

**The 31st Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting
on Population and Development**
*ICPD 25: Moving Forward the Unfinished Business of the
ICPD*

23-24 October 2019
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

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FOREWORD

The 31st Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development is focused on the theme “*ICPD+25: Moving Forward the Unfinished Business of the ICPD*”.

The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), established in 1982, is the Secretariat of the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) and it has been working to enhance the capacity of parliamentarians in their efforts to address population and development issues.

In particular, APDA promotes inter-regional/regional collaboration to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and implementing the 1994 Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). To this end, APDA has regularly organized programmes that serve as a valuable platform for the exchange of experiences, knowledge, good practices, lessons learned, and ways to move forward on a wide range of population issues and challenges.

Parliamentarians act as the fourth pillar for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and SDGs. We hope that the substance and recommendations of the meeting will be of value and assistance to Asian parliamentarians and other stakeholders in the region as we persist in our efforts to strengthen the commitment to addressing the unfinished business of the ICPD.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The 31st Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development on 23-24 October 2019 was organized by APDA and hosted by AFPPD Malaysia. The event was funded by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Japan Trust Fund (JTF), in cooperation with the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).

As the organizer, APDA would like to deeply thank all the Members of Parliament and National Committees on Population and Development (NCs), as well as the resource persons, experts, and members of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) who participated in the event. In addition to AFPPD Malaysia and the Parliament of Malaysia, which extended tremendous cooperation in preparing and implementing the meeting, we would also like to express our sincere appreciation for the active participation of both government and international partners over the two-day meeting. The success of the meeting was due to the collective efforts of individuals and organizations committed to population and development issues.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFPPD	Asian Forum for Parliamentarians on Population and Development
APDA	Asian Population Development Association
APRO	Asia and the Pacific Regional Office, UNFPA
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women
CSO	Civil Society Organization
ESEAOR	East and South East Asia and Oceania Region, IPPF
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, United Nations
ESCPHC	Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee, NPC
FBO	Faith Based Organisations
IAPPD	Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
ICPPD	International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IFPPD	Indonesian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
IPPF	International Planned Parenthood Federation
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JFPF	Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population
JTF	Japan Trust Fund
LAPPD	Lao Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
LSIS	Lao Social Indicator Survey
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MIPAA	Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing
MMR	Maternal Mortality Rate
MP	Member of Parliament
NCD	Non-communicable Diseases
NGO	Non-Government Organisations
NPC	National People's Congress (People's Republic of China)
NPFDB	National Population and Family Development Board, Malaysia
NZPPD	New Zealand Parliamentarians' Group of Population and Development
PAC	Public Accounts Committee, Malaysia
PLCPD	Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and Development Foundation
PRC	People's Republic of China
RH	Reproductive Health
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals

SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights
STI	Sexually transmitted infection
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
UM	University of Malaya
UPM	Universiti (University) Putra Malaysia
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
VAPPD	Vietnam Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development

GROUP PHOTO



Participating Members of Parliament, NC officers, representatives of International Organizations and experts in the 31st Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development

DAY 1 | Wednesday, October 23, 2019

Programme

23 October 2019 - Meeting Day 1	
9.00 - 9.30 am	Registration [Foyer, Hibiscus Room, 10 th Floor, DoubleTree by Hilton, Kuala Lumpur]
9.30 - 10.10 am	Opening [Hibiscus Room, 10th Floor, DoubleTree by Hilton] <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Address by the Organizer</i> Hon. Prof. Keizo Takemi, MP Japan, Executive Director of JFPF, Chair of AFPPD, Member of the Board of Directors of APDA 2. <i>Address</i> Ms. Marcela Suazo, UNFPA Country Representative, Malaysia 3. <i>Opening Address</i> Hon. Dato' Kamarudin Jaffar, MP Malaysia, Deputy Minister of Transport, Chair of AFPPD Malaysia
10.10 - 10.30 am	Group Photo & Coffee Break [Foyer, Hibiscus Room]
10.30 - 11.30 am	Session 1: Finishing the Unfinished Business of the ICPD <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Arthur Erken, Director of Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships, UNFPA [20 min] 2. Ms. Fara Rom, SRHR Youth Advocate and Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) Activist, Malaysia [20 min] 3. Dato Dr. Narimah Awin, Chair of the National Population and Family Development Board, Malaysia [20 min]
11.30 am - 12.00 noon	Discussion [30 min] Session Chair: Hon. Viplove Thakur, MP India, Vice-Chair of IAPPD
12.00 noon - 13.15 pm	Lunch [Makan Kitchen, 11 th Floor, DoubleTree by Hilton]
13.15 - 14.15 pm	Session 2: Drawing on Demographic Trends: Driving Economic Growth and Sustainable Development <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Active Ageing in Asia</i> [15 min] Hon. Prof. Keizo Takemi, MP Japan, Executive Director of JFPF, Chair of AFPPD, Member of the Board of Directors of APDA 2. <i>Achieving a Balanced Fertility Transition</i> [15 min] Dr. Osamu Kusumoto, Executive Director/Secretary General of APDA 3. <i>Promoting Coordinated Economic and Social Development by Actively Responding to Population Issues</i> [15 min] Hon. Dr. Liu Qian, MP China 4. <i>Demographic Changes and Socio-economic Development in Malaysia</i> Dr. Tey Nai Peng, Population Studies Unit, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya, Malaysia [15 min]
14.15 - 14.45 pm	Discussion [30 min]

23 October 2019 - Meeting Day 1	
	Session Chair: Mdm. Dato' Mariany Mohammad Yit, former MP Malaysia
14.45 - 15.00 pm	Coffee Break [Foyer, Hibiscus Room]
15.00 - 16.00 pm	<p>Session 3: Universal Access to SRH As Part of Universal Health Coverage (UHC)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hon. Dr. Liz Craig, MP New Zealand [15 min] 2. Hon. Maria Chin Abdullah, MP Malaysia [15 min] 3. Ms. Tomoko Fukuda, Regional Director for IPPF East and South East Asia and Oceania Region (ESEAOR) [15 min] 4. Dr. Nguyen Van Tien, former MP Vietnam [15 min]
16.00 - 16.30 pm	<p>Discussion [30 min]</p> <p>Session Chair: Hon. Marinus Gea, MP Indonesia</p>
16.30 pm - end	<p>AFPPD Executive Committee Meeting (Members and Invited Observers Only) [Pine Room, 10th Floor, DoubleTree by Hilton]</p>
20.00 pm	<p>Dinner Reception hosted by AFPPD Malaysia [Ballroom B, 10th Floor, DoubleTree by Hilton]</p>

OPENING SESSION

Address by the Organizer

Hon. Prof. Keizo Takemi, MP Japan,
Chair of AFPPD, Executive Director of JFPF and Member of the Board of Directors of APDA



The 31st Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development began with an Address by the Organizer by Hon. Prof. Keizo Takemi. He welcomed all participants to the meeting and started by thanking AFPPD Malaysia for hosting the important event at Kuala Lumpur. Hon. Prof. Takemi also expressed his thanks to UNFPA and AFPPD for their significant contributions in planning and organizing the meeting.

The year 2019 marks the 25th anniversary of the ICPD in Cairo, Egypt, in 1994 and the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 is planned in November “*to celebrate what we have achieved and to accelerate what has yet to be achieved*”. Urging countries to devote their energy to create the best conditions possible to realize the ICPD unfinished business in the following areas, namely:

- (1) Ensuring women's choice and universal access to reproductive health (RH) services in preventing unwanted pregnancies;
- (2) Recognizing that sustainable development is no less possible in countries with extreme low fertility and rapid ageing, fulfilling the aspirations of all couples who want children, and at the same time create jobs for the young and old alike to drive economic growth and ensuring social security system;
- (3) Demanding all governments to allocate more resources in the unfinished ICPD agenda areas and to increase support for regional and global efforts, through a broad perspective in line with the SDGs.

