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## Acronyms

AFPPD	Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
APDA	Asian Population and Development Association
APFPD	African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development
APGPD	Australian Parliamentary Group on Population and Development
FAPPD	Forum of Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
IPPF	International Planned Parenthood Federation
JTF	Japan Trust Fund
PCAsia	Parliamentary Centre of Asia
PLCPD	Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and Development

# Opening Program

Ms. Sarah Elago hosted the opening program which began with the Philippine National Anthem.



*Hon. Krisel Lagman*



*Hon. Marcelino Libanan*

## Message from Hon. Krisel Lagman, MP Philippines

Hon. Krisel Lagman warmly greeted partner organizations and fellow parliamentarians. She underscored the conference's central themes: the ICPD and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Both frameworks demand placing people's dignity and rights at the heart of development efforts.

Rep. Lagman spoke of the vital role national parliamentarians play in ensuring that these global agendas are not only endorsed in principle but are also effectively implemented through national legislation. She acknowledged the progressive steps taken towards greater recognition of women's rights, expanded opportunities for the youth, and a heightened societal consciousness around issues of justice and equality. She warned that these gains remain fragile and are threatened by persistent gender inequality, the spread of disinformation, and the stronger grip of authoritarianism.

Rep. Lagman paid tribute to one of her own inspirations—the late Hon. Edcel Lagman, her father—a stalwart of principled politics and a giant in the fight for human rights and reproductive health. She emphasized that the path forward demands more than courage and good intentions. Legislators must also equip themselves with knowledge, with the humility to listen, and the willingness to learn. In closing, she offered a call to action for legislators to commit to stand firm, legislate boldly, and ensure that no one is left behind including those who have yet to be born.

## Message from Hon. Marcelino Libanan, MP Philippines

Hon. Marcelino Libanan (House Minority Leader) extended warm greetings to the distinguished parliamentarians development partners gathered at the conference. He expressed gratitude in joining the event, acknowledging the vital efforts of the PLCPD, the AFPPD, and all partner organizations that made the gathering possible.

Rep. Libanan emphasized the need for rights-based legislation. He noted that the pursuit of inclusive development remains elusive in many areas due to ongoing gender inequality, vulnerability to climate change and conflict, and widespread unemployment. These challenges are further compounded by a lack of political will, internal divisions, and external pressures, including threats often faced by those who champion human rights.

Rep. Libanan concluded with a call to action, urging his fellow parliamentarians to commit to three key priorities: to legislate for inclusion, for sustainability, and for accountability. He wished all participants a fruitful and inspiring discussion and hoped that their collective efforts would shape a more just and sustainable future for all.

## Message from Ms. Sumita Banerjee, Managing Director, FP2030 Asia Pacific Regional Hub

Ms. Sumita Banerjee began her remarks by expressing sincere gratitude for the continued partnership that sustains and advances the FP2030 movement. She emphasized that equity and human rights must be placed at the heart of population and development strategies. These are not only as ethical imperatives but also essential components of sustainable progress.

She provided context on the FP2030 partnership which is a global initiative focused on advancing voluntary, rights-based family planning. They collaborate with governments, civil society, donors, and communities to ensure that individuals everywhere can access the information and services needed to make free and informed decisions about their reproductive health.

Ms. Banerjee highlighted the complex demographic changes unfolding across Asia. By 2030, the region is projected to have a population of 5.2 billion people. However, she noted stark regional differences: in South Asia, nearly half of women still have an unmet need for contraception, while East Asia is experiencing historically low fertility rates. These contrasting trends present serious policy challenges and underscore the urgency of expanding access to rights-based family planning services.

She stressed that investing in rights-based family planning is an investment in people, equity, and opportunity. She commended recent advocacy campaigns that have successfully communicated the wide-ranging benefits of family planning and reaffirmed that the FP2030 partnership offers a powerful framework for turning national commitments into measurable outcomes. Examples of

progress were shared, including Bangladesh's pledge to achieve 75% contraceptive use by 2030 and the Philippines' commitment to ensuring all barangays offer the full range of contraceptive options.

Ms. Banerjee concluded by noting that countries that prioritize rights-based family planning can unlock the demographic dividend. Finally, she underscored the important role of parliamentarians in achieving these goals. As policymakers and leaders, they are uniquely positioned to ensure that rights-based family planning remains central to development agendas. With their support, the vision of a more equitable, prosperous, and empowered Asia can become a reality.



*Mr. Pio Smith*



*Hon. Risa Hontiveros*

## Message from Mr. Pio Smith, Regional Director, UNFPA Asia and the Pacific Regional Office

*via video recording*

Mr. Pio Smith delivered his message addressing the pressing global challenges of widening inequalities, climate change, and ongoing geopolitical shifts. He emphasized that far too many people continue to be left behind, especially as political support and financial resources shrink. These realities demand comprehensive, evidence-based solutions and strong leadership, particularly from national parliamentarians.

Mr. Smith underscored the urgent need to advance gender equality, support the youth and aging populations, and respond to both demographic and environmental changes. He also highlighted the importance of adopting a life cycle approach addressing the needs of individuals from youth to old age. To navigate demographic shifts such as rapid population aging, Mr. Smith advocated for greater intergenerational solidarity and long-term demographic foresight. He stressed the need to build climate resilience and ensure that health services remain accessible and well-financed. He reminded parliamentarians that what is not financed is not prioritized, and that political will and investment are the anchors for lasting progress.

He reaffirmed UNFPA's unwavering commitment to supporting these efforts and called for deepened partnerships with both public and private actors to mobilize support for shared priorities. In closing, he emphasized the need to ensure that strategies remain relevant and impactful, and reiterated that by investing in women, youth, and older persons, societies can uphold dignity and turn global commitments into tangible improvements in people's lives.

## Message from Hon. Risa Hontiveros, MP Philippines

*via video recording*

Hon. Risa Hontiveros celebrated the milestones achieved in the region's efforts toward gender equality and inclusive development. At the same time, she acknowledged the growing threats to these goals, including misinformation campaigns that demonize progressive legislation aimed at uplifting Filipino communities. Despite these challenges, she reaffirmed her commitment to championing laws that support Filipino women and girls, pledging to remain steadfast in pushing for policies that promote dignity, rights, and equity.

She highlighted the significant progress made over the past year, but emphasized that more must be done. Among her current legislative priorities are the passage of the Anti-Teenage Pregnancy Law and the legalization of the dissolution of marriage, both aimed at advancing reproductive health and personal agency in the Philippines. Hon. Hontiveros also encouraged the regional exchange of ideas, urging delegates to learn from one another and adopt best practices from across Asia to inform policy solutions in their own countries.

## Message from Hon. Kamikawa Yoko, MP Japan, Chair of AFPPD

In her opening message, Hon. Kamikawa Yoko reflected on the transformative journey of the ICPD. Once focused on controlling population growth, the ICPD has since shifted toward empowering individuals and upholding their rights. She emphasized that issues such as gender-based violence (GBV), and the rights of women, youth, and older persons, are not optional or secondary but are central to achieving peace and justice. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has further reinforced the urgency of these goals.

She acknowledged the persistent challenges that many countries face, including limited access to family planning services, early marriage, and the displacement of vulnerable populations due to climate change. In response, she stressed the non-negotiable importance of human capital, gender equity, and responsive population policies. Legislators have a unique responsibility to transform global visions into national laws, ensure adequate budget allocations, and uphold the rights and well-being of all citizens.

Hon. Kamikawa also celebrated the growing momentum within the AFPPD. Between 2023 and 2025, over a thousand parliamentarians and advocacy workers participated in AFPPD activities. She highlighted the 15th General Assembly held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where new

Executive Committee members were elected. Notably, six out of eleven elected members are women parliamentarians, representing both senior and younger legislators from mainland nations and island states alike. This, she said, reflects the AFPPD's commitment to inclusivity and ensuring that the diverse needs of all countries are heard and addressed.

In closing, she expressed deep appreciation to PLCPD, UNFPA and JTF and the member states for their continued commitment to the AFPPD's mandate of advancing human rights, gender equality, and sustainable development across Asia and the Pacific.

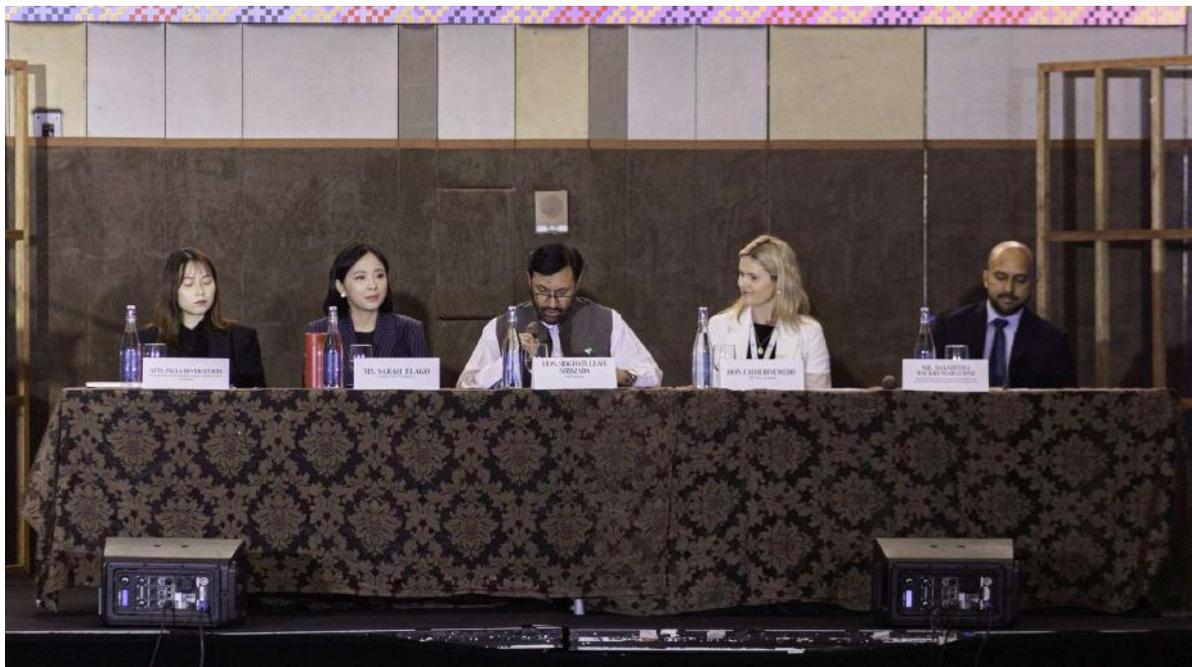


*Ms. Sumita Banerjee*



*Hon. Kamikawa Yoko*

## Session 1: Breaking Barriers: Advancing Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality



*L to R: Atty. Joan Paula Deveraturda, Ms. Sarah Elago, Hon. Sibghatullah Sahibzada, Hon. Catherine Wedd, and Mr. Dakshitha Wickremarathne*

The session was facilitated by Hon. Sibghatullah Sahibzada, MP Pakistan.

