



#01

Parliamentarians met in Tokyo to Address Ageing

Tokyo JAPAN, 23 APRIL 2024 - The "Parliamentarians' Meeting on ICPD30: Leaving No One Behind in an Ageing World", organised by the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD), the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) and the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP), with the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Japan Trust Fund, took place in Tokyo. The event was attended by over 150 participants, including parliamentarians, government officials, international organisations, youth groups and academics from 22 countries. The focus was older population, which is projected to reach 1.6 billion people by 2050, up from 761 million in 2021. Discussions centred on ensuring healthy and dignified ageing through policies that promote universal health coverage (UHC), gender equality and social inclusion.

Participants reaffirmed their commitment to the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They emphasized the importance of strengthening health systems through UHC to meet the challenges of an ageing population. Improving the quality of life of older persons was a key theme, with a focus on improving physical and mental health, psychosocial support, long-term care and social protection.



#02



#03

Innovative Approaches to Ageing: Study Visit in Kashiwa and Tsukuba

Chiba & Ibaraki JAPAN, 24 APRIL 2024 - AFPPD and APDA hosted a study visit to Kashiwa City in Chiba and Tsukuba City in Ibaraki. The aim of the visit was to explore how these cities are addressing the challenges of an ageing society. The visit began at the Kashiwa Regional Medical Collaboration Center, where participants were introduced to a comprehensive community care system, the "Kashiwa Model". In the second part of the visit, the group travelled to Tsukuba City to visit Cyberdyne, INC. They saw cutting-edge examples of robotic technology being used to assist the elderly. Participants experienced HAL, a device that assists movement by attaching a sensor to the skin to read bioelectrical potential signals, demonstrating how cutting-edge technology can significantly improve the quality of life in an ageing society.

For more details please click [here](#).

#01, #02 PHOTO OF PARTICIPANTS DURING THE CONFERENCE
#03 DURING THE STUDY VISIT AT KASHIWA CITY



#01

Empowering Youth: Insights from Sri Lanka's Workshop on addressing youths' Health and Resilience for Building a Brighter Future

COLOMBO, SRI LANKA, 21-22 March 2024 - AFPPD supported the two-day workshop for young people in Sri Lanka on 'Building Resilience and Mental Health Capacity of Youth' provided an important forum to discuss the growing concern about the mental health of young people, especially in light of the rising suicide rate. Due to major societal issues such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the Easter 2019 attack, the workshop sought to address the pressing issue of mental health among young people, particularly university students. It was seen as an important opportunity to engage in thoughtful conversations and plan practical solutions to improve young people's mental health and resilience.

In his opening remarks, Hon. Hector Appuhamy, Member of Parliament, set the tone for the workshop by emphasising the need to make young people's mental health a top priority. His words underlined the importance of addressing the



#02

mental health issues of university students through proactive action and collaboration. Other speakers spoke about resilience, emphasising that it is the ability to overcome adversity. Participants had in-depth discussions about the different stressors youth face, such as financial instability and pressure to perform academically. The workshop highlighted the importance of taking a holistic approach to students' wellbeing and promoting integrated support systems that address their academic, social and mental health needs. Participants were given an insight into how physical, emotional, social, intellectual, occupational, environmental, spiritual and financial wellbeing are interrelated, and the sharing of useful skills and strategies for developing resilience gave participants the ability to cope successfully with obstacles and adopt an optimistic outlook.

The Hon. Eran Wickramaratne MP Sri Lanka and Dr. Farrukh Usmonov, representative of AFPPD emphasised the value of developing a variety of skills and character traits to enable young people to become capable leaders. The conversation focused on the need for a paradigm shift in educational assessment, promoting a framework that recognises and develops each student's unique skills and abilities. In order to develop confident, empathetic, and capable leaders, the workshop encouraged students to align their aspirations with their leadership goals.



#03

For more detail, please click [here](#).

#01 Participants of workshop
#02 During the session
#03 Presentation and Q & A



AFPPD National-level Workshop to train LAPPD members on Demographic Dividend, ICPD 30 and 2030 Agenda

Vangvieng LAO PDR, 25 - 26 MARCH 2024 - The two-day Workshop for LAPPD members on Demographic Dividend was held in Vangvieng, Lao PDR, on 25-26 March. The programme, which was chaired by Hon. Thoummaly Vongphachanh, Chairperson of the Lao Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (LAPPD), sought to provide legislators with the information and tactics they needed to confront pressing issues related to population and development. The event, which was supported by AFPPD, UNFPA and JTF among other partners,

covered important topics such as family planning, gender equality, adolescent health, demographic change, and national pledges.

Hon. Thoummaly Vongphachanh emphasized the value of teamwork. Hon. Edcel Lagman in his message highlighted the ICPD's revolutionary power and urged lawmakers to take advantage of the demographic dividend by making wise investments. The UNFPA's Dr. Bahktiyor Kadyrov commended Lao PDR for its dedication to the population and development agenda.

The topics of discussion were gender equality, adolescent health, demographic change, and national obligations. Presenters emphasized the necessity for comprehensive methods and multi-sectoral cooperation while highlighting problems and suggesting solutions.

Day two was devoted to group discussions on the urgent problems that Lao adolescents and youth are facing, as well as the Lao PDR's commitment to FP2030. Investing in human resource development, stepping up assistance for sexual and reproductive health and family planning, and tackling

educational obstacles were among the recommendations.

In order to incorporate population and development concerns into legislative frameworks, LAPPD plans to bolster its capabilities and collaborate with partners. The workshop's success highlights how crucial it is to maintain cooperation and involvement in order to advance Lao PDR's demographic and development goals.