Hon. Prof. Takemi expressed his hope that the participants would be able to delineate the tasks of parliamentarians based on the many changes over the past 25 years and submit the outcome of the meeting's discussion to the Nairobi Summit. He ended his speech by thanking all in advance for their participation and contribution over the next two days.

Address

Ms. Marcela Suazo, UNFPA Representative in Malaysia



Ms. Marcela Suazo began her address by expressing her pleasure and gratitude to be together with Asian parliamentarians to move forward on the unfinished business of the ICPD. She noted that many countries in Asia and the Pacific have come a long way since the adoption of the landmark Programme of Action of ICPD to remove barriers that keep women and girls from their full potentials. Some countries, however, have not been able to fully reap the benefit of the demographic dividend due to limited education opportunities and access to critical healthcare services. There are many emerging population issues in the region as well, represented by rapid population ageing, low fertility and infertility issues that requires more attention.

Ms. Suazo also noted that the world we imagine can become a reality through hope, conviction, courage, partnership and dedication from all parties. The Nairobi Summit in November 2019 represents a unique opportunity to help lift up women and girls, their families and their communities by mobilizing the political will and financial commitment we urgently need to finally and fully implement the ICPD Programme of Action and meet the SDGs by 2030.

Ms. Suazo took the opportunity to congratulate Malaysia for many achievements in maternal and child health, poverty reduction, infrastructure investment, access to education and availability of a skilled workforce. Malaysia's unfinished business of the ICPD includes the need to address rising inequality and unbalanced development across regions by ensuring that health services reach remote communities including ensuring reproductive rights for all people of all ages. The country also needs to deal with the multifaceted aspects of its population ageing and education reform to respond to the challenges of the fourth industrial revolution. Malaysia needs more gender responsive laws that recognize the importance of women's economic empowerment and the management of foreign labour.

She concluded her address by emphasizing the need for parliamentarians to act in tandem with UNFPA and other regional or international partners to advocate for the rights and the needs of the people by improving or introducing better laws. The commitment of parliamentarians is vital as a bridge between the people and the government in building support and enabling environment to accelerate and achieve the promises made by the ICPD 25 years ago.

Opening Address

Hon. Dato' Kamarudin Jaffar, MP Malaysia,
Deputy Minister of Transport and Chair of AFPPD Malaysia



Hon. Dato' Kamarudin Jaffar expressed his thanks to APDA for selecting Malaysia as the host for this meeting. He noted that the gathering of parliamentarians reflects the “*spirit of cooperation, friendship and solidarity*” among Asian participants and the region's commitment to the ICPD Programme of Action as the path towards sustainable development.

Hon. Jaffar noted that Malaysia has achieved almost all the objectives and goals of the ICPD and will continue to take necessary measures to ensure all the remaining and emerging challenges are addressed in the road towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In Malaysia, the population changes represent an opportunity for the country to reap a demographic dividend, especially with increasing female labour force participation. This demographic transition will generate new challenges, particularly on population ageing, SRHR and implications of rapid urbanization and unbalanced internal migration.

With the launch of the Shared Prosperity Vision 2030 by the Malaysian government on 5 October 2019, Malaysia is committed to making the country's growth sustainable, along with fair and equitable distribution across different income groups, ethnicities, regions and supply chains. Hon. Jaffar stressed that the new vision seeks to ensure that all future government policies and programmes must be on a needs-based approach “*with emphasis on education, health, public transport, housing and welfare especially for the less fortunate*”. He noted that countries have to work with one another where greater emphasis is put on promoting better understanding and closer contact among developing and developed countries.

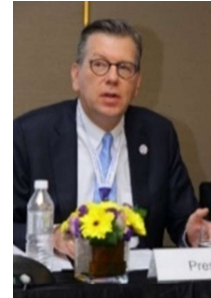
Hon. Jaffar then proceeded to officially declare the meeting open and wished the participants a fruitful deliberation of outcomes. He also thanked all the delegates and wished them a productive two-day meeting and reminded international visitors to take the opportunity to enjoy their stay in Kuala Lumpur.

SESSION 1 | Finishing the Unfinished Business of the ICPD

Session Chair: Hon. Viplove Thakur, MP India, Vice-Chair of IAPPD

Mr. Arthur Erken,
Director of Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships, UNFPA

Mr. Arthur Erken began by noting that this is an important and significant milestone year for the 25th anniversary of the ICPD as well as the 50th anniversary of UNFPA. In many ways, the 1994 ICPD Programme of Action is a landmark action where we move away from demographic targets and numbers to human rights where we put people at the center of development.



This paradigm shift is very important as universal access to reproductive rights was made a cornerstone of development. He noted that a lot has been achieved, but 25 years after many issues remained very much the same. Statistics on child marriages, violence against women and girls, as well as gender-related deaths remain staggering and distressing. Nearly 30,000 teenage girls die every year from complications arising through pregnancy or childbirth, most of which are preventable. Much more can be done to promote family planning and prevent maternal deaths, and he urged governments to re-commit to the full implementation of the ICPD, especially in the areas of mother and child health, gender equity and equality, as well as women empowerment and universal education.

Parliamentarians have a major role to play in securing funding for family planning and ensuring the success of SRH programmes. Commitment to the ICPD Programme of Action is the prerequisite for achieving the SDGs. Mr. Erken noted that it would be truly depressing if we are still debating and arguing about how to deliver on a promise that was made 25 years ago. He ended with a quote by John Lennon that says “*A dream you dream alone is only a dream. A dream you dream together is reality*”.

Ms. Fara Rom,
SRHR Youth Advocate and Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) Activist, Malaysia

Ms. Fara Rom shared some of her activities in SRHR giving voice to the young people. The youth is a powerful constituency and they should be engaged and involved, especially in making key policy decisions that affect their own health and well-being.



She urged governments to take a strong stand against child marriages and toward protecting women and girls from abuse and exploitation. The younger population needs accurate and up-to-date information for combating teenage pregnancy as well as sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Ms. Rom urged the promotion of comprehensive sexual education, and not just the use of contraceptives or promoting abstinence. She called for an open discussion and greater engagement of young people. With the easy access of pornography today, there is really no good reason for the delay in the implementation of CSE in schools and universities.

Ms. Rom also outlined eight points to address the various issues surrounding SRH among the youth in Malaysia and proposed a range of actions and provisions to improve access to SRH services, reduce stigma and taboo, fully implement programmes to CSE, prevent gender-based violence (GBV), and ratify international human rights articles to protect and invest in the younger population. She ended her presentation with a call to highlight the importance of proper support for youth activism.

Dato' Dr. Narimah Awin,
Chair of the National Population and Family Development Board (NPFDB), Malaysia



How much has been achieved and what was the contribution of parliamentarians? With a series of questions, Dato' Dr. Narimah Awin started her presentation by inviting the audience to reflect on the progress so far and next steps needed to fulfil the promise of the ICPD.

She highlighted Malaysia's achievement on women empowerment, noting that the country has done well in certain areas such as educational attainment, economic participation and maternal health. However, women only make up about 14% of the parliamentarians in Malaysia. It is also clear that the current demographic trend points to the emergence of new issues or old problems that have increased in magnitude. Malaysia is blessed with few natural disasters but social conservatism, especially religious conservatism, is gaining ground. The rise of the anti-vaccine movement, for example, is driven by misinformation and public misconception about immunology.

Dato' Dr. Awin explained that Malaysia's public health care system has been well recognized to deliver positive results at a far lower cost. All this is possible because there was strong political will to implement various public health initiatives. Between 1957 and 1980, a new health clinic was built every 4 days. She concluded her presentation saying that today we need parliamentarians to play their part and to commit the much-needed political will, attention and focus on old and new population problems affecting the country.