Ms. Angelica Ramirez (Knowledge Resource Director, PLCPD) introduced the panelists and hosted the plenary.

### Ms. Sarah Elago, former MP Philippines

Ms. Sarah Elago delivered a compelling presentation focused on the critical role of transforming harmful social norms to drive meaningful legislative change. Challenging these entrenched norms, she argued, requires systemic change. Legal reforms alone are not enough; cultural transformation and sustained community engagement are essential. Citing key legislative milestones, she discussed the Anti-Rape Law and its amendments, which reframe rape as a crime of violence and power even within marriage. The legislation also raised the age of sexual consent and strengthened protections for children. Among the legislative gains she shared were the

Expanded Maternity Leave Act (RA 11210) and the Occupational Safety and Health Law (RA 11058).

Ms. Elago underscored that ending GBV, victim-blaming, and victim-shaming requires more than legislation; it demands sustained cultural work. She also noted that many legal protections are underfunded or poorly implemented, with some legislators backsliding on commitments. She pointed to structural barriers such as fear of job loss when reporting sexual harassment, or lacking fare to reach clinics, as examples of how inequality limits access to justice.

In her closing remarks, Ms. Elago called for the full implementation of existing laws and emphasized the power of education to empower communities.

## Hon. Catherine Wedd, MP New Zealand

Hon. Catherine Wedd of New Zealand delivered a powerful message on the urgent need to protect children, particularly girls, from the growing dangers of social media. She emphasized that while technology and social platforms can be tools for empowerment, they have increasingly become sources of harm, feeding children a constant stream of toxic content that is difficult for even the most vigilant parents to control.

She champions a bill to restrict social media use for individuals under the age of 16. Hon. Wedd described the harsh realities children face online: cyberbullying, sextortion, eating disorders, addiction, and relentless exposure to harmful beauty standards. She cited alarming statistics showing that between 16% and 58% of users across 30 countries have experienced cyberviolence, while cases of sextortion and online abuse have increased by 90% over the past six years, yet reporting remains low. In just the past two years, an estimated 300 million children have been exploited online.

To illustrate the human cost of these trends, Hon. Wedd shared a video featuring real stories of young girls recovering from depression, eating disorders, and body dysmorphia. These conditions have worsened by the toxic environments they encountered online.

She praised New Zealand's recent successes, including a nationwide ban on phones in schools, which has received positive feedback from both students and educators. Public opinion also supports tighter controls: polls indicate that 57% of New Zealanders are in favor of banning social media access for children. Hon. Wedd also cited examples from other countries, such as Australia's Online Safety Amendment Bill, and the Philippines' growing concern over online child exploitation.

New Zealand's Prime Minister has elevated this issue as a national priority, calling for strong action to address the crisis. Among the government's measures are proposals to require strict age verification for social media platforms and to impose fines on companies that fail to comply.

In closing, Hon. Wedd urged fellow lawmakers to join a growing global movement dedicated to legislating positive change.

## **Mr. Dakshitha Wickremarathne, Senior Technical Lead, Advocacy, Accountability and Partnership, FP2030 Asia and the Pacific Regional Hub**

Mr. Dakshitha Wickremarathne presented the latest developments and strategic directions of FP2030, the only global partnership exclusively focused on family planning. He highlighted the growing momentum in Asia, with several countries making concrete commitments toward improving access to reproductive health services.

Despite this progress, the region faces significant challenges: over 140 million women of reproductive age in Asia still have an unmet need for family planning, resulting in 13 million unplanned pregnancies annually—many of which lead to unsafe abortions and serious risks to women's health. Addressing these gaps, Mr. Wickremarathne introduced the FP2030 Gender Strategy, which recognizes that gender norms and power dynamics are central barriers to accessing contraception and reproductive health services.

Mr. Wickremarathne emphasized the strategic role of policymakers, calling on parliamentarians to: 1) strengthen legal frameworks that protect and advance reproductive autonomy; 2) engage meaningfully with women-led organizations; 3) prioritize gender-transformative approaches in both funding and program design.

He also introduced the "Made Possible by FP" campaign, which aims to increase resources for family planning, support legislative champions, and shift harmful social norms to expand access. The presentation concluded with a video that reinforced the message: family planning is about the right to choose when and whether to have children.

## **Atty. Joan Paula Deveraturda, Sasakawa Peace Foundation**

Atty. Deveraturda of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation presented findings from a groundbreaking research project focused on masculinities and gender equality, conducted in collaboration with international partners. The study took a decolonial feminist approach, centering the lived experiences of men in post-conflict settings.

The research revealed that gender equality cannot be achieved by focusing on women alone—men must be active participants in transforming harmful norms. In all three regions studied, the research found that family, religious, and community institutions play a critical role in shaping masculine identities. Men who had direct experience of sexual violence during conflict were significantly more likely to accept the use of violence in future conflicts, highlighting the deep psychological and cultural scars left by war.

Findings also emphasized 1) the intergenerational transmission of beliefs and behaviors related to gender and violence; 2) significant differences in attitudes among men based on social class and community context; and 3) a shared desire among men for a better future for their children, creating space for hopeful transformation.

Atty. Deveraturda stressed that parliamentarians are essential new allies in advancing the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda, noting upcoming dialogues such as the roundtable discussion in the Department of Foreign Affairs Manila, with a follow-up planned for Tokyo in 2025. These spaces are intended to facilitate the exchange of emerging practices from local communities that are leading the way in transforming harmful gender norms.

## Open Forum

Hon. Howard Lee Chuan How (MP, Malaysia) further inquired whether the research by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation included the men being eyewitnesses to sexual violence. Hon. Lee also asked for statistics on the number of mediators involved in peace processes within the ASEAN region.

Atty. Deveraturda clarified that the research conducted focused solely on men who have physically experienced sexual assault during conflict situations. Eyewitness accounts were not included within the current study's scope. There are also plans to conduct baseline qualitative research to better understand the roles and presence of mediators in peace agreements.

Hon. Elvira Surabaldieva (MP, Kyrgyzstan) raised concerns about protecting children online.

In response, Hon. Catherine Wedd (MP, New Zealand) emphasized the importance of implementing effective age verification systems as part of legislative measures. Social media companies must take more responsibility, and while no system is perfect initially, consistent government guidelines and parental empowerment are essential. She also stressed the significance of education—both at home and in schools—in helping children recognize and avoid online risks. They mentioned closely monitoring Australia's approach as a reference.

Responding to a question from Hon. Dr. Anara Naeem (MP, Maldives) regarding the high divorce rate and how to build stronger families, Mr. Wickremarathne (FP2030) highlighted shifting trends across regions. These include a decline in marriage rates and an increase in the average age of marriage. The concept of relationships is evolving, and lawmakers need data-driven insights from within their own countries to craft effective, supportive policies that reflect local realities.

The MPs from Bhutan sought advice on how to meet national family planning targets. Mr. Wickremarathne pointed to demographic challenges in East Asia, such as population decline and aging societies. He clarified that modern family planning is not about controlling population growth but is a human rights-based approach focused on making it accessible to all who need it—

especially women, girls, and youth. Ensuring that Bhutanese youth have access to family planning services was emphasized as a key strategy.

Mr. Samidjo (IFPPD) asked whether different strategies exist for implementing family planning in varying national contexts.

Mr. Wickremarathne responded by sharing research findings based on current population data, stressing the importance of tailoring rights-based FP programs to low and declining fertility environments.

Ms. Elago added that economic empowerment for women is crucial. She noted that concerns about the financial burden of raising children contribute significantly to reduced fertility rates among women of childbearing age.

## Session 2: Youth at the Center - Policies for a Sustainable Future



*L to R: Ms. Jona Turalde, Hon. Seng Nhak, Hon. Dr. Kolakanh Phommavong, and Hon. Abdullev Bakhrom.*

The session was facilitated by Dr. Kolakanh Phommavong, MP Lao PDR.

### Hon. Seng Nhak, MP Cambodia

Hon. Seng Nhak delivered a presentation on maximizing the demographic dividend in Cambodia. Cambodia currently meets the initial demographic criteria, but the full benefits can only be realized if its people are equipped with adequate health, education, and skills. This window of opportunity is limited and expected to close by 2038, as Cambodia transitions toward an aging population.

He offered the historical context of the nation's suffering under the Khmer Rouge regime from 1975 to 1979, marked by widespread death, starvation, and forced labor. Only young children survived, leaving the demographic structure heavily skewed. Following the regime's fall, Cambodia experienced a baby boom in the 1980s, with birth rates as high as 6–7 children per woman. This rapid population growth created immense pressure on the country's education, healthcare, and employment systems.

Today, Cambodia is seeing growth in sectors such as labor-intensive manufacturing, tourism, aged-care services, and financial services. However, challenges remain: low literacy, limited schooling, skill mismatches, high levels of informal employment, and persistent gender disparities, especially in access to high-paying jobs.

To address these issues, Hon. Seng Nhak discussed the Pentagonal Strategy Phase 1 (2022–2028), launched under Cambodia's new Prime Minister. This strategic framework prioritizes education reform, critical skills development, and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to prepare the workforce for future demands.

He acknowledged that while Cambodia has no shortage of strong policies, effective implementation remains a concern. As part of his role in the National Assembly's 8th Commission, he has been engaging with key stakeholders including the Ministers of Health and Labor, and the Director of Decho Peace Hospital. With the right investments and reforms, this moment can shape a prosperous and inclusive future for generations to come.

## Hon. Deepender Hooda, MP India -

*via Zoom*

Hon. Deepender Hooda provided an insightful analysis of digital media's transformative role in shaping future generations, particularly in a country like India with a massive and growing online presence. With 806 million internet users and over 491 million social media users, India's digital landscape is expansive and driven largely by its youth.

He emphasized that policy is critical both to unlock opportunities and to implement safeguards. On one hand, digital media enables access to global knowledge, supports startups, promotes digital learning, and gives marginalized communities a voice. On the other hand, it brings challenges such as the digital divide (especially along rural-urban and gender lines), data privacy violations, online abuse, misinformation, and mental health impacts from excessive or harmful social media exposure.

Hon. Hooda proposed a forward-looking digital policy built on key principles: universal digital access, digital policy rights, safe and responsible online environments, and platform transparency and accountability. He outlined key policy actions such as expanding broadband to every village, enhancing digital literacy, and creating inclusive online spaces that protect users from abuse and manipulation.

