

APA NEWSLETTER



APA Newsletter: Issue 4, August 2013

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MESSAGE FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



Dear APA members,

This is my last message as the Past-President of the Asian Population Association. It has been a great honor for me to work on your behalf on the establishment and management of the APA over the last six years. I am very pleased that the association has made great progress in meeting its objectives in such a short period of time. I welcome the new council and am sure that the APA will thrive under the leadership of Professor Terry Hull, the APA President, in collaboration with the distinguished and dedicated members of the new council.

One of the main activities of the 2nd council was the organization of the Second APA Conference which was held in Bangkok during 26-29 August last year. In this message I would like to reiterate my thanks to those who participated and contributed to the 2nd APA

Conference. This newsletter also serves as a report to those APA members who were not able to join us at this significant event.

The 2nd APA conference successfully convened more than 600 participants from 50 countries to share their ideas and experiences on population issues across Asia. In addition to the participation of many young demographers, the presence of distinguished international and Asian scholars was valuable and contributed to the high quality of the proceedings. The attendance of representatives from UN agencies, government organizations and NGOs was important for networking and policy impact.

Workshops and seminars were held prior to and after the conference on a wide range of issues including: 1) data quality and accessibility; 2) increasing use of reproductive health services through community-based and health care financing programs; 3) the connection between family planning and climate change; 4) the draft of new population policies for Thailand; and 5) the challenges of population in ASEAN.

Around 400 papers were presented at 97 regular sessions and around 250 papers were displayed in seven poster sessions. The two plenary sessions on "Future of Low Fertility in Asia" and "Asians on the Move" were stimulating and raised many research questions that will give direction for research in years to come. The strong message emerging from the conference was that population matters. Governments and policy makers need to rely more on evidence-based policies in their planning to address future population and development trends.

The opening ceremony was a highlight of the conference. Associate Professor Sureeporn Punpuing, Executive Secretary of the APA, welcomed the participants to Bangkok, the "City of Angels"! Professor

Rajata Rajatanavin, President of the Mahidol University noted that the 21st century had arrived with complex sets of demographic patterns, disease burdens, migration flows, and environmental factors. In his view, the Asian region will be a global epicenter for comparative research and public policy development on these multifaceted issues.

Professor Peter McDonald, President of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, provided a masterly review of a century of development of professional population research organizations which has culminated in the formation of the Asian Population Association, and noted how important it is for regional and national associations to collaborate to promote the disciplinary strengths represented by our members.

Dr Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director of the UNFPA, in his keynote speech, highlighted three priority research areas: addressing major demographic changes and its linkages with key developmental issues; reducing inequalities among and within countries; and more importantly, the needs and human rights of young people. The speeches at the opening ceremony, the conference program, and abstracts are available through the APA website.

The Annual General Meeting of the APA was held after the 1st plenary session on 28 August. In addition to the APA activity reports, the APA Constitution was amended to extend the term of Council and frequency of conferences to three years. The details of the AGM and result of the the third election are presented in this newsletter.

The 2nd APA conference was a very significant event in the history of the APA. We have received much positive feedback not only about the high quality of the papers but also about the organization of the conference, the smooth registration, and particularly the generous and respectful hospitality provided to participants. Thanks to the donor agencies whose generous financial support provided the organisers with the resources to run the meeting. They enabled the offer of partial scholarships to around 350 participants.

The great success of the conference was due to the

hard work of our colleagues at the APA Secretariat, the National Organizing Committee, and staff and students of both the Institute for Population and Social Research of Mahidol University and College of Population Studies at Chulalongcorn University in Thailand. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the key role played by Associate Professor Sureeporn Punpuing, the Executive Secretary of the APA. Her team did a superb job under difficult circumstances. I am sure that I speak for all members when I congratulate them on a job well done.

I would like to take this opportunity and thank members of the 2nd council who dedicated their time and worked hard on the activities of the association. I am confident that the new council will take the association forward with the activities that it has already planned in its first meeting in February 2013 in Bangkok. Your great and continued support would be valuable for the improvement of our association and profession during the years to come.

Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi

Immediate Past President, Asian Population Association

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is a great honour to be allowed to serve the Association as President for the next three years. We have made a good start with two high quality conferences, a number of productive workshops, and the establishment of the Association office in Thailand. Over the next three years we have an ambitious workplan, and I want to urge all members to take part. This newsletter is the first evidence of the packed program of professional activities that the Association has in store.