SESSION 2 | Drawing on Demographic Trends: Driving Economic Growth and Sustainable Development

Session Chair: Mdm. Dato' Mariany Mohammad Yit, Former MP Malaysia

Hon. Prof. Keizo Takemi, MP Japan,
Chair of AFPPD, Executive Director of JPFP and Member of the Board of Directors of APDA

Active Ageing in Asia

Hon. Prof. Kenzo Takemi began by charting the rapid increase of the world's 65 and over population since 1950 by continent. In the Asia and the Pacific region, the older population is expected to reach one billion persons in 2055. While most developed countries took 50 or 70 years to double its share of older population from 7% to 14%, most Asian Pacific countries are transitioning into an aged society in about 25 years or less.



Japan, for example, took only 24 years for its 65 years or above population to double from 7% to 14%, while countries such as Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam is expected to make the same transition in less than 20 years.

Hon. Prof. Takemi shared some of the major policy reforms in Japan after the Second World War. By setting a national goal of creating a healthier middle class, Japan undertook a policy objective of achieving economic growth and doubling the national income. As for social security policy, Japan promoted health insurance and pension system reform, and introduced universal health and pension coverage in 1961.

On the other hand, the percentage of people aged 75 and over in Japan will begin to rise after 2022, when the baby boomers will turn 75. The number of elderly population (aged 65 and over) is expected to peak in 2042. He noted that even though population ageing is unavoidable, creating a socially and economically vibrant society where people can enjoy healthy longevity will be the key to maintaining a sound and healthy society. Noting that other Asian countries are expected to follow Japan in the ageing of their societies, Hon. Prof. Takemi introduced the efforts of the Asia Health and Wellbeing Initiative (AHWIN) to promote mutual assistance and transfer of experience within the Asian region.

In addition, he outlined four important pillars for sustainability of low-fertility, ageing societies, namely, (1) use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Internet of Things (IoT), (2) empowerment of women, (3) healthy longevity and employment of healthy senior citizens in the labor force, and (4) foreign workers, and stressed the importance of sharing effective policies.

Dr. Osamu Kusumoto,
Executive Director/Secretary General of APDA, Japan

Achieving a Balanced Fertility Transition

Dr. Osamu Kusumoto highlighted the implications of an ageing population for achieving sustainable development. Without stabilizing population – moving society from a high birth rate and high death rate to a high birth rate and low death rate and finally to a low birth rate and low death rate – sustainable development would not be achieved. However, he noted that the mortality rate declines faster than the fertility rate, because the former is improved by science and medical services, but the latter is a result of the choices and action of people.



Dr. Kusumoto noted that in Asia there is an emerging ageing society (more than 7% is elderly) and in 2035 Asia will be an aged society (more than 14% is elderly). He then raised two challenges that parliamentarians in Asia face. One is how to deal with the issue of an ageing population. Japan, through *Japan's Plan for Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens* and *Asia Health and Wellbeing Initiative*, was spearheading programmes aimed at improving health and enabling the elderly to continue to contribute to the economy with use of AI or robot technology.

The second challenge is the fertility transition. Here parliamentarians have a distinct role to realize the reproductive rights defined in the ICPD Programme of Action. Dr. Kusumoto emphasized that a birth rate that is too high or too low is a major obstacle to sustainable development; therefore, it is an integral part of reproductive rights that universal access to RH is achieved – both to prevent unwanted pregnancy and assist couples who want to have children.

Hon. Dr. Liu Qian, MP China

Promoting Coordinated Economic and Social Development by Actively Responding to Population Issues

Hon. Dr. Liu Qian noted that China has actively implemented the Programme of Action adopted at the ICPD in Cairo in 1994 and has been moving well in attaining most of the ICPD goals. China has gradually adjusted and improved its population and family planning legislation and policy and put an end to the 35-year one-child policy. Hon. Dr. Qian also showed that the life expectancy of Chinese people had increased from 76.7 years in 2017 to 77.0 years in 2018. The maternal mortality rate (MMR) had dropped from 19.6 per 100,000 live births in 2017 to 18.3 per 100,000 in 2018, and the infant mortality rate has decreased from 6.8‰ in 2017 to 6.1‰ in 2018.



In terms of policy, Hon. Dr. Qian noted that it was necessary to rationally understand the demographic dividend, actively respond to challenges, and promote social and economic development. In his slides, he showed that the rate of natural increase in the Chinese population was on the decline. To address this, he mooted several policy recommendations to respond to the challenges, including improving the fertility-friendly policy system; improving

the overall quality of the population; exploration of the resources for the elderly; and promoting the transformation of the economic development model.

Dr. Tey Nai Peng,
Population Studies Unit, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya,
Malaysia

Demographic Changes and Socio-economic Development in Malaysia:

Dr. Tey Nai Peng through a series of slides, noted that the rate of increase in population in Malaysia had decreased, that the dependency burden of the older population was on the rise, which is expected to peak at above 50% in the year 2100. Dr. Peng also explained that the fertility rate had dropped among all ethnic groups in the country and due to the improvements in health care, the infant mortality rate had declined. Also, secondary school and tertiary enrolment has increased, and the country enjoys a higher GDP ratio than many of its neighbors.

However, Dr. Peng noted there were several challenges. These include population with low fertility, ageing, brain drain, reliance on foreign workers, health with the rise in NCD, malnutrition, high unmet need for contraception, adolescent sexuality, stress and psycho-social problems, inequitable access to health care, gender imbalance in education, and mismatch in graduate unemployment. Other challenges in the economic sphere include national debt, pre-mature deindustrialization, innovation, middle-income trap, youth unemployment and regional disparity in income and development.



For parliamentarians, he recommended that policies were needed to improve education/training to meet the market demand and to raise the health status of the country. The country also needs to address the full utilization of the human resources of women and the older people, by promoting family-friendly flexi-work arrangements, childcare support and opportunities for re-training. It needs to promote the conditions for brain gain and increase the number of skilled workers in a country as a result of immigration; embrace technology and innovation to enhance competitiveness; and create Smart Partnerships between the public and private sector.



SESSION 3 | Universal Access to SRH as Part of Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

Session Chair: Hon. Marinus Gea, MP Indonesia

Hon. Dr. Liz Craig, MP New Zealand

Hon. Dr. Liz Craig noted that New Zealand was one of the first countries to establish a universal, tax-funded national health service. The vision was for universal access to a comprehensive range of health services provided free of charge. However, due to resistance, there are now fully funded public hospitals alongside privately owned general practitioners (GPs) with partial public funding.

Hon. Dr. Craig said while access to SRH services may be heavily subsidized, co-payments may still be required – meaning cost remains a barrier for many women. Not all SRH services are free. Hon. Dr. Craig illustrated this through the example of a woman attending her GP for a pregnancy test – where if the test is positive her visit will likely be free – but if it is negative, she may have to pay.



Similarly, abortion is free in New Zealand to any pregnant woman eligible for funded healthcare – however, accessing contraception from a GP/other health provider is often not. If a contraceptive is publicly funded – it will either be free or max \$5 prescription charge. Even if funded this may not cover the consultation or insertion cost (e.g. IUCDs). The barriers to accessing contraception include – cost, location of services and lack of knowledge about the options available. Hon. Dr. Craig noted there were proposed changes to the Abortion Law, removing it from the Crimes Act.

She noted that while New Zealand was a high-income country, it faced the same challenges of achieving universal health coverage for all, as in many other countries.

Hon. Maria Chin Abdullah, MP Malaysia

Hon. Maria Chin Abdullah noted that Malaysia had shown remarkable achievements in UHC. Infant mortality rate had reduced by 90% from 75.5 per 1,000 live births to 6.9 per 1,000 live births (2017) as had maternal mortality rate, which had been reduced by 88% between 1963 and 2017.