India's legal and policy framework for digital governance includes the Information Technology Act (2000), IT Rules (2021), the Digital Personal Data Protection Act (2023), and the National Digital Literacy Mission (NDLM). In his closing remarks, Hon. Hooda emphasized that empowering youth digitally is tantamount to empowering India's future, arguing that digital spaces are great equalizers for people across the world.

## Ms. Jona Turalde, Founder of Malaya CSE, Philippines -

Ms. Jona Turalde emphasized the vital role of young people as influencers who actively shape discourse and policy across various levels. She cited examples such as their involvement in the Department of Education's Teen Pregnancy Summit and participation in ICPD+25 and ICPD+30 processes, where youth influenced local and regional commitments by engaging duty-bearers and advocating for youth-centric policies.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, young people remained active and relevant, amplifying mobilizations and adapting to the shifting landscape. Ms. Turalde highlighted their leadership in organizing community-level learning sessions and solidarity rallies to sustain engagement despite limitations.

She noted the youth's instrumental role in the passage of Republic Act 11596, which banned child marriage in the Philippines. Young advocates provided technical expertise, surfaced overlooked issues, and mobilized broad-based support for the law. However, she stressed that without CSE, youth are left unprepared to make informed decisions about their health and future.

This year, young people continue to defend the Reproductive Health (RH) movement and push for the passage of the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Bill. She called for greater trust in the youth and holistic support systems to ensure meaningful participation in achieving the SDGs.

## Hon. Bahrom Abdullaev, MP Uzbekistan -

Hon. Abdullaev Bakhrom shared the strides made by Uzbekistan in institutionalizing youth engagement. Through initiatives led by the Youth Parliament, the Agency for Youth Affairs, and the Children's Organization of Uzbekistan, young people are actively involved in political decision-making, with their voices increasingly shaping national policy.

Four key parliamentary proposals were submitted to relevant ministries, resulting in the enactment of six laws focused on youth interests. Following the 2024 parliamentary elections, the representation of women in legislative chambers increased from 24% to 27% in one chamber and from 28% to 32% in another. Moreover, the number of women entrepreneurs surpassed 200,000.

Access to higher education also improved, with undergraduate enrollment rising by 52% and graduate-level enrollment increasing by 62%. Uzbekistan now ranks among the top five countries that improved the most in the Gender Equality and Governance Index in 2024.

The government is heavily investing in youth development funds, which support millions of young people across sports, arts, and information technology. Institutions like the Girls' Academy and the Animation School are helping develop youth talent and foster entrepreneurship. Hon. Bakhrom emphasized that amid challenges like climate change, migration, and rapid digitalization, youth engagement is more critical than ever for sustainability.

## Open Forum

Hon. Catherine Wedd (New Zealand) asked for clarifications regarding the proposed bill in India that would hold parents accountable for their children's social media use.

Hon. Deepender Hooda (India) responded that the bill is currently under proposal and not yet enacted. Lawmakers are studying similar legislation from other countries. While the balance between regulation and rights is still being debated, the issue remains a high priority, supported by growing research.

Hon. Cedelizia Faria dos Santos (Timor Leste) inquired about the nature of high-quality jobs provided to the youth in Cambodia.

Hon. Seng Nhak (Cambodia) explained that the government has focused on aligning education with market needs by training youth in job-specific skills. Students receive stipends during their studies, and the government guarantees employment post-graduation, ensuring a smoother transition into the workforce.

## Session 3: Promoting healthy and active aging in the Asia-Pacific



The session facilitator was Hon. Hector Appuhamy, MP, Sri Lanka. –

### Ms. Megan Connor, Coordinator of APGPD

Ms. Megan Connor talked about the demographic shifts in Australia with its rapidly aging population, in which women comprise more than half. As women now spend up to one-third of their lives post-menopause, this life stage has significant implications for public health and economic productivity. However, menopause and perimenopause have historically been overlooked in both healthcare systems and policy frameworks.

Recently, a Senate inquiry has acknowledged the need for comprehensive responses, recommending 1) greater investment in research and data collection to guide legislative and policy reforms; 2) improved education and public awareness, particularly through CSE; 3) enhanced workplace policies to support women going through menopause; and 4) a review of government health systems to ensure equitable access to care, particularly for mid-life and older women.

The report also emphasized the importance of including men in the conversation around SRHR to foster a more inclusive and supportive environment. Key challenges remain, such as disparities

in health service access outside urban centers and the need for a more robust healthcare workforce to meet growing demand.

## Sri Wulan Sutomo, MP Indonesia -

Representing Hon. Sri Wulan Sutomo, Mr. Samidjo presented the policy interventions to address the isolation and mental health issues faced by Indonesia's aging population. With the world's fourth-largest population, Indonesia is also facing an aging trend. The country expects 12% of its population to be elderly by 2030. Mental health concerns, particularly in rural areas, are rising. An estimated 15–20% of older adults suffer from mental health conditions, often exacerbated by living alone and social isolation.

He shared that only 40% of public health centers (called *puskesmas*) have staff trained in geriatric or mental health care. Other challenges for addressing the issue include the cultural stigma around discussing mental health, the shortage of specialized healthcare professionals, migration and urbanization weakening traditional family support systems, and the digital divide further isolating elderly populations.

To address these issues, Indonesia has implemented several strategies. They expanded mental health and geriatric training for healthcare providers, conducted regular mental health screenings as part of elderly care programs, and integrated mental health into Universal Health Coverage (UHC) schemes. In addition, they put community-based initiatives at the core of elderly mental health services. Efforts are underway to train older adults in basic digital literacy, improve access to smartphones and data, and establish telehealth and mental health hotlines.

Policy recommendations include developing a national mental health strategy for the elderly, increasing public funding for elder well-being, and providing support for both family and professional caregivers.

## Hon. Nam In-soon, MP Republic of Korea

Hon. Nam In-Soon presented the current landscape and policy interventions on the aging population in Republic of Korea. The country experiences one of the fastest aging rates among OECD countries, with over 10 million citizens aged 65 and above. This demographic shift has been accompanied by a poverty rate among the elderly that is three times higher than the national average.

To address these challenges, country has implemented several key policies: 1) the Senior Employment Program (since 2004) which provides quality job opportunities for older adults, reducing poverty and promoting active aging; 2) the Public Pension System which was Introduced in 1988 and reformed in 2008 and 2014 to gradually increase benefits; 3) Long-Term Care Insurance which is designed to provide sustainable care solutions for the aging population; and 4) the Community-Based Integrated Care Act which establishes a unified system for healthcare,

long-term care, and housing. Local governments will lead pilot programs with national support for infrastructure and funding.

Hon. Nam In-soon stressed the need for structural reform of the national pension system to ensure sustainability and adequacy of support in the face of growing demand. Republic of Korea's strategy underscores the value of integrated, community-led approaches that protect dignity while enabling active participation in society.

## Open Forum

Hon. Catherine Wedd (New Zealand) asked about initial guidelines focused on primary care and the educational strategies being adopted in Australia.

Ms. Megan Connor (APGPD) acknowledged that while recommendations had been made, not all were adopted by their government. The panel public education campaigns had been beneficial for women, helping them better navigate and access available care services.

Mr. Howard Lee Chuan How (Malaysia) raised a key issue shared by many countries which is the limited workforce experience and expertise in the care sector. He questioned the willingness of governments to engage in technology exchanges to enhance training for care workers. Malaysia, for instance, is leveraging existing technologies and expertise from Japan and China.

In response, Mr. Samidjo (Indonesia) underlined the value of real, hands-on experience in workforce development and training.

A delegate challenged the tendency to frame aging purely as a cost burden which may inadvertently promote ageism.

Hon. Nam In-soon (Republic of Korea) addressed this by highlighting their country's focus on income security for older adults. Republic of Korea currently has the highest employment rate among the elderly in the OECD, and the government's priority is to improve the quality of jobs available to older citizens to ensure a dignified and fulfilling life.

The representative from Tonga contributed a comment stressing the importance of regulatory frameworks and legislation to support aging populations. Hon. Wedd responded by recognizing the value of regional cooperation among Pacific nations. They acknowledged the shared challenges and affirmed their commitment to ongoing dialogue, including organizing a regional forum specifically to address these critical issues.

## Session 4: Parliamentarians Networking to Address the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



The session was facilitated by Hon. Yogesh Gauchan Thakali, MP Nepal.

### Mr. Yi Prasnar, Executive Director of PCAAsia

Mr. Yi Prasnar highlighted PCA's impact in the region through data and initiatives and stressed the importance of building trust among international partners to strengthen collective efforts. He introduced the work of the PCAAsia, established in 2011, as an independent, impartial and non-partisan centre supporting parliamentary capacity development across Southeast Asia and Asia Pacific. The Centre is backed by the ASEAN Inter-parliamentary Assembly (AIPA). They provide technical, neutral and demand-driven support to parliamentary staff and AIPA Member Parliaments and promote the exchange of parliamentary good practices, knowledge and regional cooperation.

PCAAsia operates through practical, hands-on workshops and simulations designed to improve institutional performance and democratic governance. It also plays a key role in fostering regional inter-parliamentary cooperation through a Memorandum of Understanding with the AIPA, serving as a key capacity-building partner.

Mr. Prasnar expressed enthusiasm to expand and enrich the work of PCAAsia with AFPPD and for future collaboration among other parliamentary forums.

## Dr. Mohammad Al Smadi, Secretary General of FAPPD

Dr. Mohammad Al-Smadi (Secretary General, FAPPD) presented demographic projections, estimating the population of the Arab world to reach 473 million by 2025. He outlined FAPPD's mission to support population and development priorities in the region and cited key initiatives: empowering persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Egypt, a mother and child health initiative in Jordan, youth development programs in Lebanon, population awareness campaigns in Morocco, efforts to increase women's representation in Morocco's parliament to 50%, and legislative reforms granting Moroccan citizenship to children of non-Moroccan fathers.

Dr. Al-Smadi emphasized the importance of collaboration with organizations such as AFPPD, APDA, UNFPA, and IPPF to share knowledge, support policy formulation, and promote reproductive health.

## Mr. Musa Wamala Buyungo, Coordinator of APFPD

Mr. Musa Wamala Buyungo (Coordinator, APFPD) underscored the vital role of parliaments in upholding the commitments made under the 2030 Agenda. He advocated for enhanced strategic networking among parliamentarians, noting that sharing information and success stories enables more effective planning and policy design. Key strategies included: championing research, conducting benchmarking and study tours, and building the capacity of parliamentary secretariats.

He stressed that MPs are responsible for translating international commitments into local action through legislation, policy, and monitoring frameworks. However, he acknowledged key challenges such as political polarization, limited resources, cross-border instability, and social resistance to discussing population issues, particularly where class dynamics are involved.