Associate Professor Sureeporn Punpuing and her team have been working overtime to update and streamline the website, and you will be contacted soon when it is re-launched. They would greatly appreciate comments from the membership, so if you have any requests for



content or comments on format, please let them know.

The APA officials are also working to finalize a searchable data base of the membership, including both regular and student members. This will be a resource available for foundations, agencies, and academic institutions wishing to contact experts in population fields for the purposes of collaboration, consultation or participation in professional activities. The office will contact you to update your professional details once the data base is ready to launch.

I urge all members to read the announcements below on Scientific Groups and the Third APA Conference. These are calls for proposals. The Council welcomes participation from all members to contribute to our deliberations concerning the research priorities emerging across Asia, and the Scientific Groups offer a way to collaborate on issues of importance to the discipline of demography and the nations of our region. The Groups will be established for a three year term and will be encouraged to organize inter-country collaborations on topics of mutual interest. All groups will also be invited to participate in the Conference, to be held in 2015 in a venue to be determined by the Council later this year.

Please feel free to contact the APA office if you have any questions about the activities being planned. And please send professional news to the Newsletter Editors for posting in future issues.

Terrence Hull

President, Asian Population Association

**SECOND APA CONFERENCE, BANGKOK, 26-29
AUGUST 2012**

The 2nd APA Conference was formally launched with an Opening Ceremony on the evening of the 26th of August 2012 where Profs. Sureeporn Punpuing, Executive Secretary of the APA, Mahammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi, President of the APA, and Rajata Rajatanavin, President of the Mahidol University, each gave their welcome remarks. Prof. Babatunde

Osoimehine, Executive Director of the UNFPA, gave the keynote address on “The Place of Asia in Global Population Issues”, while Prof. Peter McDonald, President of the IUSSP, talked about the “Role of Professional Population Research Organizations”. Prof. Terence Hull, Vice President of the APA, closed the ceremony with an invitation for all to join the Welcome Dinner.



The Opening Ceremony of the 2nd APA Conference. Left to right: Dr. Kittipong Sae-Jeng, Director, Bureau of Reproductive Health, Thai Ministry of Public Health, Dr. Mushtaque Chowdhury, Associate Director and Senior Advisor on Health, Rockefeller Foundation, Dr. Sureeporn Punpuing, Director, Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University and Executive Secretary of the APA, Dr. Vipam Prachuabmoh, Dean, College of Population Studies, Chulalongkorn University and Treasurer of the APA, Professor Babatunde Osoimehin, UNFPA Executive Director, Professor Rajata Rajatanavin, President of Mahidol University, Professor Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi, President of the APA, Professor Peter McDonald, President of the IUSSP, Dr. Rosalia Sciortino, Regional Director, Regional Office for Southeast and East Asia, International Development Research Center, Ms. Nobuko Horibe, Director of UNFPA Asia and the Pacific Regional Office and Professor Terry Hull, Vice President of the APA.

Around 600 participants from 50 countries attended the conference, which was also participated by representatives from UN agencies, government organizations and NGOs.

Eighteen themes with a total of 97 oral-presentation sessions and 7 poster sessions were covered during the two-and-a-half days of conference (27-29 August 2012).

The background, objectives, programme and abstracts of papers/presentations and posters can be accessed

from the conference website: <http://www2.ipsr.mahidol.ac.th/APA2012/background.php> and <http://www2.ipsr.mahidol.ac.th/APA2012/conference-program.php>

APA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 27 AUGUST 2012

After the first plenary session on the 1st day of the conference, the APA held its 3rd Annual General Meeting chaired by its President, Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi. The Executive Secretary and Chair of the Organizing Committee, Assoc. Prof. Sureeporn Punpuing, reported on all preparatory and ongoing activities related to the conference; while Dr. Socorro Gultiano, the APA Secretary General, gave a summary of all APA activities in the past year. Prof. Leela Visaria, Chair of the Nomination Committee, explained the nomination process and introduced the nominees for the 3rd APA Council. Prof. Purushotham Kulkarni, Chair of the Amendment Committee, discussed the proposed amendments to the constitution and facilitated voting on these amendments by the assembly.

PRE AND POST CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES (MEETINGS, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS)

1. Two meetings were held by the 2nd APA Council at the time of the Conference: pre-conference meeting on 25 August 2012, and a post-conference meeting on 29 August 2012
2. International Seminar on Increasing Use of Reproductive Health Services through Community-based and Health Care Financing Programs: Impact and Sustainability (closed meeting) 23-25 August 2012, Imperial Queens Park Hotel
3. Population and Climate Change: Exploring the Connections for Research and Advocacy – 26 August 2012, spearheaded by Population Action International in the person of Roger-Mark de Souza.

