



JPFP Newsletter

Secretariat of Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP)
Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

December 2024

JPFP Discusses Strengthening Support in the Field of Population

On 10 December, a meeting was held by the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP), led by its Executive Members, to discuss strategies for enhancing Japan's support in the population field. The population issue has become increasingly critical, particularly in light of ongoing conflicts and the evolving political landscape, including the recent U.S. presidential election. The meeting began with an explanation on Japan's contributions to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) by Mr. Imanishi Nobuharu, Deputy Director-General/Deputy Assistant Minister of the International Cooperation Bureau at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Imanishi mentioned that the Ministry recognizes the importance of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and reaffirmed its commitment to addressing population issues. Ms. Arakaki Shoko, Director of UNFPA Humanitarian Response Division, presented the Japanese edition of the *State of World Population 2024* and reported on humanitarian activities. While she explained how international support has helped address gender-based violence (GBV) and protect sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in crisis situations, she also underscored the growing need for emergency aid and the urgent necessity of increasing support for women in dire circumstances.

From IPPF, Ms. Fukuda Tomoko, Regional Director of East and South East Asia and Oceania, briefed on a formal request to JPFP from four Alliance members (namely IPPF, JOICFP, AFPPD and APDA). The request expressed concerns that the Global Gag Rule (GGR), which is expected to be reintroduced in 2025 under the Trump administration, would restrict assistance in SRHR, global health, and other areas including humanitarian assistance. Therefore, the Alliance's request calls for an increase in Japan's political and economic support in the population field. To this end, Hon. Kamikawa Yoko, Chair of JPFP, emphasized the need for both JPFP and the Government of Japan to enhance cooperation and coordination with other governments. She also highlighted the importance of working with various organizations involved in population issues to discuss effective measures.



Toward JFPF's 50th Anniversary #13

Toward Beijing+30: JFPF's contributions to the Fourth World Conference on Women

The year 2025 marks the 30th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing, China, in 1995 (Beijing+30) and the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action^[1] by 189 countries. The Beijing Declaration consists of 38 items aimed at promoting gender equality and the full participation of women in all areas, while the Beijing Platform for Action describes strategic objectives and actions for the advancement of women in 12 critical areas of concern (namely, Poverty, Education and Training, Health, Violence against Women, Armed Conflict, Economy, Power and Decision-making, Institutional Mechanism for the Advancement of Women, Human Rights, Media, Environment, and the Girl-child). The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action serve as important instruments for policy formulation and implementation in countries around the world to this day.

In 1995, immediately before the Fourth World Conference on Women, JFPF hosted a Meeting of Parliamentarians on Gender, Population and Development (IMPGPD) in Tokyo, Japan, bringing together approximately 200 participants, including 91 parliamentarians from 57 countries, representatives from UNFPA and IPPF, ambassadors, experts, and other stakeholders. Under the leadership of Hon. Dr. Nakayama Taro, Chair of JFPF, and Hon. Shimizu Kayoko, Chair of the IMPGPD Steering Committee, participants discussed enthusiastically and adopted the Tokyo Declaration^[2], with the aim of ensuring that the Platform for Action to be adopted in Beijing would be more progressive than the Programme of Action adopted at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD, Cairo Conference). The IMPGPD was an impactful meeting, as many of the participating parliamentarians were also participants in the Fourth World Conference on Women. The Fourth conference became a significant step forward from the 3rd World Conference on Women held in Nairobi 10 years earlier, as the adopted Platform for Action calls for bold

improvements in national women's policies to improve the status of women and empower women.

APDA, with the cooperation of Y-PEER Asia-Pacific, is disseminating information regarding Beijing+30 on social networking [sites](#).

[1] UN WOMEN, <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/> .

[2] APDA, 1995, "[Population and Development Issue No. 53](#)" (Japanese) (p.31-39).



Activities for Strengthening National Committees on Population and Development in the African Region

On 14-15 November 2024, the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), African Parliamentarians Forum on Population and Development (FPA), and Ghana Parliamentary Caucus on Population and Development conducted a study visit programme on population and development for FPA Executive Members in Accra, Ghana. Over two days, the delegation visited several institutions, including UNFPA Office, Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana (PPAG), which is a member association of IPPF, National Population Council, and other government institutions and parliamentary committees to learn about Ghana's best practices. (Read [more.](#))

On 19-20 November, APDA, together with the host Ethiopian National Assembly, held a parliamentarians' meeting on ICPD Programme of Action in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Approximately 30 Ethiopian parliamentarians attended the meeting and made recommendations for actionable measures to achieve the ICPD Programme of Action. Based on these recommendations, the establishment of the "Ethiopian Parliamentarians Forum on Population and Development" was agreed upon. (Read [more.](#))

These two programmes were supported by UNFPA and Japan Trust Fund (JTF), in cooperation with IPPF.



Meeting with young people at PPAG

JPPF

Established in 1974, JPPF has the longest history in the world as a supra-partisan parliamentary group on population and development. JPPF, in concert with APDA, has created a network of parliamentarians on population and development, through which a diverse range of knowledge and experience has been shared to accomplish concrete results.

[Read more](#)

APDA

APDA since its establishment in 1982 has served as the secretariat of JPPF.

[Read more](#)

Supported by the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

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