He called for revitalizing existing platforms and maintaining public trust in parliamentary institutions.

## Open Forum

Mr. Howard Lee Chuan How, MPMalaysia pointed out that discussions on re-election and political continuity are often overlooked, despite being central to sustaining population and development agendas. He proposed that the network support each other during election cycles, possibly through the development of electoral materials highlighting population and development achievements.

Mr. Musa Wamala Buyungo emphasized the importance of strengthening parliamentary secretariats, as these bodies ensure institutional memory and continuity beyond individual political terms.

Mr. Yi Prasnar clarified that while leadership may change, their focus remains on supporting staff and parliamentary structures. They coordinate activities upon request and identify champions who exemplify the network's values.

Dr. Mohammad Al-Smadi emphasized shared challenges such as aging populations and encouraged cross-regional partnerships. He proposed conducting study visits and experience exchanges among parliamentarians in different regions.

Mr. Musa Wamala Buyungo supported this idea and proposed the creation of national parliamentary forums. These platforms would track country-level progress on population issues and foster high-level engagement among MPs.

## Ceremonial Signing of MoU

Hon. Kamikawa Yoko (Chairperson, AFPPD) signed an MoU with Ms. Sumita Banerjee (FP2030), Mr. Yi Prasnar (PCAsia), and Ms. Madiha Latif (Pathfinder) to strengthen collaboration between the organizations .



*Hon. Kamikawa Yoko with Ms. Sumita Banerjee (FP2030) and Mr. Yi Prasnar (PCAsia)*



*Hon. Kamikawa Yoko with Ms. Madiha Latif (Pathfinder)*

## Session 5: Climate Change and Its Impact on Implementation of 2030 Agenda



The Session was facilitated by Hon. Mavsuma Muini, Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Tajikistan, Chair of AFPPD Standing Committee on Climate Change.

### Hon. Cedelizia Faria dos Santos, MP Timor-Leste

Hon. Cedelizia Faria dos Santos presented the geographic situation of Timor-Leste, a Southeast Asian island state located within the Coral Triangle which is home to one of the richest marine biodiversity in the world. With a population of 1.36 million, Timor-Leste has a youth-majority demographic, presenting both challenges and opportunities for sustainable development.

Timor-Leste has established a sovereign petroleum fund serving as the primary source of public financing. The country is now focusing on economic diversification with significant potential seen in marine tourism and the coffee industry.

Hon. dos Santos emphasized Timor-Leste's alignment with international agreements recognizing climate change and committing to mitigation strategies. However, she also noted that climate change poses serious threats to SDG implementation. Increasing droughts degrade soil productivity, undermining food security and exacerbating child malnutrition.

In response, Timor-Leste has introduced a series of mitigation measures: 1) drought-resistant crops, co-financed by the government in partnership with the Green Fund; 2) conditional cash transfers targeting mothers with vulnerable children; 3) health programs under SDG 3 to curb endemic vector-borne diseases such as dengue and malaria; 4) water sanitation and drainage programs under SDG 6 to address water security; and 5) infrastructure improvements and engineering standards under SDG 9 to enhance climate resilience.

Under SDG 13, the country's constitution guarantees the right to a sustainable environment. National legislation includes the Environmental Basis Law (2012) and Environmental Licensing Law (2011). Moreover, a Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review was undertaken in partnership with the UNDP.

Despite these efforts, funding from international partners for climate initiatives is decreasing. Timor-Leste continues to face the impacts of climate change on food security, public health, and access to clean water.

## Hon. Dr. Anara Naeem, MP Maldives

Hon. Dr. Anara Naeem (MP, Maldives) delivered a message appealing for urgent climate action from the perspective of a policymaker and a mother. She described the Maldives as a marine haven, but one highly vulnerable to climate change. Rising sea levels, eroding coastlines, and scarce freshwater resources pose existential threats to the country.

Dr. Naeem highlighted that Maldivian youth disproportionately suffer the consequences of climate change. They experience cultural loss, economic instability, and eco-anxiety. Climate disruptions have also affected education, with school closures due to extreme weather events. Additionally, rising temperatures increase the risk of vector-borne diseases, while the country faces the ongoing challenge of brain drain.

Her call to action included 1) legislating for resilience and sustainable development; 2) ensuring adequate funding for youth education, healthcare, and employment; 3) advocating on the global stage to hold major carbon emitters accountable; and 4) empowering grassroots movements to drive community-led climate solutions.

She concluded with an appeal, "Let us be architects of a resilient future, not the spectators of a preventable disaster."

## Mr. Joel Chester Pagulayan, OXFAM Philippines

Mr. Joel Chester Pagulayan (Climate Justice Portfolio Manager of Oxfam Philippines) introduced the work of Oxfam—a global network of 22 organizations dedicated to humanitarian and development work. He emphasized that climate change is fundamentally a justice and equity issue. The Philippines, while contributing minimally to global emissions, remains one of the most

vulnerable countries to the impacts of climate change, including rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and warming temperatures.

Mr. Pagulayan pointed out that over 91% of deaths caused by climate-related disasters in the past 50 years occurred in developing countries. Meanwhile, the wealthiest 1% are responsible for 16% of global carbon emissions.

Oxfam advocates for rights-based climate action and partners with civil society, women's organizations, and local communities. Their key initiatives include developing feminist frameworks for climate resilience and just energy transitions; implementing community-owned renewable energy models led by women and youth; integrating humanitarian action with long-term climate justice strategies; supporting the Fund for Loss and Damage; and ensuring vulnerable communities have direct access to climate finance.

Mr. Pagulayan outlined key policy recommendations for equitable transformation: to urgently reduce inequality to simultaneously lower emissions and alleviate poverty; to substantially cut carbon emissions from the world's richest nations; and ensure financial support reaches the most at-risk populations.



*L to R: Hon. Cedelizia Faria dos Santos, Hon. Dr. Anara Naeem, and Mr. Joel Chester Pagulayan.*

## Open Forum

Hon. Catherine Wedd (New Zealand) asked about the Philippines' efforts in plastic reduction and solid waste management.

In response, Mr. Pagulayan (Oxfam Philippines) emphasized the vital role played by CSOs and NGOs in advocating for environmental protection. These groups have been actively pushing for

a ban on single-use plastics, minimizing electronic waste, and rejecting the importation of foreign waste. However, the transition is expected to be gradual due to the prevalence of the “tingi” economy in the Philippines. Several local government units have already adopted circular economy principles, aiming to reduce waste and build more sustainable cities.

Dr. Anara Naeem shared that the Maldives Ministry for Climate Change has developed comprehensive plans and policies focused on waste management. Environmental awareness is integrated into the national education curriculum. Students are taught about climate change, marine life survival, and the importance of environmental stewardship from an early age.

In response to a question from the Sri Lankan delegate about the country's vulnerability, Dr. Anara Naeem referenced a recent cabinet-level discussion addressing the existential threat posed by rising sea levels. She stressed the urgency for every citizen to take an active role in caring for the environment.

Mr. Samidjo (Indonesia) raised a crucial point on the unequal impact of climate change across developing nations, particularly island countries. He encouraged the identification of regional partnerships and strategies to build shared resilience and mitigate these disparities.

Mr. Pagulayan (Oxfam Philippines) responded by pointing to international legal mechanisms, specifically referencing the International Court of Justice (ICJ). He highlighted that developing countries have the right to seek accountability from major polluting nations whose emissions and exported waste contribute significantly to climate change. Oxfam offered support with policy interventions and advocacy to pursue climate justice on a global scale.

Hon. Cedelizia Faria dos Santos (Timor-Leste) expressed strong agreement with Indonesia's concerns, recognizing the shared struggle for climate resilience among small island developing states. She reaffirmed the importance of collaboration and collective action to face the escalating impacts of climate change.

# Commitment Setting

Dr. Usmonov Farrukh, Executive Director, AFPPD facilitated the session on commitment setting.

## AFPPD 2025

Ms. Anna Marie Alhambra provided an overview of AFPPD's progress in implementing its strategic objectives. The evaluation identified two major areas of success: the promotion of national-level action and effective regional and global advocacy through partnerships.

AFPPD's national-level work included capacity development for national parliamentary committees, organization of events focused on Gender Equality and Youth in Indonesia and India (2023), and delivery of Youth and Demographic Dividend workshops in Lao PDR and Sri Lanka (2024).

AFPPD also facilitated learning and outreach through regular Standing Committee meetings, consistent social media updates, a quarterly newsletter and regularly updated website, and media coverage in various countries which helps build AFPPD's credibility in the international community. Over 1,000 participants took part in AFPPD-led conferences, which were praised for being informative and impactful, offering valuable insights into parliamentary solutions. AFPPD also partnered with regional forums and parliamentary institutions to strengthen its network and expand its reach.

## AFPPD Strategic Plan for 2026–2028

Dr. Hadley Rose presented the preliminary proposals for the upcoming strategic period, outlining emerging cross-cutting themes, proposed strategic shifts, and draft priorities aimed at enhancing the impact and sustainability of the organization's work.

As part of the new strategy, several cross-cutting themes have been identified to guide programming and advocacy efforts. These include:

- Digital inclusion and addressing the spread of misinformation among youth;
- Issues related to migration and displacement;
- The growing importance of mental health; and
- Integrating human rights-based approaches in development and governance.

To support more effective implementation and responsiveness, there were several strategic shifts proposed such as 1) establishing a proactive Secretariat base in Malaysia to enhance coordination and regional presence; 2) providing tailored, country-specific support to address unique national implementation barriers; 3) strengthening strategic alliances with CSOs, youth

groups, and women's organizations, particularly those focused on SRHR; and 4) diversifying funding sources through increased engagement with both public and private sector partners.

The draft strategic priorities for the 2026–2028 period are centered around deepening impact and ensuring long-term sustainability. The proposed priorities include:

- Strengthening efforts across the four thematic pillars of AFPPD;
- Developing a multilingual digital knowledge platform featuring integrated indicators aligned with SDGs, the World Health Organization (WHO), and other international frameworks;
- Supporting MPs in advancing national policy agendas aligned with regional and global commitments;
- Enhancing the institutional capacity of the AFPPD Secretariat in Malaysia; and
- Expanding partnerships and continuing to diversify funding sources to support sustained program delivery.

An open discussion followed the presentation. The discussion focused on the following key questions:

- Are the current four strategic pillars aligned with national policy needs?
- What additional support is required to advance national policy agendas following participation in AFPPD activities?
- What common barriers are hindering action at the national level, and what types of assistance would help address them?

## Open Forum

Hon. Howard Lee Chuan How (Malaysia) emphasized the need to build media capacity to generate savings and enhance the mainstreaming of creative content creation.