4. Consultative Meeting on “The new draft of the Population Policy for Thailand” 26 August 2012, organized by the National Economic and Social Development Board and UNFPA Country Office in Thailand (by invitation), Imperial Queens Park Hotel.

ACTIVITIES OF THE APA SCIENTIFIC GROUPS

Two scientific groups have conducted the following activities:

The Scientific Group on Data Quality and Accessibility and the Population Association of America (PAA) jointly conducted the “Workshop on Data Quality and Accessibility in the 2010 Rounds of Censuses in Asia” at Imperial Queens Park Hotel, 25-26 August 2012. Participants drawn from across Asia and special invitees from the PAA membership discussed the national experiences of their countries, and drew a series of key recommendations to be brought up with Statistical Agencies. These included the importance of Post Enumeration Surveys for the assessment of coverage and the provision of adjustments to create reliable estimates of population numbers; the difficulty of carrying out large scale enumerations if budgets and especially if training are not sufficient to achieve good quality results; and the dilemma of reconciling successive census results when there are major changes in methodology or coverage. It was unanimously recommended that APA and collegial organizations advocate countries and donors for greater commitment to census quality and coverage.

The Scientific Group on “Marriage Transition in Asia” in collaboration with the Changing Family in Asia Cluster, Asia Research Institute, the Family, Children and Youth Cluster, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, of the National University of Singapore jointly conducted an international Conference on Marriage Transition in Asia: Trends, Determinants and Implications was held at the

Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore during 15-16 November 2012.

Abstracts of the papers presented to this conference are available at: <http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/showfile.asp?eventfileid=720>

ELECTION OF THE THIRD APA COUNCIL

After many months of preparation, through kind help and cooperation of many people including the Nomination Committee, nominees who stood as candidates of the third APA, online election took place from October 20 to November 30, 2012. Out of 314 eligible members for voting, 130 members (equivalent to 41.4%) registered their votes. The elected office bearers of the Third APA Council for the three-year period (2013-2015) are as follows:

Name	Position
Terence H. Hull (Australia)	President
Doo-sub Kim (South Korea)	Vice President
Purushottam Kulkarni (India)	Secretary General
Vipan Prachuabmoh (Thailand)	Treasurer
Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi (Immediate Past President, Iran)	Council member
Anand Tamang (Nepal)	Council member
K.G. Santhya (India)	Council member
Tey Nai Peng (Malaysia)	Council member
Rikiya Matsukura (Japan)	Council member
Wen Shan Yang (Taiwan)	Council member
Sureeporn Punpuing (Thailand)	Executive Secretary

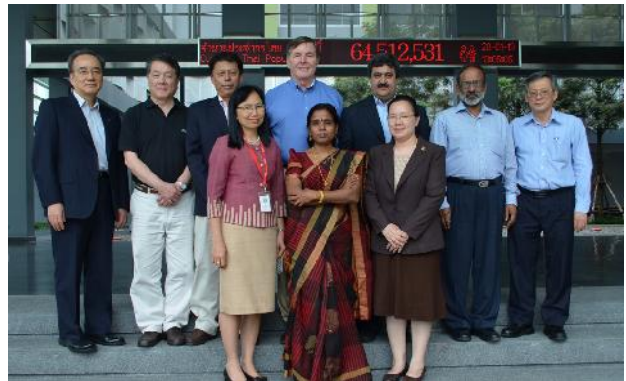
First Meeting of third APA Council

The first meeting of the Third Council was held on 28-29 January at Mahidol University, Bangkok. The Meeting decided on the followings:

- To upload onto the website and maintain as archives the abstracts of all the papers presented (orally) at the 2012 conference (and, if feasible, abstracts for papers presented orally at the 2010 conference.
- To restructure the APA website with prominent link to membership. The membership directory should

be searchable and this is a deliverable as part of a contract with UNFPA Regional Office.

- To call for proposals for Scientific Groups to be formed.
- To request for proposals to hold the 2015 conference.
- At the request of IUSSP, to organize a session at the 2013 IUSSP Conference in Busan.