RH services provided by the National Population and Family Development Board (LPPKN) was accessed by 1.2 million family members between 2014 to 2018. RM20 million (approximately US\$4.8 million) has been allocated through the 2019 Budget to provide free mammogram screening, HPV vaccinations, and pap smear tests, to benefit up to 70,000 women. A new incentive to address the decline of fertility rate has been announced in the 2020 Budget.



Unsafe abortion is one of the leading causes of maternal mortality and morbidity. In Malaysia, safe abortion services are legal if the pregnancy is a threat to the woman's life or when the pregnancy poses a threat to the woman's physical or mental health. Between 2004 and 2014, the proportion of married women using a contraceptive increased from 48.7% to 52.2% and those using a modern method rose from 32.1% to 34.3%.

Malaysia's National Reproductive and Social Health Education Policy aims to provide parents and teens with SRH knowledge. Access to healthcare services for women and girls must be widened as women of age 15 to 64 constitute 69.7% of the total 15.7 million women population in Malaysia (2018). Parliament should play a significant part in scrutinizing the expenditures and programmes for the healthcare delivery system.

Ms. Tomoko Fukuda
Regional Director for IPPF ESEAOR

Ms. Tomoko Fukuda noted that IPPF was founded in 1952 by eight “brave and angry” women advocating for women’s rights for choice and family planning.

Answering the question on why SRHR should be core to UHC, Ms. Fukuda noted it would enable governments to achieve three SDGs by 2030. Firstly, ensuring universal access to SRH services. Secondly, achieving UHC, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health care services, and access to safe, effective, quality, and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all. Thirdly, ensuring universal access to SRH and reproductive rights as agreed in the Programme of Action of the ICPD and the Beijing Platform for Action.



To do this, governments need to meet women, girls and adolescents’ unique needs taking into account that women and girls account for 51% of the world’s population and face higher poverty rates than their male counterparts. Ms. Fukuda pointed out that more than 200 million women want to avoid pregnancy but do not have access to modern contraception. About 30 million women do not deliver in a health facility, more than 350 million men and women have a curable, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and more than 25 million unsafe abortions take place every year.

Ms. Fukuda said that by improving the health of girls and adolescents, they can be the engine for UHC’s health and development goals as they are significant contributors to the country’s social and economic progress.

Turning to policy matters, she suggested SRHR could be incorporated into UHC through increasing domestic financing to support UHC programmes, including SRHR interventions. UHC policies, programmes and efforts need to prioritize SRHR interventions and identify ways to best meet the needs of women, girls and adolescents. As countries embark on the pathway to UHC, it is important to ensure that the core principles of human rights are considered and that SRHR interventions are available, accessible, acceptable and of high quality with a focus on disadvantaged populations.

Dr. Nguyen Van Tien, former MP Vietnam

Dr. Nguyen Van Tien noted that Vietnam had achieved nearly all MDGs and had made significant progress in poverty reduction, child malnutrition, access to and quality of pre-primary education, combating illiteracy. The country also increased access and effectiveness of maternal-child health services, prevention and control of HIV and TB, enhancing sexual rights.



Vietnam put in place relevant laws and policies relating to gender equality and domestic violence, and 90% of the population was covered by health insurance. Regarding knowledge and attitude to SRH, he noted that the proportion of people having sex before marriage had nearly doubled from 7.6% in 2003 to 15%. About 19.5% of women between the ages of 15-24 had been pregnant. The abortion rate at 1.2% was significantly higher among 19-24 age group, ethnic minorities and married women.

Dr. Tien was concerned about the high rates of school violence. He said 60% were affected by violence during the last 12 months, male rates higher than female. Over the past 12 months, 9.4% of respondents experienced domestic abuse, but about 42% of these victims did not report the abuse.

Dr Tien noted that adolescents did not have enough information about SRH, which resulted in unsafe contraception, earlier sexual intercourse, getting STDs, pregnancy, violence, smoking and drinking earlier. He was particularly concerned that schools and homes were not safe. Adolescents found many challenges because the SRH service were not adolescent-friendly nor covered by health insurance.

DAY 2 | Thursday, October 24, 2019

Programme

24 October 2019 - Meeting Day 2	
9.00 - 9.30 am	Registration [Foyer, Hibiscus Room, 10 th Floor, DoubleTree by Hilton, Kuala Lumpur]
9.30 - 10.30 am	Session 4: Protect and Empower Women and Girls in Humanitarian and Fragile Contexts <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hon. Datuk Wira Dr. Mohd Hatta Md Ramli, MP Malaysia, Deputy Minister of Entrepreneur Development and Member of the Committee of AFPPD Malaysia [15 min] 2. Hon. Somphou Douangsavanh, MP Lao PDR, Chair of LAPPD [15 min] 3. Hon. Edcel Lagman, MP Philippines [15 min] 4. Ms. Sivananthi Thanenthiran, Executive Director of ARROW, Malaysia [15 min]
10.30 - 11.00 am	Discussion [30 min] Session Chair: Hon. Dato' Sri Hajah Rohani Abdul Karim, MP Malaysia and former Minister of Women, Family and Community Development of Malaysia
11.00 - 11.15 am	Coffee Break [Foyer, Hibiscus Room]
11.15 - 12.00 noon	Session 5: Parliamentarians' Roles in Addressing the ICPD Unfinished Agenda - Generating Further Political and Financial Momentum <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hon. Fahmi Fadzil, MP Malaysia [15 min] 2. H. E. Mohamed Aslam, Minister of National Planning and Infrastructure, Maldives [15 min] 3. Hon. Dr. Damry Ouk, MP Cambodia, Secretary General of CAPPD [15 min]
12.00 noon - 12.30 pm	Discussion [30 min] Session Chair: Hon. Dinesh Kumar Pradhan, MP Bhutan
12.30 - 13.30 pm	Lunch [Makan Kitchen, 11 th Floor, DoubleTree by Hilton]
13.30 - 14.30 pm	Session 6: Discussion for the Adoption of the Parliamentarians' Recommendations for the ICPD+25 Session Chair: Hon. Dr. Liz Craig, MP New Zealand
14.30 - 15.00 pm	Coffee Break [Foyer, Hibiscus Room] & Formatting the Recommendations
15.00 - 15.30 pm	Closing Session <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Address of Organizer</i> Hon. Dr. Jetn Sirathranont, MP Thailand, AFPPD Secretary General 2. <i>Address</i> Ms. Annette Sachs Robertson, Deputy Regional Director of UNFPA APRO 3. <i>Closing Address</i> Hon. Dato Dr. Noraini Ahmad, MP Malaysia, Chair of PAC Malaysia and Secretary for AFPPD Malaysia

SESSION 4 | Protect and Empower Women and Girls in Humanitarian and Fragile Contexts

Session Chair: Hon. Dato' Sri Hajah Rohani Binti Abdul Karim, MP Malaysia, Former Minister of the Women, Family and Community Development of Malaysia

Hon. Datuk Wira Dr. Mohd Hatta Md Ramli, MP Malaysia,
Deputy Minister of Entrepreneur Development and Member of AFPPD Malaysia, Malaysia

In his presentation, Hon. Datuk Wira Dr. Mohd Hatta Md Ramli noted that Malaysia was working towards the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and that the country had seen an improvement in women's economic participation, especially since 2010, with increased labor force participation and narrowing of the wage gap. However, the gap was large by international standards.



The laws have been amended to outlaw gender discrimination, and labor laws have been strengthened to include sexual harassment. The Emergency Protection Order now protects victims of domestic violence, and the Penal Code has strengthened penal sanctions for specified sexual offences such as rape, incest, and inciting a child into acts of indecency. The Sexual Harassment Act is currently being drafted. He also noted the increased participation of females in politics with 5 of 28 Ministers (17.86%) being women.