In response, Dr. Hadley Rose underscored the importance of establishing measurable indicators and clearly defined results that can be communicated to both governments and the public. She noted that the lack of such measurability has been a recurring gap, possibly due to limited human resources.

Mr. Musa Wamala Buyungo noted the absence of food security as a core focus within AFPPD's four thematic pillars and called for follow-up on this issue.

Dr. Farrukh explained that AFPPD routinely shares its reports with partners and encourages members to actively pursue the adoption and implementation of resolutions. He cited the Maldives as an example where member engagement has been effective.

Dr. Rose added that as members continue to raise cross-cutting issues, such concerns could evolve into core pillars of AFPPD's strategy, as seen in the case of climate change. She reiterated the need to ensure that all actions are measurable as the forum advances its agenda.

The delegate from Pakistan raised questions about AFPPD's role in facilitating connections with potential donors for infrastructure projects and in structuring more comprehensive knowledge-sharing programs.

Dr. Farrukh highlighted plans to strengthen existing partnerships and build new ones through study programs and member exchanges.

Dr. Rose added that while AFPPD could consider private sector partnerships, such engagements might be more appropriate for individual governments to pursue directly.

Hon. Dr. Anara Naeem shared the success of a recent AFPPD event held in Maldives and expressed a desire to implement similar events, with a specific focus on increasing women's participation in parliament. She inquired about AFPPD's ability to provide financial support for these efforts.

In response, Dr. Farrukh emphasized that AFPPD could assist through advocacy and training programs designed for parliamentary groups focused on women's empowerment.

Ms. Madiha Latif (Pathfinder International) raised the issue of resource reallocation to support critical agenda items, citing the successful removal of taxes on contraception in Pakistan to increase affordability and access. She proposed that members unite under AFPPD's platform for coordinated strategic advocacy and domestic resource mobilization.

Dr. Farrukh responded positively, suggesting the possibility of joint applications for resource mobilization and funding.

Hon. Seng Nhak (Cambodia) proposed the introduction of membership fees as a way to strengthen AFPPD's financial base. He also recommended alignment with charitable organizations and suggested leveraging official press contacts in each country to build media presence, echoing Hon. Howard Lee Chuan How's earlier proposal.

Dr. Farrukh welcomed the idea of a membership fee and acknowledged the intention of the government of Malaysia's financial contributions to AFPPD activities and the Secretariat. He also highlighted the importance of national committee development through parliamentary training and noted that AFPPD routinely invites the press to its events to enhance visibility.

Mr. Manmohan Sharma, Executive Secretary from the Indian Association of Parliamentarians (IAPPD) shared that they independently address many of the concerns raised and fund their own activities. They offered to host future AFPPD activities at their office in India, demonstrating strong in-kind support.

Ms. Aurora Quilala (Executive Director, PLCPD) emphasized the importance of AFPPD's participation in official international meetings, particularly those of the United Nations, and encouraged member states to include AFPPD in official delegations. She urged increased networking among countries to support progressive global movements.

Dr. Farrukh agreed with the recommendation but noted that AFPPD requires at least four to five months' advance notice to secure funding and organize participation in such events.

Hon. Catherine Wedd shared New Zealand's achievement of 43% female representation in parliament and the lowest gender pay gap in its history. She agreed with Ms. Quilala and affirmed New Zealand's commitment to supporting gender equity and international cooperation through platforms like AFPPD.

## Session 6: Upholding Global Commitments-Progress in Advancing ICPD and SDGs



The talk show was facilitated by veteran Philippine journalist Ms. Malou Mangahas. She asked the panelists a series of questions on the topic of upholding global commitments to advance the ICPD and SDGs. The panelists include Hon. Howard Lee Chow How (MP Malaysia, Secretary General of AFPPD), Hon. Elvira Surabaldieva (MP Kyrgyzstan, Vice-Chair of AFPPD), Ms. Madiha Latif (Vice President, Strategic Engagement and Innovation, Pathfinder), and Mr. Jose Roi Avena (Assistant Representative, UNFPA Philippines).

*Panelists were first asked to identify areas showing strong results, as well as those needing improvement.*

Mr. Howard Lee Chuan How explained that, at its current pace, the average target year for achieving the SDGs in the country is 2062. As such, he called for urgent rethinking especially in areas such as gender equity, youth investment, climate change, and population dynamics. He emphasized the need to align global goals with local-level implementation.

Hon. Elvira Surabaldieva pointed to increased representation of women in parliament as a notable achievement, though it is being met with resistance from more conservative male counterparts. While there has been national progress in health, education, women's empowerment, and employment, rural and last-mile communities have seen minimal change, exposing deep disparities.

Ms. Madiha Latif argued that the ICPD framework must be revisited in light of the climate crisis. The panelist linked climate change directly to early marriage, which exacerbates GBV and poverty. She called for a regional, united response from Asia-Pacific to address these interlinked challenges.

*Ms. Mangahas asked the panelists why they think the SDGs are not delivering the expected results.*

Mr. Jose Roi Avena provided a historical overview of the ICPD, stressing that its vision, set forth in Cairo in 1994, is not only still valid but more urgent than ever. He clarified that the ICPD is not a separate agenda but is foundational to the SDGs, particularly SDG 3 (health), SDG 5 (gender equality), and SDG 10 (reduced inequalities). While notable gains include increased contraceptive use and reduced adolescent birth rates and maternal mortality, progress remains uneven and access unequal. He emphasized the need for rights-based, actionable policies, citing the Reproductive Health law in the Philippines as a critical tool that requires effective oversight by parliamentarians.

*Ms. Mangahas inquired about the necessary legislation in the immediate future to address the goals.*

Hon. Howard Lee Chuan How advocated for the establishment of a universal basic financial subsidy to ensure equitable access to care services, highlighting market failure in meeting this need. They stressed that leaders must actively champion care-based narratives at the grassroots level. He emphasized that "replicability is a matter of political will" when asked about the feasibility of such ideas.

Hon. Elvira Surabaldieva acknowledged that effective legislation often requires both solid evidence and an emotional connection to resonate with the public and policymakers alike.

*Ms. Mangahas asked about community expectations regarding ICPD legislation.*

Ms. Madiha Latif stressed that the implementation of laws, rather than the legislation itself, remains the core challenge. For example, the Early Age Marriage Law in Pakistan did little to change realities on the ground due to poor enforcement and insufficient budget allocation. The

speaker called for responsive budgeting, action-oriented planning, and increased representation of women in local governance to ensure that women's needs are integrated across all sectors.

Mr. Jose Roi Avena called for a holistic approach, stating that behavioral change begins at the community level and requires civil society engagement in both legislation and implementation.

*Ms. Mangahas asked the panelists about strategies for making the ICPD and SDGs resonate with the public, particularly young people.*

Hon. Howard Lee Chuan How advocated for framing these issues through a positive, economic lens—focusing on employment, education, and training. He emphasized the need to make SDGs 3, 5, and 10 more relevant to young audiences.

Hon. Elvira Surabaldieva acknowledged the double-edged nature of social media, particularly how it can be hostile to women, and highlighted the digital divide as a barrier to inclusive engagement.

Ms. Madiha Latif stressed that social media is essential for information dissemination, especially among youth who increasingly distrust traditional political structures. She noted how parliamentarians' regression on past commitments led to youth resistance to the systems that have failed them. She called for genuine introspection and mindset shifts to meet young people where they are.

*To end the talk show, Ms. Mangahas asked the panelists about their ideal future if the SDGs and ICPD are fully implemented.*

Hon. Elvira Surabaldieva envisioned a peaceful future free of conflict where young people are empowered to pursue work and passions.

Mr. Jose Roi Avena echoed UNFPA's vision for a future in which every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

Hon. Howard Lee Chuan How called on legislators to be custodians of choice, emphasizing the need to legislate and lead toward the future that has been promised.

Ms. Madiha Latif shared a utopian vision: a world in which the SDGs are no longer necessary, where communities of care replace capitalist structures, and where individuals are free to live lives rooted in dignity, choice, and community.

## Closing Ceremonies



*L to R: Ms. Fukuda Tomoko, Dr. Usmonov Farrukh, and Ms. Aurora Quilala*

## Closing Message

*via Zoom*

Ms. Fukuda Tomoko, Regional Director, International Planned Parenthood Federation East and South East Asia and Oceania Region delivered the closing message in which she emphasized the central role of SRHR in upholding human dignity and achieving sustainable development. She highlighted that, despite significant progress over the years, there has been a concerning pushback against SRHR globally. This regression, she noted, underscores the role of parliamentarians in defending and advancing these rights.

Ms. Fukuda outlined several key actions needed to safeguard SRHR: 1) ensure that SRHR programs receive consistent and increased financial support, particularly targeting marginalized populations and those living in conflict-affected areas; 2) enable CSOs to access funding in order to deliver tailored, community-specific care effectively; and 3) engage in global partnerships and participate actively in international decision-making spaces related to population and development.

## Synthesis

Ms. Aurora Quilala (Executive Director of PLCPD) delivered a synthesis of the conference presentations, emphasizing the need for legislators to strengthen legal frameworks, fund women-led organizations, adopt gender-transformative programming, and allocate resources for the full implementation of laws.

She highlighted the importance of investing in youth education, digital rights, inclusive development, and participatory governance to better align young people's skills with employment and societal needs. Session presenters called for intergovernmental collaboration, technology

exchange, and inclusive health and information public campaigns that target women, the elderly, and underserved groups. Delegates agreed on practical steps such as study exchanges, joint forums, and country-level performance tracking to enhance cooperation on shared challenges, including aging populations and demographic shifts. Finally, delegates called for the involvement of youth, civil society, and governments in climate action, with a focus on equity, resilience, and advancing the 2030 Agenda in the face of escalating climate threats.

## Ways Forward

Mr. Usmonov Farrukh (Executive Director, AFPPD) shared the agreements from 100th Executive Committee Meeting of the AFPPD and outlined its strategic directions for 2026–2027, including planned regional conferences in Malaysia (2026) and Indonesia (2027), and a flexible schedule of standing committee activities across several countries focusing on ageing, gender, youth, and the environment. National-level initiatives will also be held in various Asian nations.

The AFPPD seeks to expand partnerships, including with non-member countries, and focus on strategic priorities like strengthening its four pillars, launching a multilingual knowledge platform, and enhancing secretariat capacity. Key discussion points emphasized the need for measurable outcomes, cross-cutting issues like climate change, joint funding initiatives, youth engagement, and stronger policy implementation backed by political will and resources.

## Field Visit: Meta Philippines

On 5 September 2025, delegates from the AFPPD Regional Conference went on a field visit to the headquarters of Meta Philippines for a linking and learning exchange program on digital safety and legislation.