APA Council Members 2013-2015. Front row, left to right: Dr.Sureeporn Punpuing, Dr. K.G. Santhya, Dr. Vipan Prachuabmoh. Back row, left to right: Prof. Doo-sub Kim, Dr. Wen Shan Yang, Mr. Anand Tamang, Prof. Terence Hull, Prof. Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi, Prof. Purushottam Kulkarni and Assoc.Prof.Tey Nai Peng.

APA MEMBERSHIP

The total number of members in the database is 1275. However, as at November 2012, only 314 members (who had their subscription) were eligible to vote for the new council members. We would like to appeal all members to pay their annual membership fee, which can be done online.

APA is currently compiling a directory of population experts in the region. We would like to seek the cooperation of all members in updating their information on the personal page.

APA ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Call for Host Country Institution for the 3rd Asian Population Association Conference**

The Asian Population Association (APA) invites national population associations to consider hosting the 3rd Asian Population Association Conference in 2015. The APA organizes a regional population conference every two-three years in collaboration with a host country institution to discuss the latest population research and debate pressing regional population issues. Interested institutions should submit their proposal electronically to the APA Executive Secretary Associate Professor Sureeporn Punpuing (sureeporn.pun@mahhidol.ac.th) and copy to the APA President Professor Terence Hull (Terry.Hull@anu.edu.au)

The decision on the next Conference venue will be taken by the APA Council in early August 2013. Deadline for submissions: 30 June 2013. For details, please visit APA Website at www.asaianpa.org

- **Call for Proposals to form Scientific Groups**

The Asian Population Association (APA) Council is seeking proposals from APA members to form Scientific Groups on key or emerging issues in the population field in the Asian region. Scientific groups will be created for the period 2013-2015. Examples of themes that may be considered include: climate change; internal and international migration; marriage patterns; data quality and accessibility; gender and power differentials; sexual and reproductive health including fertility decline; access to safe abortion services and demographic monitoring of medical abortions; social issues of sex selection; young people's life course; and ageing. Suggestions for other themes are also welcome, though the topics should be relevant to a number of country settings, and promote collaborative activities across Asia.

Interested members should send a proposal (maximum two pages) including the name of the theme, the rationale for the topic, chair proposed for the

scientific group, list of two to four potential members and a tentative programme of activities that the group would like to pursue over the period from June 2013 through December 2015. The proposal should specify what resources would be needed for their activities, and the potential sources for funding and support.

Interested members should submit their proposal electronically to the APA Executive Secretary, Associate Professor Sureeporn Punpuing (sureeporn.pun@mahidol.ac.th) and copy to Chair of the APA Council Committee on Scientific Groups Dr KG Santhya (kgsanthyapop@popcouncil.org). Deadline for submissions: (31 March 2013) For more details, visit APA Website.

RECENT AND FORTHCOMING MAJOR CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

- International Seminar on Past and Present: Revisiting the Demographic Transitions in the South through Individual Longitudinal Data was organized by the IUSSP Scientific Panel on Historical Demography and International Institute for Populations Studies (IIPS) Mumbai, India from 17-19 January 2013.
- Women Deliver 2013 –Third Global Conference will be held in Kuala Lumpur on 28-30 May 2013. The conference program will feature more than 100 sessions, including high-level plenaries, concurrent panels, special lunch dialogues with global leaders, and side and evening events. The program tracks will include subjects that impact the lives of girls and women, ranging from family planning to human rights to girls' education and empowerment. Each of these tracks will feature proven, life-saving solutions and strategies to galvanize action and accelerate progress towards reaching MDG5. The Conference will be attended by more than 5,000 participants from Ministries of Health, Finance and Development Cooperation, Parliaments, leading civil society organizations, global companies, media and more. More than 120 concurrent sessions, high-level plenaries, skills-building workshops, and ministerial and parliamentary forums will inspire

and inform your work to build a better world for girls and women. For more information, visit: <http://www.cvent.com/events/women-deliver-2013-conference-registration/event-summary-ccfb71484fb-4492da451fabcc2679863.asp>