The year 2020 is a pivotal year for the global community as it will mark the 25th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and its adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in 1995. He said, therefore, that the global community needed to accelerate gender equality and empowerment in the SDGs for 2030. This includes the elimination of discrimination, violence, harmful practices such as child and forced marriages and female genital mutilation, as well as recognizing and valuing unpaid care and domestic work.

In addition, the SDGs call for universal access to sexual and reproductive health and women's full and effective participation for leadership in all levels of political, economic and public life. Technology should promote women's empowerment.

Hon. Datuk Wira Dr. Ramli stressed that we had to create a safe space for more women and girls, hear their voices, and put our hands together to empower women and position them as leaders of the 21st century.

Hon. Dr. Somphou Douangsavanh, MP Lao PDR,
Chair of LAPPD



Hon. Dr. Somphou Douangsavanh pointed out that women's rights are incorporated into the Lao's Constitution. Several other laws also apply including Laws on the Protection and Development of women, Law on the Prevention and Combating Violence against Women and Children, Law on Anti-Trafficking in Persons, Labor Law, Law on Health Care, Law on Education, and Law on

Heritage and Basic of Inheritance. The country also ratified international treaties such as CEDAW.

Additionally, this year Lao PDR has proposed a new law on gender equality. The Gender Assessment for Lao PDR (World Bank, 2012) has shown the number of female parliamentary members has increased from 6% to 25% from 1990 to 2002. Now about 27.5% of (41 out of 149) parliamentarians are female. However, in high-level positions and at a local level, women's participation is low.

In the education sector, the gender equality gap still needs to narrow especially in rural areas and minority ethnic groups. Early marriage is still present. The Lao Social Indicator Survey (LSIS) 2017 shown approximately 32.7% of women marry before 18, while 8.4% marry before 15 age. Early marriages cause early pregnancy, which hurts their education and reproductive health. Although the maternal mortality rate (MMR) and the infant mortality rate (IMR) has decreased, both remain high. Other forms of discrimination include women receiving lower wages than men, and violence against women, especially physical harassment. About 8.1% of women have faced physical violence, and 11.6% of women experience harassment by their partner.

Hon. Dr. Douangsavanh also noted that in July 2019 at the Regional Parliamentarians' Meeting on the Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls, organized by the Parliament of Lao PDR and APDA, Lao PDR was committed to 11 point programme which included eliminating child marriages, ratifying progressive laws and policies to protect women and girls from violence at both public and private spheres, promoting gender equality and male engagement advocacy, increasing budget allocations, and so forth.

Hon. Edcel Lagman, MP Philippines

Hon. Edcel Lagman stressed that in May 2016, the first World Humanitarian Summit was held in Istanbul and a year before that in September 2015, the new Sustainable Development Goals Agenda for 2030 was adopted at the UN General Assembly by world leaders. Both call on the international aid community to strengthen its commitment towards ensuring that women and girls receive appropriate assistance and are empowered and protected in crises.

It is important for humanitarian organizations to recognize wars and disasters impact women and girls far more negatively than men and boys, in order to ensure effective response. Care International reports that women accounted for 90% of all deaths due to the 1991 Bangladesh cyclone Gorky and over 60% of deaths in Myanmar caused by Cyclone Nargis and in Banda Aceh during the 2004 tsunami.

Research on Syrian refugees by the International Rescue Committee revealed that women and girls within the community had been forced to engage in sex in exchange for resources.

According to the UNFPA's 2015 *State of the World Population Report*, the lack of SRH services in humanitarian crises leads to 60% of preventable maternal deaths. More humanitarian aid organizations are employing more women volunteers to ensure gender-responsive emergency assistance. Hone. Lagman pointed out that women and girl survivors can also be empowered and galvanized by being part of the answer to how aid organizations can do more with limited resources. This includes material and/or cash-based assistance to meet women and girls' basic needs and non-cash assistance can be in the form of "dignity" kits.



Ms. Sivananthi Thanenthiran,
Executive Director of ARROW, Malaysia

Ms. Sivananthi Thanenthiran noted that Asia continues to see the longest-running conflicts in the world, with some going on for multiple generations, at an average length of 45 years. As of February 2016, the Asia-Pacific region was home to over 8.5 million persons of concern to UNHCR, including some 3.9 million refugees and 2.9 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

Ms. Thanenthiran outlined recommendations for three key focus groups - refugees, adolescent girls, and targets and survivors of sexual violence - in order to better understand the aspect of gendered impact of conflict and why SRHR are especially critical in these contexts.



Migration also occurs due to disasters and many survivors then need to live in camps for long periods. The women are often prey to sexual violence, domestic violence, rape, assault, kidnapping. Women refugee workers, if they find work, are harassed, raped, coerced to sex, and they often find legal recourses are problematic. In fragile contexts, girls often have to drop out of school to help families to search for energy and food needs of the family. There is also a higher rate of child marriages in vulnerable areas and communities. Early marriage also occurs within the context of terrorism, where girls are kidnapped to be married off to “soldiers”.

Early marriages and early pregnancies make girls vulnerable with increased maternal mortality risk, and they are denied an education. Women targets and survivors of sexual violence need a basic set of services including access to emergency contraception, post-exposure prophylaxis (if the rape is recent) to prevent pregnancy and HIV-transmission and others.

Ms. Thanenthiran recommended that governments should remove laws that restrict their rights and ratify the International Convention on Refugees.

SESSION 5 | Parliamentarians' Roles in Addressing the ICPD Unfinished Agenda: Generating Further Political and Financial Momentum

Session Chair: Hon. Dinesh Kumar Pradhan, MP Bhutan

Hon. Fahmi Fadzil, MP Malaysia

Hon. Fahmi Fadzil noted that Malaysia had been successful in implementing much of the ICPD Programme of Action, and in terms of the Human Development Index, it was ranked 59th in the world (UN, 2017). The population of Malaysia increased from 23.2 million in 2000 to 28.3 million in 2010, growing at an average of 2.0% per annum. The proportion of elderly persons of 60 years and above increased from 6.2% in 2000 to 7.9% in 2010 and is expected to reach 15% by the year 2030. Life expectancy rose to 72 years for males and to 77 years for females.

The average size of families decreased from 4.62 in 2000 to 4.31 persons per household in 2011, while the proportion of nuclear families increased from 60% in 1991 to 70% in 2010. Concern has been raised about elderly persons' care and wellbeing, their roles and contribution in the fast-growing economy.

In general, Malaysia has achieved its comprehensive primary healthcare system in reaching its populations, especially women, people in rural areas, and in achieving gender equality. Primary education is nearly universal, at 97.2%, while secondary and tertiary enrolment ratio was 90% and 48% respectively in 2016. Female students make up 62% of the enrolment in public higher education. Hon. Fadzil added that the floods in 2014 and 2017 shows the need for improvement in disaster preparedness and emergency response.



He emphasized that parliamentarians should address population issues at the grassroots based on people's needs and should strategize to ensure that the implementation of the SDGs strengthens gender equality and population development.

H.E. Mohamed Aslam,
Minister of National Planning and Infrastructure, Maldives

H.E. Mohamed Aslam said Maldives' journey on the road to ICPD+25 had been remarkable. The success included improved life expectancy, child health, maternal mortality, adolescent birth rate, and other health related indicators, universal education up to secondary level, and more girls are pursuing tertiary education.



Maldives became the first "MDG plus" country in the South-Asia region by achieving five of the eight MDGs. The three goals that were not achieved were: gender equality and empowerment, environment sustainability and partnership for development.

The Republic of Maldives needs to invest in youth human capital, equipping them with necessary skills

and education. Unemployment rate at 6%, while youth (18-35 years) unemployment stands at 21%. This is a huge concern as they are the one who can easily get involved in violent behaviors.