The discussion was moderated by Mr. Ysrael Diloy (Child Protection Specialist, Stairway Foundation).



### Session 1: The OSAEC Landscape and Emerging Trends in the Philippines: Examining the Role of NCC-OSAEC-CSAEM

Atty. Barbara Mae Flores (Deputy Regional Prosecutor, Department of Justice) presented the Philippines' ongoing efforts to combat Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Materials (CSAEM). She explained the function of the National Coordination Center which develops and implements national programs and coordinates a multi-agency response to prevent the commission of OSAEC and CSAEM. The Center has identified four KRAs to guide its initiatives: 1) Prevention and Advocacy, 2) Protection and Response, 3) Prosecution, Enforcement, and Compliance, and 4) Partnership and Networking.

Ms. Flores talked about the OSAEC situation in the Philippines where often the perpetrators are the children's own family members, acting as sellers or facilitators. Transactions typically occur via online platforms, and payments are sent through remittance centers and e-wallets but rarely through formal banks. In 2022, an estimated 500,000 Filipino children were trafficked in OSAEC-

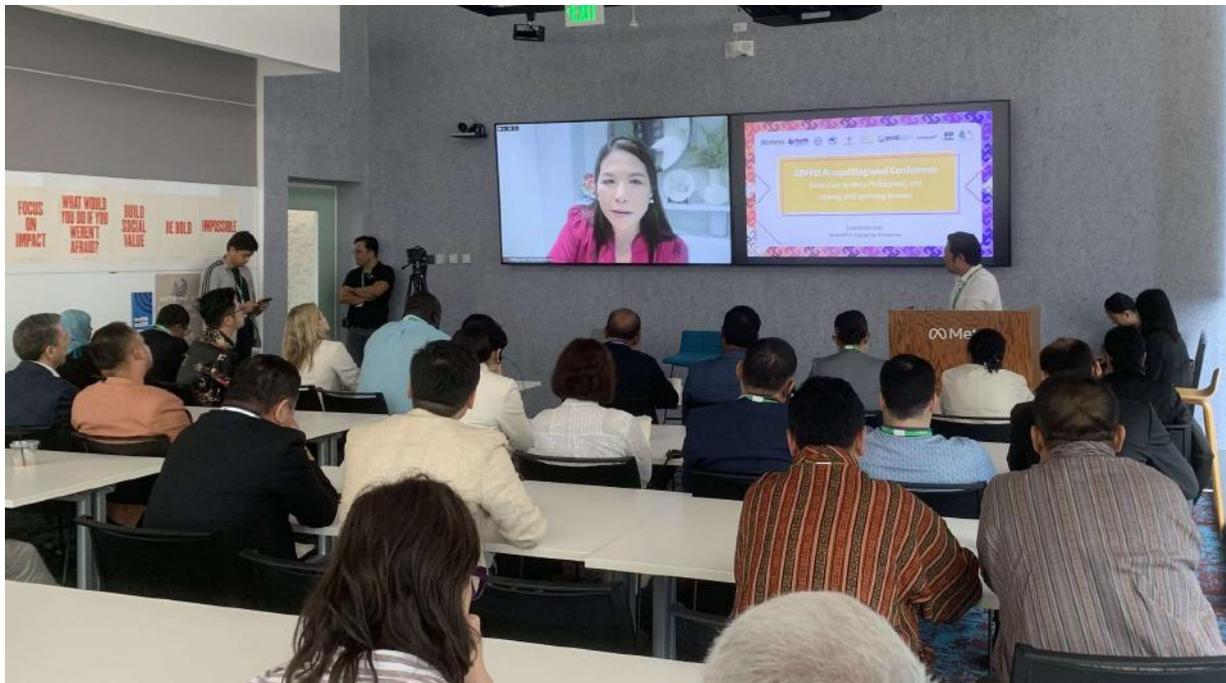
related scenarios, yet there is a significant gap between the number of cases, the reports filed, and actual convictions.

She identified several risk factors as contributing to the proliferation of OSAEC in the country. These include financial hardship, proficiency in English, easy access to digital financial tools and the internet, a cultural perception that “no touch means no harm,” and deeply rooted norms such as children’s unquestioning obedience to parents. Additionally, the Philippines is facing rising demand for such content from overseas, further fueling exploitation.

The issue is further complicated by evolving forms of abuse. These include image-based sexual abuse, self-generated CSAEM (e.g., minors sharing explicit content of themselves), and AI-generated sexual materials. Emerging trends, such as financial sextortion operations run by scam hubs and transnational criminal syndicates, are becoming increasingly prevalent. One noted modus operandi is the distribution of CSAEM via the Telegram app.

An estimated 2 million Filipino children have already experienced OSAEC, yet only about 4% have ever reported the abuse to a social worker. Girls, minorities, and children from low-digital-literacy households are particularly vulnerable. The combination of easy internet access and a lack of parental awareness or technical know-how creates an environment where abuse can thrive undetected.

Atty. Flores closed her presentation with a strong appeal: the Philippines must not become known as the global hotspot for OSAEC. Addressing this crisis requires not only stronger enforcement and interagency coordination but also societal change, international cooperation, and sustained public awareness to protect its children.



## Open Forum

Hon. Catherine Wedd (New Zealand) asked about the need for increased government and social media platform engagement in prevention

In response, Atty. Flores emphasized the importance of advocacy and grassroots efforts. Community-based reporting is a crucial mechanism, but there is often hesitation due to the cultural perception of such issues as "family matters." The DOJ and various advocacy groups have been working closely with barangays and social media platforms to raise awareness and establish mechanisms to prevent online abuse. It was noted that parents play a pivotal role in safeguarding children; however, their ability to do so hinges on access to information and education about the risks and signs of OSAEC.

Hon. Wedd raised concerns that many girls are too afraid to report incidents for fear of retaliation or shame.

Atty. Flores acknowledged this fear but highlighted that reports of sextortion have been more common than reports of trafficking in persons. Actual numbers may be higher as cases remain underreported. Mechanisms now exist to take down non-consensual images online. Meta, in partnership with organizations like the Stairway Foundation and the Philippine Department of Education, has contributed to online safety campaigns and classroom discussions about digital security and reporting methods. She shared that there is evidence that classroom-based discussions have led to increased detection and reporting of OSAEC cases.

Hon. Howard Lee Chuan How inquired about how the financial incentive to engage in OSAEC can be dismantled, particularly as the supply side often involves undocumented children and adolescents without birth certificates.

Atty. Flores acknowledged poverty as a recurring driver but emphasized the need for a multi-stakeholder approach. They are engaging with financial institutions to improve detection of suspicious transactions linked to OSAEC. The goal is for these institutions to treat OSAEC-related financial activity with the same urgency as they would fraudulent transactions. The treatment of involved children also varies; depending on the circumstances, they may be viewed as victims or as perpetrators. The Philippine Juvenile Justice System helps navigate these complex cases.

Hon. Howard Lee Chuan How (Malaysia) further asked about financial interventions by the government.

In response, Mr. Ysrael Diloy talked about the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), a conditional cash transfer initiative aimed at alleviating poverty. OSAEC prevention discussions have been integrated into this program, ensuring that awareness is part of the conditions before families receive financial assistance. The Stairway Foundation added that livelihood support is also provided following the identification of a case.

Ms. Megan Connor (Australia) raised questions about recommendations for foreign governments in domestic investigations.

In response, Atty Flores emphasized the need for stronger prison sentences for perpetrators, legislation on victim compensation, and strengthening laws targeting the financial mechanisms behind OSAEC. Regarding cross-border issues, the Philippines cited its legal framework which

allows for extraterritorial jurisdiction in cases involving child victims. However, extradition requires existing treaties with the concerned countries. Although this option is available, it has not yet been fully exercised and cases are often referred to international investigative organizations.

Hon. Catherine Wedd raised the question of whether age verification protocols could have a significant impact on prevention.

Atty. Flores agreed, noting that a policy study on age verification is currently underway. A proposed law that prohibits social media access for children under 16 years old is also under review.

## Session 2: Safeguarding user rights and financial security within digital platforms in the Philippines

Mr. Andri Kusumo (APAC Program Manager at Google), emphasized the tech giant's commitment to protecting children online and ensuring their data privacy. He shared research showing that many parents monitor their children's online activity for 4 to 12 hours daily and that 60% believe both tech companies and governments should play a greater role in online child protection.

To respond to these concerns, Google has implemented several key initiatives across its services. These include 1) the use of AI and hash matching to detect and flag CSAM, 2) tools to block unwanted contacts, and 3) the Child Safety Toolkit supporting content moderation APIs. Google also allows users to request the removal of personal images from search results and integrates child protection features in services like Google Messages. He added that data collection from child users is limited by default.

Mr. Kusumo highlighted the importance of age assurance as a shared responsibility among tech companies, developers, and policymakers. Google continues to provide supervision tools and promotes the development of healthy digital habits. The company is also empowering families and educators by creating age-appropriate online spaces, offering educational resources on digital risks, and advocating for responsible use of generative AI tools like Gemini. When using these tools, they emphasize the need for adult supervision and within family account settings. Lastly, Google also provides foundational AI literacy programs to help families safely navigate emerging technologies.



### Session 3: Promoting safe online environments through multistakeholder collaboration

Ms. Malina Enlund presented Meta's latest efforts to enhance online safety for teenagers through platform updates and collaborative initiatives. She shared that Meta currently has 54 million monthly active teen accounts globally, with new safety features designed to address the specific needs of two distinct age groups (13 to 15 and 15 to 17).

Meta follows four key principles in safeguarding children and teens online.

1. Privacy - minimizing data collected when verifying ages
2. Effectiveness - ensuring the method implemented is reliable
3. Fairness - providing meaningful user transparency and accessible tools
4. Proportionality - for any age assurance measures implemented, it is ensured that the risk of getting it wrong is also proportionate.

For younger teens (ages 13 to 15), the platform enforces the strictest safety settings, requiring parental approval for certain account configurations. Older teens (ages 15 to 17) are given more autonomy, while still being supported by protective features. Ms. Enlund also announced that updated teen account protections will be rolled out across Facebook and Messenger in early 2026, with some users in Australia already enrolled in early trials.

Ms. Enlund emphasized the need to adopt a whole-of-ecosystem age assurance for verification and proposed that age verification must happen on the App Store or Play Store rather than on individual apps. In addition, she highlighted the "Take It Down" initiative, which provides young users with tools to help remove non-consensual or harmful images from the internet, reinforcing

Meta's commitment to creating safer online environments through both technology and collaboration.