- The 2013 PAA Annual Meeting will be held April 11-13 at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana. In addition to over 200 regular paper sessions and nine poster sessions, PAA 2013 will feature 15 invited sessions and a variety of traditional and not so traditional special events. For more information, visit: <http://www.populationassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/2013-Ann-Mtg-Program-Highlights.pdf>
- The 46th session of the Commission on Population and Development, to be held on 22-26 April, 2013 in New York, will have "Trends in Migration: Demographic Aspects" as its theme. The Commission on Population and Development, as a functional commission of Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), monitors, reviews and assesses the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels and advises the Council thereon. In accordance with CPD Decision 2006/1, the Commission adopts a multi-year programme of work limited to a two-year planning horizon, with a special theme for each year based on the Programme of Action of the ICPD. For more information, visit: <http://esango.un.org/irene/desa.html?page=viewContent&nr=20706&type>
- The 21st IUHPE World Conference on Health Promotion, will be held August 25-29, 2013 in Pattaya, Chonburi, Thailand. The conference, organized by The International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) and Thai Health Promotion Foundation (ThaiHealth), aims to contribute to the development of equity and social justice across the globe by offering a unique platform for dialogue on the best investments for health between participants from various sectors from all over the world. Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 20th December 2012. For more information, visit: Website: <http://iuhpeconference.net/>, and http://iuhpeconference.net/en/abstract_submission_guide.php?menuId=4 Contact person: Ms. Alcharat A.
- The XXVII IUSSP international Population Conference will be held in Busan, Korea from 26-31 August 2013. The call for papers started on 9 August 2012 and ended on 8 November, while registration started on 25 March 2013 and will end on 15 August 2013. The Conference will include over 2000 scientific papers presented in 270 regular sessions, 4 poster sessions, and 4 plenary sessions on topics in 21 themes including reproductive health, mortality, longevity and health, population ageing, migration, union formation and marriage, as well as themes addressing the interrelationship between population, development and the environment. There will also be a series of special sessions focusing on Culture, Family and Fertility in the Asia-Pacific Region organized by the Korean National Organizing Committee.
- Information about the conference, including the conference programme and extended abstract of all accepted papers for oral and poster presentation is available on the IUSSP website: <http://www.iussp.org/en/event/17/info>
- The 7th Asia Pacific Conference on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, co-hosted by the Philippine NGO Council on Population and Population, Health and Welfare Inc. (PNGOC) will be held January 21-24, 2014 in Manila, Philippines. The theme for the conference is: Examining achievements, good practices and challenges: Towards a strategic positioning of SRHR for all. This conference would provide an opportunity for the participants to examine the region's performance, current good practices for diverse population segments (adolescents and youth, women of reproductive age, men, and the elderly), the roles and accountability of different stakeholders, as well as lessons learned. issues and challenges in realizing the ICPD Program of Action and in attaining the SRHR-related MDGs. This gathering would also generate new paradigms, innovative ideas and strategies that would address emerging SRHR issues and challenges beyond 2015. The conference will include several formats, namely: Plenary Session; Parallel Session; Satellite Session and Poster Presentation.

- Deadline for submission of abstract is on June 15, 2013. The 300-500 word abstract should address any of the topics of the parallel sessions of the planned 7th APCRSHR program. The abstract should include the objectives, methods/strategies, results, and future directions (beyond 2014).
 - For more information about the conference, visit: <http://www.7apcrshrmanila.org> or <http://www.pngoc.org>, or <http://www.7apcrshrmanila.org>, or <http://www.7apcrshrmanila.org/abstract-submission-guidelines.html#.UUhddUQaZp8>
 - Global survey on ICPD Beyond 2014. During the second half of 2012, UNFPA had conducted the Global survey on ICPD Beyond 2014, with the following objectives:
 - (i) Assess the implementation status of commitments made in Cairo in 1994, with emphasis on legislation and policy formulation, establishment of governance structures and actions executed.
 - (ii) Identify facilitating factors, as well as barriers to the implementation of Commitments; and
 - (iii) Identify new national priorities and emerging issues.
- The results of the Global Survey will provide input for the country, regional and global reviews of the operational activities for the implementation of the ICPD PoA and will be used for the production of country regional and global reports.
- Population and Development: New Approaches to Enduring Global Problems June 8-22, 2013- Brown International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI) represents a unique professional development initiative to provide a platform for outstanding young faculty and practitioners from the global south and emerging economies to engage in a sustained, high-level intellectual and policy dialogue with leading scholars in their fields. Participants will engage with cutting-edge theory, innovative and tested research methods, and first-rate scholarship upon which to build their own research programs. To learn more about the program visit our website, <http://brown.edu/biari>.
 - Asian Graduate Student Fellowships will be held July 2013 at the National University of Singapore, Asia Research Institute, for current graduate students doing their Master's or PhD degrees and working in the Humanities and Social Sciences on Southeast Asian topics.