For more details please click [here](#).

#01 Participants of workshop

#02 During the session

#03 During the session



The 96th AFPPD ExCom meeting in Tokyo

Tokyo JAPAN, 22 APRIL 2024 - The members of the Executive Committee of AFPPD gathered in Tokyo on 22 April 2024 to discuss the proposed agenda, review activities, and other relevant issues. The Secretariat briefed the members on past activities that were conducted in the first few months of the year, and upcoming events.

AFPPD's website has been renewed, and members were invited to follow the forum's activities online. It was said that presently, AFPPD has three communication platforms, including a Facebook page (#AFPPD2022) and an E-newsletter.

AFPPD continued activities related to the ICPD30, as it has been initiating the review process to take stock of progress and reflect on the current status and the future of ICPD implementation in the member states. It was suggested that the upcoming AFPPD regional conference in

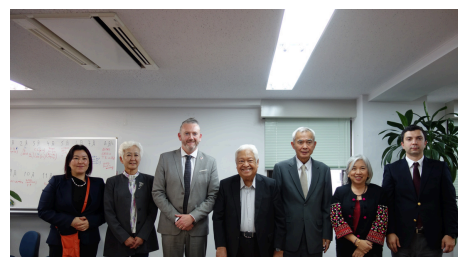
Bali, Indonesia, on 7-9 October should also cover the related topics.



Strengthening Collaboration: UNFPA APRO Regional Director Visits AFPPD Office in Tokyo

Tokyo JAPAN, 24 APRIL 2024 - On 24 April, Mr. Pio Smith, Regional Director of UNFPA APRO paid a courtesy visit to the AFPPD Executive Members in Tokyo. Hon. Edcel Lagman, Acting Chair of AFPPD, and Sen. Dr. Jeth Sirathranont, Secretary General of AFPPD, welcomed the delegates and expressed gratitude for Mr. Smith's participation of the Parliamentarians' Meeting on ICPD30: Leaving No One Behind in an Ageing World,

which was part of the AFPPD Standing Committee Meeting on Active Ageing. It was highlighted that AFPPD remains committed to promoting policies related to the ICPD Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including gender equality and women's empowerment, investing in youth and healthy ageing. It also values the role of UNFPA APRO in the region and would like to see more joint programmes conducted in the future.



#01 Participants of ExCom
#02 During the ExCom
#03 During the courtesy visit



National Committes: JPFP

UNFPA Executive Director met with JPFP members

Tokyo JAPAN, 4 MARCH 2024 -the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) and APDA held a meeting with Dr. Natalia Kanem, Executive Director of UNFPA.

Dr Kanem praised the long-standing cooperation between UNFPA and Japan, particularly through APDA /JPFP, and congratulated JPFP on its 50th anniversary. She highlighted the diversity of global population trends, noting that some countries are experiencing growth, while others are experiencing decline and ageing, influenced by fertility rates and migration. Dr Kanem stressed the importance of protecting individual rights and promoting lifelong education, and advocated for sustainable policies tailored to each country's demographic changes.

JPFP members raised concerns about youth migration and labour shortages in Japan. Dr Kanem acknowledged the

complexity of these issues and stressed the need for innovative solutions and international cooperation. She suggested that Japan could lead the way in addressing these challenges by integrating technology with human-centred approaches in the social and health sectors. Dr Kanem concluded by emphasising the importance of cultural exchange and the integration of migrants.



APDA, JPFP and IPPF Discuss Population and Development Challenges

Tokyo JAPAN, 23 MAY 2024 - JPFP and APDA held a meeting with Dr Ammal Awadalla, Executive Director of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) Palestine, moderated by Hon. Kikawada Hitoshi, Secretary General of JPFP and chaired by Hon. Aisawa Ichiro.

Hon. Hosaka Yasushi, Parliamentary Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, reported on his participation in the "ICPD30 Global Dialogue " held in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The conference aimed to review achievements to date and address population and development issues, involving young people, technology companies and activists. The outcomes will be fed into upcoming global forums. With continued dedication and partnership, APDA/JPFP and its global counterparts are poised to make meaningful progress towards a fairer and healthier future for all.



#01 Group Photo

#02 During the meeting

#03 JPFP study meeting



National Committees: NFPPD

NFPPD discussed Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and ICPD Programme of Action

NEPAL, 3-4 MAY 2024 - The Federal Parliament of Nepal and NFPPD jointly organised a two-day interaction on 'Parliamentarians Role on Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB), Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Prevention and Response and Advancing ICPD PoA' with the aim of enhancing the understanding of GRB and its link to GBV and highlighting the key role of parliamentarians in implementing GRB. The programme highlighted the critical importance of collaborative efforts in advancing the goals of the ICPD. Throughout the discussions, key issues such as GRB and SRHR took centre stage, underlining the urgency of addressing these issues comprehensively.



National Committees: IAPPD

Empowering women at the grassroots: PRI Workshop in Tonk, Rajasthan, India

INDIA, 14 MARCH 2024 - IAPPD organised a workshop on "The Role of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in Women's Empowerment, Health and Related Concerns" at the Zila Parishad Bhawan in Tonk district, Rajasthan.

The aim of the event was to promote women's empowerment, health and malnutrition at the grassroots level.

The discussions highlighted the importance of PRIs in promoting gender equality, improving access to healthcare and involving communities in local governance.

The workshop concluded with participants committing to actively engage with PRIs to promote gender equality, improve health outcomes and address related issues in their communities.



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ASIAN FORUM OF
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#01 Participants of workshop.

#02 During NFPPD session

#03 During IAPPD event