JPFP Newsletter

Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP)

No.112 November 2021

Established in 1974, JPFP is the world's first supra-partisan parliamentary group on population and development.

In an age when global solidarity is needed to address various challenges, JPFP is expected to play an increasingly important role as a parliamentarian caucus with a long history and tradition of leading Japan's diplomacy in the international community.

In every issue of JPFP Newsletter, we will carry "JPFP Column" and "News" on activities and initiatives related to population and development issues.

News:

- Intergenerational
 Dialogue between Youth
 and Arab and Asian
 Parliamentarians
- Global Young Leaders Course

[Editorial responsibility: JPFP secretariat]

News

Intergenerational Dialogue between Youth and Arab and Asian Parliamentarians

On 18 November 18, the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), which serves as the secretariat to JPFP, hosted the webinar on *"Intergenerational Dialogue between Youth and Arab and Asian Parliamentarians for Achieving Sustainable Development"*. The webinar was supported by the UNFPA Arab States Regional Office (ASRO) and Japan Trust Fund (JTF).

APDA initiated and ran a program this year called the "Global Young Leaders Course", with a series of 12 sessions that included lectures by experts working at the forefront of their respective fields. It aims to sensitize young future leaders to explore solutions to sustainable development. Twelve motivated young participants completed the course. (See pp.2-3 for details.)

The webinar on 18 November provided an excellent opportunity for them to take stock of issues and present their opinions based on what they had learned in the course and to exchange views with Arab and Asian parliamentarians.

At the opening, Hon. Yoko Kamikawa, Chair of JPFP and Member of the Board of Directors of APDA, thanked the participants. She noted that COP26 had just come to a close, and said that to bring about sustainable development, we need to reassess the concept of "development", which had been achieved at the expense of putting a burden on the environment. She stressed the importance of young people's engagement in changing society and discovering new ideas and methods, and encouraged young people by saying, "Innovative ideas that will be presented today by the young participants will surely help parliamentarians identify new policy issues".

Dr. Luay Shabaneh, Regional Director of UNFPAASRO, then gave an address on behalf of the supporting organization. He said that UNFPA ASRO hoped to put more efforts into mobilizing young parliamentarians in the future, and from that perspective, he thanked the organizer for hosting the webinar that was both timely and informative.



In the group session facilitated by Dr. Hanna Yoon, the founder of the Global Young Leaders Course, three groups of young participants made presentations on the following topics:

Presentation Group A: Poverty: Helping Minorities with Smart Agriculture

Presentation Group B: Environment: Digitally Mapping Out Trash Cans to Reduce Public Littering

Presentation Group C: Ageing: Overcoming Social Isolation of the Elderly through the Use of Technology

The presenters received lavish praise and many comments from parliamentarians and national committee members from Morocco, Tunisia, Bahrain, India, and other Arab and Asian countries. Many expressed hope to conduct similar youth-parliamentarian interaction in their countries and to collaborate with research institutions.

Hon. Mariany Mohammad Yit, a former parliamentarian from Malaysia, pointed out the importance of tackling population issues as well as the issues of agricultural production, and

Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP)

Established 1 April, 1974

Chair: Hon. Yoko Kamikawa (7th Chair)

Membership: 69 (As of 30 November 2021)

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Back numbers are available from this link a

https://www.apda.jp/en/topics.html

urged APDA to integrate related activities in its projects. "The very purpose of establishing APDA was to achieve sustainable development by addressing the issues of population and food", replied Dr. Osamu Kusumoto, Executive Director of APDA. "In that respect, we hope to integrate the perspective of agricultural production as much as possible".

Lastly, Hon. Rida Khawaldeh, a senator from Jordan, reiterated his appreciation for the enthusiastic participation and meaningful dialogue at the webinar, and expressed hope to further promote participation from the Arab region. Online participants from Japan were Hon. Yoko Kamikawa, Chair of JPFP, Hon. Noriko Horiuchi, and Hon. Hiroe Makiyama.

Global Young Leaders Course

Under the initiative of Hon. Yoko Kamikawa, Member of the Board of Directors of APDA and Chair of JPFP, APDA is focusing on "youth" as part of its activities. This year, APDA organized the APDA Global Young Leaders Course from July to September; the *Intergenerational Dialogue of Asian Parliamentarians and Youth Advocates on Meaningful Youth Engagement* in July; and the *Intergenerational Dialogue between Youth and Arab and Asian Parliamentarians for Achieving Sustainable Development* in November.

The APDA Global Young Leaders Course is one of APDA's activities on the topic of youth. It aims to develop in youth's awareness and a sense of ownership of issues related to sustainable development and to encourage them to explore ideas to address such issues. The course is designed around a series of 10 lectures by world-leading researchers and practitioners on the topic of SDGs and two interview sessions with parliamentarians. The participants presented what they learned in the course at the *Intergenerational Dialogue between Youth and Arab and Asian Parliamentarians for Achieving Sustainable Development* in November.

Video: A digest of the Global Young Leaders Course https://youtu.be/wICnxuyvv14

[Course Contents]

Saturday, 3 July, 10:00-13:00 *"Introduction"* Dr. Osamu Kusumoto, Secretary General/Executive Director of APDA

Saturday, 10 July, 10:00-13:00 *"Time to Figure out How to Practice Zero-Waste"* Dr. Helen Lee, Former Professor at Troy University

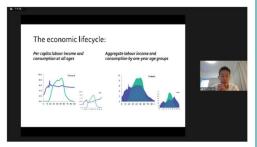
Saturday, 17 July 2021, 15:00-18:00 *"Discussion in the possibility of a solution to the Zero Hunger"* Ms. Siobhan Tracey, Lawyer, Communications Consultant

Saturday, 24 July, 17:00-20:00 "The Current State of Health Inequality around the World on the COVID-19 Era" Prof. David Smith, Associate Professor of Social Policy at the University of Anglia Ruskin

Saturday, 31 July (Sat) 9:30-12:30 *"Climate Smart Agriculture"* Mr. Saroj Dash, in charge of International Programs for Concern Worldwide

Saturday, 14 August (Sat) 9:30-12:30 "Population aging and low fertility: Life-cycle approach" Dr. Rintaro Mori MD PhD MSc FRCPCH, Regional Adviser for Population Ageing and Sustainable Development at United Nations

Population Fund (UNFPA)



Saturday, 21 August, 9:30-12:30 *"How can we confront the next pandemic?"* Dr. Mitsunobu Kano, Vice Executive Director at Okayama University, Chair of SDGs Initiatives Planning Committee, Science and Technology Co-Adviser to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, APDA Senior Fellow



Saturday, 28 August, 9:30-12:30 *"An Opportunity in Social Issues: Indonesia, which has brought the value of startups"* Mr. Kevin Sanjoto, Co-CEO of AI IT technology company "Alphabeta", founder of XENI and "Zerowait"

Saturday, 4 September, 15:00~18:00 *"Thinking about Solutions to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the Mobility Sector"* Mr. Saemoon Yoon, Community Lead, Technology Pioneers at World Economic Forum

Saturday, 25 September, 9:00-12:00 *"To Propose a New Role of Youth in Poverty, Environment, and Aging Issues"* Ms. Farhana Haque Rahman, Senior Vice President of Inter Press Service (IPS)



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