## Session 4: Safeguarding and financial security within digital platforms

Atty. Roda Cisnero (AMLakas) addressed the complex intersection between financial technology, child protection, and digital regulation. She began by emphasizing the psychological trauma that children may experience even when removed from harmful environments through law enforcement operations, highlighting the need for more preventative, rather than purely reactive, systems.

Atty. Cisnero introduced a project focused on stopping payments that enable the abuse of children. AMLakas recently received a grant to support enhanced compliance mechanisms, with the goal of integrating financial inclusion and digital literacy into broader safeguarding strategies. However, key questions remain unresolved: Who regulates fintech platforms in the Philippines? And how can regulatory systems designed in an analog era keep up with rapidly evolving digital threats?

She cited the example of online gambling through local fintech platforms like GCash and Maya, which offer ease of access to payment portals. While companies emphasize safeguarding customers and ensuring service continuity, compliance teams often act reactively and lack a “safety by design” mindset. Many platforms continue to operate under outdated pre-internet laws.

She cited the case of AUSTRAC, the Australian financial intelligence agency, which imposed a \$1.3 billion fine on Westpac, one of the country’s largest banks, for failure to comply with AML regulations. Among the violations were transactions linked to child sexual exploitation, illustrating the critical role financial oversight plays in disrupting abuse networks.

In closing, Atty. Cisnero offered key recommendations: 1) strengthen cross-border data sharing to combat international exploitation networks; 2) mandate public-private partnerships to improve

coordination and accountability; 3) increase penalties for facilitating abuse via financial platforms; and. 4) support technology and innovation to proactively detect and prevent harm

She urged policymakers to imagine a modern regulatory body capable of adapting to digital threats. In such a model, platforms would bear the burden of taking reasonable steps to prevent underage users from accessing services, and corporations could face substantial fines for non-compliance. Notably, children under 16 should not face penalties, reinforcing a child-centric approach to digital safety and financial accountability.



## Open Forum

Hon. Catherine Wedd (New Zealand) questioned why age verification is not more widely implemented.

Ms. Malina Enlund (Meta) explained that while essential, age verification must also preserve user privacy. She noted current limitations in technology, including the inability to process identity documents from all countries and the inaccuracy of facial age estimation tools, particularly for teens aged 15 to 16. Many children across the Asia-Pacific region also lack formal identification documents, making enforcement complex. She argued that parental approval through app stores remains the most practical method for age assurance at scale.

Hon. Wedd raised concerns that adults can easily pose as children online, and that parents often struggle to effectively monitor their children's online behavior.

Ms. Enlund agreed that children are frequently exposed to harmful, algorithm-driven content. She emphasized Meta's support for government action and stressed that successful implementation requires multi-stakeholder collaboration among platforms, regulators, and technology providers.

Hon. Howard Lee Chuan How (Malaysia) called for stricter age and identity proofing, equating it to the standards required to open a bank account. He expressed concern that responsibility is being shifted to app stores (Google, Apple) when platforms like Meta could implement age checks directly. He warned that fake accounts undermine democratic safety, especially with jurisdictional challenges on the rise due to blockchain technologies.

Ms. Enlund cautioned against the collection of personal IDs, raising concerns about privacy, data misuse, and the lack of safeguards in non-democratic contexts. She questioned whether users would be willing to provide identification, especially to smaller apps without adequate protection mechanisms. These concerns were echoed by privacy advocates across the region.

Mr. Andri Kusumo (Google) added that secure, government-backed systems—such as Singapore’s Singpass—could offer viable models. He emphasized the need for collaboration with regulators and stakeholders across sectors to design age assurance systems that are both effective and respectful of privacy.

Ms. Megan Connor (Australia) reiterated support for age assurance but noted the need for a "waterfall approach" which combines multiple verification layers.

## Closing Program

Dr. Usmonov Farrukh, Executive Director of AFPPD expressed gratitude to Meta and PLCPD and all contributors for advancing the dialogue, especially around the emerging law on age verification.

Hon. Howard Lee Chuan How, MP Malaysia and Secretary General of AFPPD called these challenges a threat to democracy, urging urgent attention to identification and verification in online spaces.

Dr. Ikegami Kiyoko, Vice-Chair and Secretary General of APDA concluded the session with words of appreciation to participants and formally handed over tokens of gratitude, marking a respectful conclusion to a timely and challenging dialogue.



*L to R: Hon. Howard Lee Chuan How, Dr. Ikegami Kiyoko, Mr. Anton Villaluz, and Dr. Usmonov Farrukh*

## Appendix 1: Participants' List

<b>AFPPD 2025 Annual Conference</b> Manila, Philippines   September 3-5, 2025			
<b>No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Position</b>
1	<b>Ms. Megan Connor</b>	Australia	Senior Advocacy Officer, Secretariat to the APGPD
2	<b>Hon. Lam Dorji</b>	Bhutan	MP
3	<b>Hon. Lhakpa Tshering Tamang</b>	Bhutan	MP
4	<b>Hon. Lork Kheng</b>	Cambodia	MP
5	<b>Hon. Seng Nhak</b>	Cambodia	MP
6	<b>Ms. Mith Chanlinda</b>	Cambodia	Parliamentary officer
7	<b>Hon. Deepender Hooda</b>	India	MP
8	<b>Mr. Manmohan Sharma</b>	India	Executive Secretary of IAPPD
9	<b>Mr. Samidjo</b>	Indonesia	IFPPD officer
10	<b>Hon. Kamikawa Yoko</b>	Japan	MP; Chair of AFPPD
11	<b>Mr. Nishitani Kosuke</b>	Japan	Secretariat Officer
12	<b>Mr. Yoshino Hideki</b>	Japan	
13	<b>Hon. Nam In-soon</b>	Korea	MP

14	<b>Mr. Hyunseok Lee</b>	Korea	CPE International Cooperation Officer
15	<b>Jang Yunjung</b>	Korea	Interpreter
16	<b>Hon. Elvira Surabaldieva</b>	Kyrgyzstan	MP
17	<b>Hon. Kolakanh Phommvong</b>	Lao PDR	MP
18	<b>Mr. Souphaphone Donesavanh</b>	Lao PDR	Parliamentary officer
19	<b>Hon. Howard Lee How Chuan</b>	Malaysia	MP; Secretary General of AFPPD
20	<b>Hon. Ali Fazad</b>	Maldives	MP
21	<b>Hon. Dr. Anara Naeem</b>	Maldives	MP
22	<b>Hon. Ganbat Dashdondog</b>	Mongolia	MP
23	<b>Mr. Urtnasan Enkhtuvshin</b>	Mongolia	MPCPD Officer
24	<b>Hon. Yogesh Gauchan Thakali</b>	Nepal	MP
25	<b>Hon. Yogendra Chaudhary</b>	Nepal	MP
26	<b>Hon. Catherine Wedd</b>	New Zealand	MP
27	<b>Ms. Issy Freeman</b>	New Zealand	NZPPD Officer
28	<b>Hon. Sahibzada Sibghatullah</b>	Pakistan	MP
29	<b>Mr. Syed Rahim Shah</b>	Pakistan	Parliamentary officer
30	<b>Hon. Hector Appuhamy</b>	Sri Lanka	MP
31	<b>Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara</b>	Sri Lanka	MP
32	<b>Hon. Muini Mavsuma</b>	Tajikistan	Deputy Speaker

33	<b>Hon. Qiyomzoda Zarafo</b>	Tajikistan	MP
34	<b>Hon. Prapon Tangsrikertikul</b>	Thailand	MP
35	<b>Hon. Cedelizia Faria dos Santos</b>	Timor Leste	MP
36	<b>Hon. Aliança da Conceição Araújo</b>	Timor Leste	MP
37	<b>Mrs. Inês Soares Ku</b>	Timor Leste	Parliamentary officer
38	<b>Hon. Lord Tu' ivakano</b>	Tonga	MP
39	<b>Ms. 'Ilaisaane Vea</b>	Tonga	Committee Secretary
40	<b>Hon. Yenish Mollaberdiyev</b>	Turkmenistan	MP
41	<b>Ms. Merjen Borjakova</b>	Turkmenistan	Parliamentary officer
42	<b>Hon. Bahrom Abdullaev</b>	Uzbekistan	MP
43	<b>Mr. Donyorbek</b>	Uzbekistan	Parliamentary officer
44	<b>Mr. To Khuong Duy</b>	Vietnam	Parliamentary officer
45	<b>Mr. Wamala Musa Buyungo</b>	Uganda	FPA Coordinator
46	<b>Dr. Mohammed Al-Smadi</b>	Jordan	FAPPD Secretary General
<b>Philippines</b>			
47	<b>Rep. Krisel Lagman</b>	Philippines	MP
48	<b>Sen. Risa Hontiveros</b>	Philippines	MP
49	<b>Rep. Perci Cendaña</b>	Philippines	MP
50	<b>Hon. Kaka Bag-ao</b>	Philippines	MP
51	<b>Ms. Sarah Elago Gabriela</b>	Philippines	Former MP; MC of Session

52	<b>Ms. Aurora Quilala</b>	Philippines	Executive Director, PLCPD
53	<b>Ms. Nenita Dalde</b>	Philippines	PLCPD officer
54	<b>Ms. Angelica Ramirez</b>	Philippines	PLCPD Director for Knowledge Resource Center
55	<b>Yuki Abion</b>	Philippines	PLCPD
56	<b>Luisa Galicia</b>	Philippines	PLCPD
<b>Guest Speaker</b>			
57	<b>Ms. Maho Nakayama</b>	Japan	Sasakawa Peace Foundation
58	<b>Ms. Jona Turalde</b>	Philippines	Founder of Malaya CSE
59	<b>Ms. Malou Mangahas</b>	Philippines	
60	<b>Ms. Anna Marie Alhambra</b>	Philippines	Consultant
61	<b>Dr. Hadley Rose</b>	Online	Consultant
<b>Embassy</b>			
62	<b>H.E. Endo Kazuya</b>	Japan	Ambassador
63	<b>H.E. Lee Sang-hwa</b>	Korea	Ambassador
64	<b>Jung Hyun Jung</b>	Korea	Counsellor
65	<b>Kim Dong Hoo</b>	Korea	Second Secretary
<b>Partner Organizations</b>			
66	<b>Mr. Pio Smith</b>	Video	Regional Director, Asia and Pacific Regional Office (APRO)
67	<b>Mr. Jose Roi Avena</b>	UNFPA	Assistant Representatives, UNFPA Philippines

