, Japan on April 22, 2024.

Hon. Prof. Takemi added that aside from the ExCom meeting, there will be a one-day meeting and a study tour. The main objective of the tour is for MPs to understand the issue of ageing in the context of different communities in collaboration with local government units.

7. Any other matters suggested by ExCom members

There being none, the Chair closed the meeting. He reminded everyone that the Secretariat will finalize the Minutes and route through email. *Hon. Prof. Takemi* thanked the ExCom members and everyone who attended in person and online.

Hon. Hooda also thanked the attendees.

Attendees:

Online				
1	Hon.	Lork Kheng	Cambodia	MP
2	Hon.	Gu Xiaoyu	China	MP
3	Hon.	Li Wei	China	MP
4	Hon.	Noraini Ahmad	Malaysia	MP
5	Hon. Dr.	Jetn Sirathranont	Thailand	MP
6	Ms.	Sheila Ngoc Pham	Australia	NC officer
7	Mr.	Zhang Chuansheng	China	NC officer
8	Ms.	Wen Quan	China	NC officer
9	Ms.	Hitomi Tsunekawa	Japan	NC officer
10	Mr.	Azri Norfikri	Malaysia	NC officer
11	Ms.	Nenita Dalde	Philippines	NC officer
In person				
12	Hon	Deepender Hooda	India	MP
13	Hon. Prof.	Keizo Takemi	Japan	MP; Chair of AFPPD
14	Hon.	Josephine Veronique Lacson-Noel	Philippines	MP
Absent				
	Hon.	Lisa Chesters	Australia	MP
	Hon.	Balaim Kessebayeva	Kazakhstan	MP
	Hon.	Lord Tu'ivakano	Tonga	MP
	Hon.	Hoang Nguyen Mai	Vietnam	MP
Observers				
15	Mr.	Manmohan Sharma	India	Executive Secretary of IAPPD
16	Hon.	Dil Kumari Rawal Thapa 'Parbati'	Nepal	MP
17	Mr.	Ram Guragain	Nepal	Executive Secretary of NPFPD
18	Mr.	Stephen Viste	Philippines	Secretary to MP
AFPPD				
19	Dr.	Farrukh Usmonov	Japan	Interim Executive Director of AFPPD

****Nothing follows****