H.E. Aslam said they had worked on achieving gender parity in education. Today more than 70% of those pursuing higher education are girls. The country needs to invest to prepare the current generation for dignified ageing. Currently, the highest expenditure from UHC goes for 65+ population. He shared his concern that if it continued as such, this doubled the government expenditure on UHC. Women in labor force participation has gone down from 47% (2014) to 42% (2016). Women who are employed are better educated than men, and work mainly in the service sector, education and manufacturing, with 20% managerial positions.

The Republic of Maldives needs to mobilize domestic finance for the implementation of the ICPD agenda through partnership with the private sector, civil society organization and other partners. H.E. Aslam emphasized that data should be used for better planning, evidence-based decision making at the right time and in consultation with technical experts.

Hon. Dr. Damry Ouk, MP Cambodia,
Secretary General of CAPPD

Hon. Dr. Damry Ouk stressed that Cambodia has achieved progress on all fronts despite political challenges, uncertainties of the global economy, threats to the national sovereignty and territorial integrity, repeated natural disasters, and new demands of the people of all classes. The “Rectangular Strategy Phase III” during the Fifth Legislature of the National Assembly (2013-2018), which included the enhancement of agricultural sector, rehabilitation and construction of physical infrastructure, private sector development and employment, and capacity building and human resource development, with good governance at the core, was firmly implemented.

The high economic growth of about 7% enabled Cambodia move from the status of a low-income to a lower-middle-income nation. The economic growth base has been diversified: poverty rate decreased to below 10% and the income gap among the people has been reduced by increasing salaries increases for civil servants and members of armed forces and a minimum wage for workers and employees. The government has also broadened the social security net and boosted reforms in the public sector. Between 2013 to 2018, the state revenue increased more than twofold, from US\$2,264 million to US\$ 4,560 million.



Hon. Dr. Ouk also showed that major social indicators, in both the education and health sectors, have been achieved. Public health has seen a notable reduction in the maternal mortality rate, as well as the infant and child mortality rate; reduction in HIV/AIDS prevalence; and reduction in the mortality rate caused by malaria. The Health Equity Fund has been expanded to lessen the burden of medical expenses on the poor. The educational reform created a new environment and hope for an improved supply of quality human resources and skills.

SESSION 6 | Discussion for the Adoption of the Parliamentarians Recommendations for the ICPD+25

Session Chair: Hon. Dr. Liz Craig, MP New Zealand

Under the chairpersonship of Hon. Dr. Liz Craig, MP New Zealand, a draft statement was actively discussed by the participants, which was unanimously adopted as a conference outcome.



CLOSING SESSION

Address

Hon. Dr. Jetn Sirathranont, MP Thailand,
Secretary General of AFPPD

Hon. Dr. Jetn Sirathranont expressed his appreciation to all the delegates for their active participation and valuable contributions to the discussions with the theme of “ICPD25: Moving Forward the Unfinished Business of the ICPD”.

Also, Hon. Dr. Sirathranont thanked the Parliament of Malaysia and APDA for co-organizing this important meeting, and in particular he acknowledged APDA’s hard work in organizing inter-regional parliamentarians’ meetings in Tanzania in August and in Morocco in September as well.



Hon. Dr. Sirathranont referred to Hon. Prof. Keizo Takemi’s opening remarks the previous day, saying that it is important to promote parliamentarians’ capacity building through networking in order to address the issues of ageing, low birth rate and women’s empowerment. He concluded his remarks with his hope that his fellow parliamentarians in respective countries continue to work together to bring population and development agenda at the forefront.

Address

Ms. Annette Sachs Robertson,
Deputy Regional Director of UNFPA APRO

Ms. Annette Sachs Robertson made an address on behalf of UNFPA, by saying that the presentations and discussions were extremely interesting and productive. She highlighted the importance of drawing on demographic trends in order to drive economic growth and sustainable development, especially focusing on active ageing, low fertility and other important issues.



It is also extremely important to achieve universal access to SRHR as part of UHC, and to protect women and girls even in humanitarian settings. Empowering women and young people is a cornerstone of the SDGs; unless their empowerment, rights and choices are realized, peace and development with economic growth cannot be maintained.

Moreover she pointed out parliamentarians’ key roles in generating political and financial momentum and ensuring legislative procedures for accelerating the achievement of the ICPD. She also referred to Mr. Arthur Erken’s presentation, which stressed that parliamentarians have the means to promote effective policy at the national level.

Ms. Robertson stressed that for achieving the unfinished business of the ICPD, UNFPA will be a partner with parliamentarians, and parliamentarians are the link between the people and the government through their role of advocacy and financial programme facilitation, especially for the realization of the Nairobi Commitment at the country level.

In closing, she thanked co-organizers and all the participants and reiterated UNFPA's opening remarks that the world we imagine can be a reality but requires more than hope, courage partnership and dedication from us all for the realization of our goals.

Closing Address

Hon. Dato' Dr. Noraini Ahmad, MP Malaysia,
Chair of PAC Malaysia and Secretary for AFPPD Malaysia



Hon. Dato' Dr. Noraini Ahmad congratulated all who participated in the 2-day meeting during which delegates had meaningful discussions, shared concerns and best practices, exchanged opinions, and sometimes arguments, in a positive manner. She thanked all the participants, organizing committee and speakers.

The theme for this meeting, *ICPD25: Moving Forward the Unfinished Business of the ICPD*, should serve as a reminder of the achievements of the past 25 years; however, “unfinished business” implies more concerted efforts from all quarters. What future lies, especially for another 25 years, is not known, but she noted that society was not powerless to shape and chart the way forward.

Referring to the first policy recommendations of APDA's *Policy Brief on Ageing in Asia*, Hon. Dato' Ahmad noted that a well-balanced framework should be put into place. She said that compared to other regions, for example, in Western countries, it took more than 40 years for the ratio of population ageing to double from 7% to 14%. In contrast, it took less than 25 years in countries such as South Korea, Singapore and Japan. She then expressed her admiration for how delegates showed how demographic trends could spur economic growth and sustainable development. “Striking a balance between feeling sorry about these trends and how to capitalize them is of utmost importance if we were to address these issues seriously”, she said.

She noted that the SDG3 still had challenges, including reducing maternal, new-born and child mortality, improving nutrition, and ensuring universal access to SRHR. Since the targets interlink across multiple SDGs, progress in health outcomes could only be achieved with simultaneous achievement in other related sectors - including fiscal and finance policy, nutrition, water and sanitation, education, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