68	<b>Ms. Fukuda Tomoko</b>	online	Regional Director, International Planned Parenthood Federation East and South East Asia and Oceania Region
69	<b>Mr. Dakshitha Wickremarathne</b>	FP2030	Senior Technical Lead, Advocacy, Accountability and Partnerships Asia-Pacific Regional Hub, FP2030
70	<b>Ms. Sumita Banerjee</b>	FP2030	Managing Director, Asia Pacific Regional Hub, FP2030
71	<b>Mr. Yi Chanprasnar</b>	PCAsia	Executive Director, Parliamentary Centre of Asia
72	<b>Mr. Jeffrey Cole</b>	PCAsia	Director of Capacity Development
73	<b>Ms. Madiha Latif</b>	PATHFINDER	VP of Strategic Engagement and Innovation
74	<b>Dr. Ikegami Kiyoko</b>	Japan	Secretary General/Vice-chair of APDA
75	<b>Dr. Farrukh Usmonov</b>	Japan	Executive Director of AFPPD
76	<b>Ms. Hitomi Tsunekawa</b>	Japan	Executive Director of APDA
77	<b>Ms. Haga Yukika</b>	Japan	APDA

## Appendix 2: Program

### AFPPD Annual Regional Conference:

*Fulfilling commitments to ICPD PoA and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*

3-5 September 2025 | Novotel Hotel, Manila, Philippines

Day 1: 3 September 2025, Wednesday	
9:00 - 9:50	<p><b>OPENING CEREMONIES</b> Emcee: Ms. Sarah Elago, <i>former MP Philippines</i></p> <p><b>Philippine National Anthem</b></p> <p><b>Welcome remarks</b> Hon. Cielo Krisel Lagman, <i>MP Philippines, Officer of PLCPD and AFPPD</i></p> <p><b>Messages</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Pio Smith, <i>Regional Director, UNFPA Asia and the Pacific Regional Office</i> (video message)</li> <li>• Ms. Sumita Banerjee, <i>Managing Director, FP2030 Asia Pacific Regional Hub</i></li> <li>• Hon. Ferdinand Martin Romualdez, <i>Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Philippines</i> to be represented by Hon. Ferjenel Biron, <i>Deputy Speaker</i></li> <li>• Hon. Marcelino Libanan, <i>Minority Leader, House of Representatives of the Philippines</i></li> <li>• Hon. Risa Hontiveros, <i>MP Philippines and Chair of PLCPD</i> (video message)</li> <li>• Hon. Kamikawa Yoko, <i>MP Japan, Chair of AFPPD</i></li> </ul>
9:50 - 10:10	<b>Photo session &amp; Coffee break</b>
10:10 - 11:30	<p><b>SESSION 1:</b> <b>Breaking Barriers: Advancing Women’s Empowerment and Gender Equality</b> Session Chair: Hon. Sibghatullah Shibzada, <i>MP Pakistan</i></p> <p><u>Presentations:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Breaking down barriers, changing social norms through legislation Ms. Sarah Elago, <i>former MP Philippines</i></li> <li>2. Impact of technology and social media on women and girls [Case study: New Zealand] Hon. Catherine Wedd, <i>MP New Zealand</i></li> <li>3. [Title of presentation]</li> </ol>

	<p>Mr. Dakshitha Wickremarathne, <i>Senior Technical Lead, Advocacy, Accountability and Partnership, FP2030 Asia and the Pacific Regional Hub</i></p> <p>4. Women, Peace and Security</p> <p>Atty. Paula Deveraturda, <i>Research Adviser, Peacebuilding Program, Sasakawa Peace Foundation</i></p> <p>Open forum: 30 minutes</p>
11:30 - 12:50	<p><b>SESSION 2:</b></p> <p><b>Youth at the Center: Policies for a Sustainable Future</b></p> <p>Session Chair: Hon. Dr. Kolakanh Phommvong, <i>MP Lao PDR and Co-Chair of AFPPD Standing Committee on Investing in Youth</i></p> <p><u>Presentations:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maximizing demographic dividend: Futureproofing the workforce [Case study: Cambodia] Hon. Seng Nhak, <i>MP Cambodia</i></li> <li>2. Utilizing digital media and policy advocacy for youth empowerment [Case study: India] Hon. Deepender Hooda, <i>MP India and Vice Chair of AFPPD</i></li> <li>3. The role of young people in advocacy work toward the fulfillment of the SDGs Ms. Jona Turalde, <i>Founder of Malaya CSE Philippines</i></li> <li>4. Implementation of policies toward empowering young people [Case study: Uzbekistan] Hon. Abdullaev Bakhrom, <i>MP Uzbekistan</i></li> </ol> <p>Open forum: 30 minutes</p>
12:50 - 13:45	<p><b>Lunch</b></p> <p>(Restaurant: Food Exchange Manila, Ground Floor, Novotel)</p>
13:45 - 15:00	<p><b>SESSION 3:</b></p> <p><b>Promoting Healthy and Active Aging in the Asia-Pacific</b></p> <p>Session Chair: Hon. Hector Appuhamy, <i>MP Sri Lanka and Chair of AFPPD Standing Committee on Active Ageing</i></p> <p><u>Presentations:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Best practices in promoting active aging across the Pacific region [Case study: Australia] Ms. Megan Connor, <i>APGPD Secretariat</i></li> <li>2. Addressing mental health and social isolation among the aging population Hon. Sri Wulan Sutomo, <i>MP Indonesia</i></li> <li>3. Case study: Republic of Korea Hon. Nam In-Soon, <i>MP Korea</i></li> </ol>

	Open forum: 30 minutes
15:00 - 15:10	<b>Coffee break</b>
15:10 -16:10	<p><b>SESSION 4:</b>  <b>Parliamentarians’ Networking to Address the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</b>  Session Chair: Hon. Yogesh Gauchan Thakali, <i>MP Nepal and Co-chair of AFPPD Standing Committee on Investing in Youth</i></p> <p><u>Presentations by:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. Yi Prasnar, <i>Executive Director, PCAsia</i></li> <li>2. Dr. Mohammad Al-Smadi, <i>Secretary General, Forum of Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAPPD)</i></li> <li>3. Mr. Musa Wamala Buyungo, <i>Coordinator, African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (APFPD/FPA)</i></li> </ol> <p>Open forum: 30 minutes</p>
16:10 - 16:40	<p><b>MOU SIGNING CEREMONY</b>  Moderator: Dr. Usmonov Farrukh, <i>Executive Director, AFPPD</i></p> <p>Signing of MOU between AFPPD and Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AFPPD and Pathfinder</li> <li>- AFPPD and FP2030</li> <li>- AFPPD and PCAsia</li> </ul>
17:00 - 18:00	<p><b>100<sup>th</sup> ExCom Meeting</b>  <i>Meeting of the members of the AFPPD Executive Committee only</i>  (Venue: Degas, 3rd Floor)</p>
18:30 - 20:00	<p><b>SOLIDARITY DINNER</b>  (Venue: Monet Ballroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)</p>
<b>Day 2: 4 September 2025, Thursday</b>	
9:00 - 10:15	<p><b>SESSION 5:</b>  <b>Climate Change and its Impact on the Implementation of 2030 Agenda</b>  Session Chair: Hon. Mavsuma Muini, <i>Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Tajikistan and Chair of AFPPD Standing Committee on Climate Change</i></p> <p><u>Presentations:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Impact of climate change on the implementation of SDGs [Case study: Timor Leste]  Hon. Cedelizia Faria dos Santos, <i>MP Timor Leste</i></li> <li>2. Impact of climate change on young people [Case study: Maldives]  Hon. Dr. Anara Naeem, <i>MP Maldives</i></li> <li>3. Case study: Philippines</li> </ol>

	<p>Mr. Joel Chester Pagulayan, <i>Climate Justice Portfolio Manager, Oxfam Philippines</i></p> <p>Open forum: 30 minutes</p>
10:15 - 11:15	<p><b>WORDS INTO ACTION: COMMITMENT SETTING</b></p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Usmonov Farrukh, <i>Executive Director, AFPPD</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evaluation of implementation of AFPPD's Strategic Plan for 2023-2025 Ms. Anna Marie Alhambra, <i>consultant</i></li> <li>- Draft of the new Strategic Plan for 2026-2029 Dr. Hadley Rose, <i>consultant</i> (online)</li> </ul> <p>Open forum: 30 minutes</p>
11:30 - 11:45	<b>Coffee break</b>
11:45 - 12:45	<p><b>SESSION 6 (Talk Show):</b></p> <p><b>Upholding Global Commitments: Progress in Advancing ICPD and SDGs</b></p> <p>Host: Ms. Malou Mangahas, <i>journalist from the Philippines</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hon. Howard Lee Chow How, <i>MP Malaysia and Secretary General of AFPPD</i></li> <li>2. Hon. Elvira Surabaldieva, <i>MP Kyrgyzstan and Vice Chair of AFPPD</i></li> <li>3. Ms. Madiha Latif, <i>Vice President, Strategic Engagement and Innovation, Pathfinder</i></li> <li>4. Mr. Jose Roi Avena, <i>UNFPA Philippines Assistant Representative</i></li> </ol> <p>Open forum: 15 minutes</p>
12:45 - 13:00	<p><b>CLOSING CEREMONIES</b></p> <p>Emcee: Ms. Angie Ramirez, <i>PLCPD</i></p> <p><u>Synthesis and Way Forward</u> Ms. Ma. Aurora Quilala, <i>Executive Director, PLCPD</i> and Dr. Usmonov Farrukh, <i>Executive Director, AFPPD</i></p> <p><u>Closing message</u> <b>Ms. Fukuda Tomoko</b>, <i>Regional Director, International Planned Parenthood Federation East and South East Asia and Oceania Region</i> (online)</p>
13:00 -14:00	<p><b>Lunch</b></p> <p>(Restaurant: Food Exchange Manila, Ground Floor, Novotel)</p>
14:10 -15:30	<b>Session for Secretariat officers only</b>
<b>Day 3: 5 September 2025, Friday</b>	
8:00 - 8:10	Meet at lobby (Venue: <i>Novotel Manila Araneta City</i> )
8:10 - 9:30	Travel to Meta Philippines office at Bonifacio Global City in Taguig, Metro Manila
9:30 - 12:00	<b>FIELD VISIT TO META PHILIPPINES OFFICE AND LEARNING EXCHANGE</b>

	<p><b>Impact of technology and social media on children and adolescents</b>  Moderator: Fiscal Ging Lomanta, <i>Department of Justice (DOJ)</i></p> <p>Online Safety for Children and Adolescents  Deputy Regional Prosecutor Barbara Mae Flores, <i>DOJ National Coordination Center against OSAEC and CSAEM</i></p> <p>Responsibilities of Internet Service Providers  Ms. Andri Kusumo, <i>APAC Program Manager, Trust &amp; Safety Global Engagements, Google</i></p> <p>Regulation of Social Media Platforms  Ms. Malina Enlund, <i>Trust and Safety Manager for Facebook in South East Asia</i></p>
12:00-1:00	Lunch at Meta Philippines



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