

## AFPPD elects JPFP Chair Kamikawa Yoko as Chair

The Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) and the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA; Secretariat of JPFP) held the AFPPD Executive Committee Meetings and General Assembly on 27 April in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. At the General Assembly, JPFP Chair Hon. Kamikawa Yoko was elected the new Chair of AFPPD, succeeding Hon. Prof. Takemi Keizo, Executive Director of JPFP, who served in the role for 12 years. Other new office bearers were also elected. (AFPPD website: <https://afppd.net/> )

The event was co-hosted by AFPPD Malaysia, with support from the Japan Trust Fund (JTF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). Approximately 70 participants took part in the General Assembly, including parliamentarians from 23 countries across the Asia-Pacific region, high-level government officials—among them H.E. Shikata Noriyuki, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Malaysia— as well as representatives of international organizations, and civil society organizations.

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## TICAD Feature Article #4

### Successful Case of the Ghana Parliamentarians Forum on Population and Development

The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA; JPFP Secretariat) has partnered with the African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (FPA) and national parliamentary caucuses on population and development to implement various initiatives across Africa. Among these efforts, in Ghana, the Ghana Parliamentary Caucus on Population and Development (GPCPD)—the largest parliamentary caucus in the Parliament of Ghana—has achieved numerous significant outcomes. Notable achievements include the Criminal Code (Amendment) Act 2007, which strengthens penalties for female genital mutilation (FGM) and expands the definition of those held responsible for the practice. The GPCPD also contributed to amendments to the Criminal Code that criminalize harmful socio-cultural practices, such as the *trokosi* system, in which parents give their female children to priests as repayment for debts.

GPCPD members also played a major role in enacting the Domestic Violence Act 2007 (Act 732), which addresses acts of domestic violence not only against women but also against men and children. In addition, they supported the establishment of the National Health Insurance Scheme, the creation of the National Youth Employment Agency, and the provision of free technical and vocational training at the secondary-level education.

Currently, Hon. Dr. Abdul-Rashid Hassan Pelpuo, Chair of GPCPD and Minister of Labour, Jobs, and Employment of Ghana, serves as President of FPA and is leading its activities.



[\*A video message toward TICAD9\*](#)

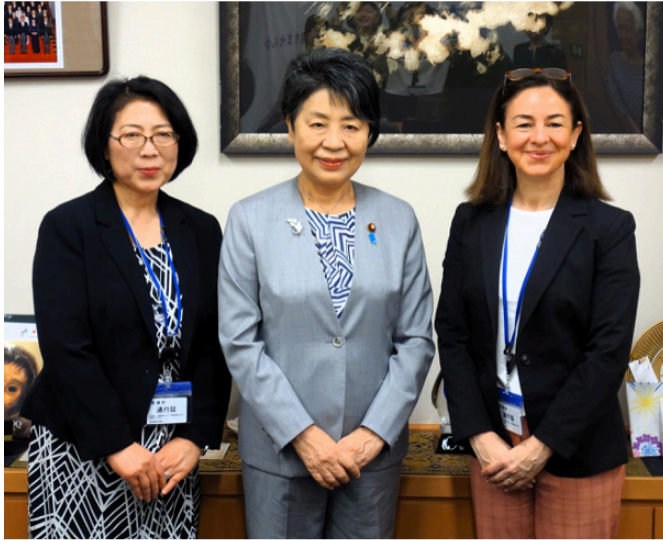
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### IPPF Makes a Courtesy Visit to JPFP Executive Members

Ms. Riva Eskinazi, Director of Donor Relations, and Ms. Taniguchi Yuri, Chief (Asia) of Donor Relations and Fundraising Team, both from the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), paid a courtesy call on JPFP Chair Hon. Kamikawa Yoko, Acting Chair Hon. Aisawa Ichiro, and Secretary-General Hon. Kikawada Hitoshi.

In 2023, IPPF delivered a total 226.9 million sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services worldwide and reached 12.5 million people in need of sexual and reproductive health in emergency (SRHiE) services in humanitarian settings. However, due to recent policy changes by the U.S. administration, many services have already been suspended or are at risk of suspension. It is estimated that this could lead to an additional 3.1 million unintended pregnancies and 756,000 unsafe abortions.

During the meetings, JPFP and IPPF exchanged views on strategies to sustain IPPF's activities, as well as on expectations for Japan's leadership in this area.



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## JPFP

## APDA

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

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Supported by the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

Established in 1974, JPFP has the longest history in the world as a supra-partisan parliamentary group on population and development. JPFP, 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.



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