APPENDIX A

List of Participants

No		Name	Country	Position
Participants from Asia and the Pacific Countries				
1	Hon.	Kamin Gul Ahmad	Afghanistan	Member of Parliament
2	Hon.	Dinesh Kumar Pradhan	Bhutan	Member of Parliament
3	Hon. Dr.	Damry Ouk	Cambodia	MP; Secretary General of CAPPD
4	Mr.	Eng Vannak	Cambodia	CAPPD Coordinator
5	Hon. Dr.	Liu Qian	China	MP; Vice-Chairman, ESCPHC, NPC
6	Ms.	Ou Lin	China	Deputy Director-General, Office of Committee, NPC
7	Ms.	Chen Feng	China	Director, Office of Committee, NPC
8	Mr.	Wen Huibing	China	Deputy -Director, Office of Committee, NPC
9	Mr.	He Tuo	China	Principal Staff Member, Office of Administration, NPC
10	Hon.	Viplove Thakur	India	Member of Parliament; Vice Chair of IAPPD
11	Mr.	Manmohan Sharma	India	Executive Secretary of IAPPD
12	Ms.	Neelam Sharma	India	Observer
13	Hon.	Ermalena Muslim Hasbullah	Indonesia	Member of Parliament
14	Hon.	Marinus Gea	Indonesia	Member of Parliament
15	Hon.	Endang Maria Astuti	Indonesia	Member of Parliament
16	Ms.	Nelita Endon	Indonesia	IFPPD Officer
17	Hon. Prof.	Keizo Takemi	Japan	MP; Chair of AFPPD
18	Hon.	Utemisov Shavhat	Kazakhstan	Member of Parliament
19	Hon.	Sadykov Ilyas	Kazakhstan	Officer of Parliament
20	Hon.	Elvira Surabaldieva	Kyrgyzstan	Member of Parliament
21	Hon. Dr.	Somphou Douangsavanh	Lao PDR	MP; Chair of LAPPD
22	Ms.	Sivaly Savathdy	Lao PDR	Secretary to MP
23	H.E.	Mohamed Aslam	Maldives	Minister of National Planning and Infrastructure
24	Hon.	Fathimath Riyaza	Maldives	Deputy Statistician
25	Mr.	Jumana Thaufeeq	Maldives	Personal Assistant to the Minister
26	Mr.	Bhattarai Manohar	Nepal	Secretary General of the National Assembly
27	Hon. Dr.	Liz Craig	New Zealand	Member of Parliament
28	Ms.	Viktoria Chamberman	New Zealand	NZPPD Secretariat officer
29	Mr.	Sahibzada Yaqoob	Pakistan	Former MP
30	Hon.	Edcel Lagman	Philippines	Member of Parliament
31	Ms.	Nenita Dalde	Philippines	Manager, Advocacy and Partnerships, PLCPD
32	H.E.	Khayrinisso Yusufi	Tajikistan	Deputy Speaker of Parliament
33	Ms.	Zulfiya Barotova	Tajikistan	Assistant to Deputy Speaker
34	Hon. Dr..	Jetn Sirathranont	Thailand	MP; Secretary General of AFPPD
35	Hon.	Pisan Manawaat	Thailand	Member of Parliament
36	Ms.	Nobuko Horibe	Thailand	Interim Executive Director of AFPPD
37	Dr.	Nguyen Van Tien	Vietnam	Former Vice-Chair of VAPPD
Malaysian MPs and Secretariat officers				
38	Hon. Dato	Kamarudin Jaffar	Malaysia	MP; Deputy Minister of Transport; Chair of AFPPD Malaysia

39	Hon. Dato'	Mohd Rashid Hasnon	Malaysia	Deputy Speaker
40	Hon. Dr.	Noraini Ahmad	Malaysia	MP; PAC Malaysia Chair and Secretary for AFPPD Malaysia
41	Hon. Datuk	Halimah Binti Mohd Sadique	Malaysia	Member of Parliament
42	Hon. Datuk	Wira Dr. Mohd Hatta bin Md Ramli	Malaysia	MP; Deputy Minister of Entrepreneur Development and Member of the Committee of AFPPD Malaysia
43	Hon. Dato	Sri Hajah Rohani Binti Abdul Karim	Malaysia	MP; Former Minister of the Women, Family and Community Development of Malaysia
44	Hon. Dato'	Sri Hajah Nancy Shukri	Malaysia	Member of Parliament
45	Hon. Datuk	Alexander Nanta Linggi	Malaysia	MP; Vice Chair of AFPPD Malaysia
46	Hon. Dato	Paul Igai	Malaysia	Senator
47	Hon.	Laksamana Pertama Mohamad Imran bin Abd Hamid	Malaysia	Senator
48	Dato'	Sri Ti Lian Ker	Malaysia	Senator
49	Hon.	Adrian Lasimbang	Malaysia	Senator
50	Hon. Dato Dr.	Ananthan A/L Somasundaram	Malaysia	Senator
51	Hon. Dato	Fahariyah Binti Hj. Md Nordin	Malaysia	Senator
52	Hon. Dato	Isa Bin Ab. Hamid	Malaysia	Senator
53	Hon.	Ismail bin Yusop	Malaysia	Senator
54	Hon. Dato	Sri Khairudin Bin E.S Abd Samad	Malaysia	Senator
55	Hon.	Manolan bin Mohamad	Malaysia	Senator
56	Hon.	Ir. Md Nasir bin Hashim	Malaysia	Senator
57	Hon. Datuk	Ng Chiang Chin	Malaysia	Senator
58	Hon.	Nga Hock Cheh	Malaysia	Senator
59	Hon. Dato	Ong Chong Swen	Malaysia	Senator
60	Hon. Datuk	John Ambrose	Malaysia	Senator
61	Hon.	Fahmi Fadzil	Malaysia	MP
62	Hon.	Maria Chin Abdullah	Malaysia	MP
63	Hon.	Fahmi Fadzil	Malaysia	MP
64	Hon.	Larry Soon @ Larry Sng Wei Shien	Malaysia	MP
65	Hon.	Noor Amin Bin Ahmad	Malaysia	MP
66	Hon.	Natrah binti Ismail	Malaysia	MP
67	Hon.	Rubiah binti Wang	Malaysia	MP
68	Hon.	Ti Lian Ker	Malaysia	MP
69	Mdm.	Mariany Mohammad Yit	Malaysia	Former Member of Parliament
70	Dato	Tan Sri Dato' Seri Abdul Khalid bin Ibrahim	Malaysia	Former Member of Parliament
71	Ms.	Lavinia Vyveganathan	Malaysia	Undersecretary, Protocol of Parliament
72	Ms.	Chin Pek Lean	Malaysia	Protocol officer
73	Mr.	Azri Norfikri	Malaysia	Protocol officer
74	Mr.	Mohsin Abdul Malek	Malaysia	Protocol officer
75	Mr.	Mohd Azhari Ismail	Malaysia	Protocol officer
76	Mr.	Mohd Mohsin Ghani Esan Ghani	Malaysia	Protocol officer
77	Ms.	Nur Shaza Izwani	Malaysia	Protocol officer
78	Mr.	Awangku Salleh	Malaysia	Protocol officer
79	Mr.	Zafandi Zakaria	Malaysia	Protocol officer

80	Mr.	Klaus Ranga	Malaysia	Protocol officer
81	Mr.	Mohd Hafis	Malaysia	Protocol officer
82	Mr.	Mohd Khairul Adnan bin Khalip	Malaysia	Photographer
83	Ms.	Rozana binti Abdullah	Malaysia	Parliamentary Research Officer
84	Ms.	Sayani binti Umar	Malaysia	Parliamentary Research Officer
85	Mr.	Muthanna bin Saari	Malaysia	Parliamentary Research Officer
86	Ms.	Wan Noorzaleaha binti Wan Hassan	Malaysia	Parliamentary Research Officer
87	Mr.	Augustine Leonard Anak Jen	Malaysia	Parliamentary Research Officer
The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UN Organizations				
88	Mr.	Arthur Erken	U.S.	Director of Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships
89	Ms.	Annette Sachs Robertson	Thailand	Deputy Director, Asia-Pacific Regional Office (APRO)
90	Ms.	Marcela Suazo	Malaysia	Director, UNFPA Malaysia country office
91	Dr.	Lin Mui Kiang	Malaysia	United Nations Coordination Specialist at United Nations Malaysia
92	Ms.	Mariko Sato	Japan	Director of UNFPA Tokyo Office
Government, International Partners and Experts				
93	Mr.	Hideto Nakajima	Japan	Economic Councilor, Embassy of Japan in Malaysia
94	Mr.	Yasuaki Nakai	Japan	Second Secretary, Embassy of Japan in Malaysia
95	H.E.	Bolat Imanbayev	Kazakhstan	Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Malaysia
96	Mr.	Alikhan Akhmetov	Kazakhstan	Councillor of Embassy of Kazakhstan
97	Mr.	Bolatbek Beisenbay	Kazakhstan	Interpreter of Embassy of Kazakhstan
98	Ms.	Zuhro Rahmonova	Tajikistan	Councillor of Embassy of Tajikistan
99	Ms.	Tomoko Fukuda	Malaysia	Regional Director for IPPF ESEAOR
100	Mr.	Gessen Rocas	Malaysia	Director for Strategic Partnership and External Affairs, IPPF ESEAOR
101	Dato Dr.	Narimah Awain	Malaysia	Chair of the National Population and Family Development Board
102	Ms.	Sivananthi Thanenthiran	Malaysia	Executive Director of ARROW
103	Ms.	Fara Rom	Malaysia	SRHR Youth Advocate
104	Dr.	Tey Nai Peng	Malaysia	Population Studies Unit, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya
105	Mr.	Chai Sen Tyng	Malaysia	Senior Research Officer, Malaysian Research Institute on Ageing, Universiti Putra Malaysia
106	Ms.	Jasinder Kaur	Malaysia	OYO Malaysia
The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)				
107	Dr.	Osamu Kusumoto	Japan	Secretary General/Executive Director of APDA
108	Ms.	Hitomi Tsunekawa	Japan	Chief Manager, International Affairs
109	Dr.	Farrukh Usmonov	Japan	Assistant Manager of International Affairs/Senior Researcher
110	Dr.	Mohammad Al-Smadi	Jordan	Regional Coordinator of FAPPD
Photographer/Videographer				
111	Ms.	Amy Juraini	Malaysia	Photographer
112	Mr.	Din Muhammad Aizuddin	Malaysia	Videographer

