



Established in 1974, JPPF 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, JPPF is expected to play an increasingly important role as a parliamentary caucus with a long history and tradition of leading Japan's diplomacy in the international community.

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

News:

○ APDA/AFPPD 40th Anniversary

[Editorial responsibility: JPPF secretariat]

News

APDA/AFPPD 40th Anniversary

The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), which serves as the secretariat for JPPF, and the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) will be celebrating their 40th anniversary this year.

The network of parliamentarians on population and development, which originated in Asia through the leadership of Japanese parliamentarians, actively promotes activities for parliamentarians from the Asia, Africa, and Arab regions, together with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), and other civil society organizations.

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of APDA and AFPPD, we would like to share with you messages from Hon. Yasuo Fukuda, Chair of APDA, Hon. Prof. Keizo Takemi, Chair of AFPPD, and Hon. Yoko Kamikawa, Chair of JPPF.

【APDA Chairs】



First
Mr. Tatsuo Tanaka
Former Minister of
Education
1982-1990



Second
Mr. Takashi Sato
Former Minister of
Agriculture, Forestry
and Fisheries
1990-1991



Third
Mr. Fukusaburo Maeda
Former President of
Nipon Television City
Corporation
1991-1998



Fourth
Dr. Taro Nakayama
Former Minister of
Foreign Affairs
1998-2007

【Message by Hon. Yasuo Fukuda, Chair of APDA】

APDA has consistently propounded groundbreaking concepts and frameworks and led international public opinion and activities in this field. Based on the idea that it is necessary to promote balanced development through social development in order to ameliorate a rapid increase in population and poverty, we have consistently advocated, ahead of the international community, to address population issues from such a perspective of economic and social development.

Under this principle, Japanese parliamentarians launched JPPF, the world's first supra-partisan parliamentary group on population and development, in 1974, followed by the founding of APDA in 1982. JPPF and APDA strongly supported the establishment of regional parliamentary fora and National Committees on Population and Development in various countries, and created a groundbreaking framework of a parliamentary network. Through this network of parliamentarians, APDA and JPPF have taken the lead in parliamentary activities on population and development around the world, effectively sharing diverse knowledge, including Japan's experiences and promoting international cooperation, which resulted in concrete results.



Fifth
Mr. Yasuo Fukuda
Former Prime Minister
2007-

Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JFPF)

Established 1 April, 1974

Chair: Hon. Yoko Kamikawa (7th Chair)

Membership: 74 (As of 31 January 2022)

Secretariat: Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

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Back numbers are available from this link

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

Japanese politicians, who were involved in JFPF and APDA, also played a central role in the formation of the concept of “sustainable development”, which is the basis for today’s SDGs. They requested the United Nations to establish the World Commission on Environment and Development (commonly known as Brundtland Commission) in 1984, and the concept of “sustainable development” was presented in their report adopted in 1987.

On the occasion of our 40th anniversary, we would like to continue to promote inter-regional cooperation and collaboration in response to the challenges faced by each region, and address population and development issues both domestically and internationally from a long-term perspective, beyond the SDGs. In particular, we would like to focus not only on the aspect of economic development, but also on valuing each individual, drawing out full potential of each, respecting each culture and tradition, and fostering the importance of cultivating humanity.

【AFPPD Chairs】



First
Mr. Takashi Sato
Former Minister of
Agriculture, Forestry and
Fisheries
1982-1993



Second
Mr. Shin Sakurai
Former Minister of State,
Director General,
Environment Agency
1993-2000



Third
Mr. Yoshio Yatsu
Former Minister of
Agriculture, Forestry
and Fisheries
2000-2005



Fourth
Mr. Yasuo Fukuda
Former Prime
Minister
2005-2013

【Message by Hon. Prof. Keizo Takemi, Chair of AFPPD】

Upon his retirement from the House of Representatives, the former Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda asked me to succeed him as Chair of AFPPD. AFPPD is not merely an advocacy organization. As a strategic partner of UNFPA, we have taken action with resolve to address population issues based on broad, collective wisdom of parliamentarians.

Taking into consideration the relevant resolutions after the ICPD and the population issues in the Asian region, we first decided to address the three issues of gender, the elderly, and youth. To strengthen governance, we established three standing committees, and we ensure effective functioning of the network through active participation of members from different countries as well as participation of observers in Executive Committee meetings. Steady progress has been made in recent years, and through Asian regional seminars in Kazakhstan, Thailand, the Philippines, Malaysia, and elsewhere, there has been a lively exchange of ideas, albeit online.

As for ageing, which is the most prominent feature of population issues in Asia, we have succeeded in raising awareness about ageing among UNFPA and Asian parliamentarians through seminars and other activities involving the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, the Ministry of Health of Vietnam, and private organizations. We feel that this is truly a major achievement for AFPPD.

Central Asia has particularly large numbers of migrant workers who go abroad, and we are seeing political instability in this region. AFPPD has taken the lead in promoting education as a means to reduce youth unemployment and in discussing intersectoral policies, including industrial promotion. With the participation of ministers from various countries, these efforts had a significant impact.



Fifth
Prof. Keizo Takemi
Senior Vice-Minister of
Health, Labour and
Welfare
2013-

In the field of gender, Australia with a member serving as AFPPD Vice Chair and New Zealand with a member serving as Co-Chair of our Standing Committee have been energetically involved in gender issues. A seminar held in Bangkok on the serious problems of domestic violence in South Asia was attended by parliamentarians, social activists, and women leaders from around the world. It succeeded in capturing the issues from a global perspective.

In our upcoming conference, we will be discussing what is needed to achieve the SDGs by 2030 and looking beyond to the future of our society. To address the pressing issues of climate change and other global threats, I think that in addition to the concept of human security, which focuses on individual persons, we need to reassess population issues within a new framework of the Anthropocene. Discussion from such a perspective has not yet taken place anywhere. I look forward to a lively discussion on population that meets the needs of the times within this new framework.

[Message by Hon. Yoko Kamikawa, Chair of JPFP]

Congratulations on the 40th anniversary of the establishment of APDA and AFPPD. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the parliamentarians who partner with APDA and JPFP for the support and cooperation.

As various global issues are becoming more and more serious, it has become clear that population and development issues are complicatedly and closely related to various other areas, with diversified demographics around the world. Therefore, as the principles of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), which is a major outcome of our activities to date, have been taken over by the principles of the SDGs, it is no exaggeration to say that resolving population issues, which we have been aiming for, will also mean the achievement of the SDGs.

APDA has been working on food and population issues from a wide perspective, and now it is required to deepen the discussions on topics such as health, “water for life”, and climate change from the perspective of population. Needless to say, our role as parliamentarians is to serve the people of respective countries, fulfilling a responsible role in legislation and administration in order to realize a society where everyone can maintain life and health and enjoy human rights and quality of life bestowed upon people.

However, in order to do so, what we have learned from the COVID-19 pandemic is how important it is to share experiences and knowledge of each country with the rest of the world.

I hope that APDA will further contribute to achieving the ICPD Programme of Action and SDGs, and to ushering in a new era of post-COVID, by strengthening the networks and platforms of parliamentarians around the world that it has developed over the past 40 years since its establishment. In doing so, I believe that, with an eye to the demographic trends in Asia and the Pacific, Arab and African regions, it will be more effective for APDA to prioritize common issues of the parliamentarians in these regions and make efforts to bring about results. At the same time, it will become increasingly important to conduct awareness-raising activities by strengthening partnerships with UNFPA and other UN agencies, civil society, and the private sector.

We, JPFP, will continue to work hand in hand with APDA and do our best to achieve the same goal.



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Federation (IPPF)