



# JPFP Newsletter

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

August 2026

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## JPFP Presents Letter of Request on Population Issues to State Minister for Foreign Affairs

On 4 August, Hon. Kamikawa Yoko, Chair of JPFP, and Hon. Saito Tetsuo, Vice Chair, paid a courtesy call on Hon. Kunimitsu Ayano, State Minister for Foreign Affairs, to present a letter of request for increasing contributions to the field of population issues. Hon. Kamikawa emphasized the importance of international efforts to address population issues as a foundation for achieving sustainable development and expressed her commitment to continuing to advance these efforts in cooperation with the international community. Hon. Kunimitsu expressed her appreciation for JPFP's vigorous activities to date. She stated that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs would continue to address key issues in this field, including Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and women's empowerment, with a view to advancing Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda.

Ms. Taniguchi Yuri, Chief of the Donor Relations and Fundraising Team (Asia) at the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), who also attended the meeting, delivered a message on behalf of IPPF Director-General Maria Antonieta Alcalde. She expressed sincere condolences to those affected by the Kumamoto Earthquake and conveyed deep appreciation for the lives saved through the generous support of the Government of Japan. She also highlighted IPPF's vital role in advancing UHC through the delivery of essential services, with SRHR as an essential component, and emphasized IPPF's role as a key operational partner in reaching those in the last mile.



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## Central Asian Parliamentarians' Conference: Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

On 21 May, the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA; JPFP Secretariat) and the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD), hosted by the Jogorku Kenesh (Supreme Council) of the Kyrgyz Republic, held the Sub-Regional Parliamentarians' Conference on Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. The conference brought together approximately 30 participants from 8 countries in Central Asia and the Caucasus. Discussions covered key challenges, including women's political participation, the gender pay gap, unpaid domestic and care work, gender-based violence (GBV), and technology-facilitated violence. Participants examined practical measures to address these issues, including quota systems and Gender-Responsive Budgeting (GRB). On 22 May, participants visited the "One Village One Product (OVOP)" project in Bishkek, supported by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which promotes women's economic empowerment and independence by developing and marketing products that make use of local resources.

The conference and study visit programme were organized with the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Japan Trust Fund (JTF), and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).

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## IPPF: Support for SRHR and Maternal and Child Health in Afghanistan

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is the world's largest NGO working in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Established in 1952, IPPF has also been a long-standing partner of the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) for over half a century, since JPFP's establishment in 1974. Here, we introduce the achievements of IPPF's activities supported by Japan, as reported at the JPFP meeting held on 17 July.

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In Afghanistan, due to the impacts of conflict and poverty, there are regions where reaching medical facilities is extremely difficult, leaving people facing life-threatening risks. In response to this situation, IPPF Afghanistan (AFGA), with support from Japan, launched a project to provide SRH and maternal and child health services in March 2025. By establishing Family Health Houses at 21 locations across Logar and Parwan provinces, the project provides a wide range of support, including antenatal care, childbirth care, family planning, nutritional support, psychosocial healthcare, and child health services.

From March to December 2025, a total of 160,041 services were provided to 47,133 people. This enabled people who previously lacked access to medical services to receive appropriate care, making a significant contribution to improving maternal and child health and protecting lives.

For more details and a video, please visit the [IPPF website](#):



## JPFP

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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## 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)



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