APPENDIX B



Declaration of Commitment

The 31st Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development *ICPD25: Moving Forward the Unfinished Business of the ICPD*

24 October 2019

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

[adopted]

We, members of parliaments from Asia and the Pacific regions, participating in the Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on ICPD25 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 23-24 October 2019;

Taking into account the results, challenges and recommendations of the regional and global reviews of the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action, and

Looking forward to celebrating ICPD@25 and UNFPA@50 at the Nairobi Summit, Nairobi, Kenya, November 12-14, 2019, which signals an important juncture in efforts to achieve both the Programme of Action and the Sustainable Development Goals' vision of leaving no one behind:

1. Acknowledge the remarkable progress achieved on multiple fronts since the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
2. Acknowledge that 'population' is equated with entire societies and nations and that without completing the unfinished business of the ICPD by urgently addressing the challenges to its full implementation, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will not be achieved by 2030;
3. Renew our commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the ICPD Programme of Action in Asia and the Pacific, and partner with UNFPA in implementing the ICPD agenda as a clear guide for Governments to formulate and implement rights-based population policies and programmes;
4. Affirm the perspective of the International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (ICPPD), which emphasizes the strong relationship between population and sustainable development;
5. Recognise that population issues will not achieve substantial progress without sustainable social and economic development, where environmental issues are an integral part;
6. Recognise that in order to finish the unfinished business of the ICPD, and to fulfill reproductive rights for all as defined in the ICPD Programme of Action, it is essential to put in place enabling environment for sustainable and inclusive development, including the eradication of hunger and malnutrition, the protection of the environment, and the achievement of gender equality;
7. Reaffirm that ending unmet needs for family planning, preventable maternal deaths and violence, discrimination and all forms of harmful practices against women and girls is vital for achieving the ICPD Programme of Action and the SDGs;

8. Recognise the unprecedented numbers of people affected and displaced by humanitarian crises, including natural disasters, conflicts and forced occupations, which are increasing in scale and severity, thereby overwhelming humanitarian response capacities;
9. Acknowledge that both population ageing and low fertility are emerging regional phenomena and the speed of demographic changes is particularly prominent in the Asia and the Pacific Region;
10. Recognize that parliamentarians are representative of the people of their respective countries, with a unique role to play in achieving sustainable development and finishing the unfinished business of ICPD via consensus through governments and civil society.

In line with our role as parliamentarians, we hereby commit to:

1. Legislating laws and formulating policies that enable sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and reproductive rights for all;
2. Formulating and implementing comprehensive socio-economic policies and programmes that allow both developed and developing countries to go through balanced fertility transitions for building sustainable societies;
3. Emphasizing the importance of investment in youth and adolescents in realizing reproductive health, gender equality, economic and social development and environmental protection;
4. Strongly advocating for the full achievement of the ICPD vision of universal access to sexual and reproductive health information and services, affirmed as well in the SDGs, as vital in delivering a world with zero preventable maternal deaths, zero unmet need for family planning, and zero gender-based violence and harmful practices against women and girls; a world where all people regardless of who or where they are can live healthy and productive lives and achieve their full potential;
5. Implementing the Madrid International Plan of Action of Ageing by according priority to addressing the rights of older persons in legal and policy frameworks and ensuring a coordinated multisectoral response, and the mainstreaming of ageing and low fertility issues into national policies and programmes;
6. Implementing fully age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education and adolescent-friendly services;
7. Ensuring that the rights of all individuals are respected, protected and fulfilled as set forth in the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights;
8. Supporting initiation and enactment of legislation and policies that link national constitutions to the ICPD agenda with people's rights perspectives, health, education, planning and economic development and other issues related to women and girls;
9. Enacting progressive laws, policies and programmes to prevent and protect all persons from discrimination, stigmatization and violence in public and private spheres, including gender-based violence; and to amend laws, policies and programmes to address violations of human rights witnessed via discrimination and criminalization on the basis of gender, sexuality and ethnicity, as well as emerging forms of violence and other harms in our interconnected world, including cyber-violence and political violence;

10. Enacting laws, policies and programmes that respect, protect and fulfill SRH and reproductive rights of all individuals, and remove barriers towards realizing the availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality of a comprehensive package of SRH information and services;
11. Advocating to change harmful or damaging social norms, laws and policies and thereby upholding human rights for all, in particular, for crucial reforms that promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls based on equal opportunities for all;
12. Ensuring the rights of all individuals to comprehensive family planning and reproductive health services and guaranteeing access to safe, modern methods of voluntary contraception as part of an inclusive and integrated package of SRH services and information in humanitarian situations;
13. Adopting legislation, policies and measures that address, prevent and eradicate gender-based violence, including sexual violence, in conflict and post-conflict situations and humanitarian emergencies, and encourage the adoption and adaptation of international and regional conventions;
14. Adopting comprehensive legislation to eliminate all harmful practices detrimental to sexual and reproductive health and rights and further recommending the enactment of laws to raise the minimum legal age of marriage to 18 years;
15. Strengthening the design and implementation of inclusive policies and social safety mechanisms, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and Climate Change Adaptation. Health services, including SRH services, and initiatives for protecting and empowering women and girls remain significantly under-funded in crisis settings;
16. Advocating for appropriate, sufficient resources for long-term investments to ensure inclusive and sustainable development and implement the ICPD Programme of Action;
17. Working with UNFPA and its partners to ensure full implementation of the ICPD agenda and to leverage this momentum to mobilize political, financial and technical support to secure consensus towards full implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action;
18. Ensuring stronger political commitment to actualizing implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and to keeping our Governments accountable to the commitments made in Cairo and for achieving the SDGs by 2030;
19. Ensuring that appropriate and timely population, health, gender and other development data, disaggregated by sex, age, disability and other characteristics, are made publicly available in order to better identify gaps and challenges, facilitate sharing and use knowledge to improve public accountability and ensure that no one is left behind;
20. Encouraging regional, inter-regional and global cooperation, including South-South initiatives, cooperation among countries of Asia and the Pacific to advance integration of population dynamics in the SDG monitoring processes, as well as in harnessing the demographic dividend, learning from successful examples of Asia and other regions;

To achieve the foregoing, we urge UNFPA to support regional parliamentary activities, especially the revitalization of AFPPD activities.

Finally, we congratulate UNFPA on the occasion of its 50th anniversary and for its continued work to ensure reproductive health and rights for all. We wish the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 great success in accelerating the ICPD Programme of Action and addressing its unfinished business.

