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Message from the President



Dear APA members,

The Asian Population Association continues to grow, and it is a pleasure to welcome all 1,234 members to the second APA Newsletter. Our global membership truly reflects the increasing strength of professional analytical skills working on Asian demographics.

On behalf of the Council of the Asian Population Association (APA), I am pleased to brief you on the activities of the Association during 2011 and our plans for 2012.

Our major activity during 2011 has been the planning and organization of the 2nd APA conference to be held in Bangkok during 26-29 August 2012. I am delighted to report to you that by the end of the deadline we received exactly 1,500 abstract submissions for our conference. This is a major increase as compared to our 1st conference when we received around 700 abstracts. This great success is no doubt due to the enthusiasm from our members as well as other population experts who are active in the population field in the Asian region and beyond. Thanks also to the APA Secretariat who, despite the devastating and disrupting floods in Bangkok, kept the activities of the APA running.

While we are very pleased and proud about the large number of submissions, there is a great responsibility on our shoulders to organize a stimulating, high quality, and successful conference. There is a high expectation from all of us to

select high quality papers, and to raise funds and bring not only distinguished scholars but also population experts, junior demographers, and students as well as policy makers to the conference so that experiences are shared at the time of the conference.

In order to further promote population research, we have set up four Scientific Groups: Data Quality and Accessibility, Marriage Transition in Asia, Population and Poverty, and Spatial Demography. These groups are planning to have some activities including workshops and seminars in the future and are exploring funding sources for such activities.

The Council has made some fundraising efforts but as you can imagine, scientific activities and conferences are not on the priority list of funding agencies particularly in times of economic crises. Despite these challenges, however, I am pleased to announce that we have received some funds from the Asia regional office of the Rockefeller Foundation in Bangkok as well as the Centre of Excellence for Population and Ageing Research in Australia. The UNFPA Regional Office in Bangkok as well as the Population Association of America (PAA) have also kindly expressed their support for the APA and its conference. We will be seeking support from other donor agencies, but these funds will not be enough to cover all costs of the conference. We are, therefore, requesting all our members to both make payments for their membership fees and conference registration fees, and also try their best to raise funds for attending the conference.

(continued on page 2)

Note from the Editors

We are delighted to bring the news and activities of the APA to you. This is the second issue of the APA Newsletter which presents, among others, the issues discussed at the meetings of the 2nd Council of the APA and the upcoming activities of the Association. Your views on, and contributions for, the Newsletter are most welcomed and greatly appreciated. We extend our gratitude to all those who have helped bring this newsletter to completion.

**Socorro Gultiano
Bhakta Gubhaju**

Message from the President *(continued from page 1)*

APA membership increased from around 1,100 at the beginning of 2011 to the current level of 1,234 members in March 2012. There are disparities of members relative to national populations, but we are making special efforts to encourage membership drives in countries which are currently under-represented.

As you may have noted, the APA website has improved and the APA Secretariat has been in contact with you over the last year updating you all on the activities of the APA. We are also grateful to the IUSSP, European Association for Population Studies, PAA and other national and regional associations and institutions that shared our information and news with their members. Purchasing and adopting the Oxford Package for our conference has also eased the process of submissions and will be useful for the review process.

We shall concentrate our efforts on the organization of the 2nd conference over the next six months. As the election of the Third Council of the Association will be held this year, a Nomination Committee will be established to prepare the list of candidates for the election which will be held during September–October 2012. As we reported earlier, there will be an amendment to the APA constitution to increase the term of each succeeding council to 3 years instead of the current 2-year period. We shall discuss this in our AGM in Bangkok. Finally, a call for proposals for the 3rd conference will be announced and we hope to be able to finalize the venue of the next conference in Bangkok.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in Bangkok this August, and learn more about your personal and national contributions to population sciences of Asia.

Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi,
President, Asian Population Association

First Meeting of the Second APA Council, 6-8 March 2011

The first meeting of the Second Council of the APA was held in Bangkok during 6-8 March 2011. Attending the meeting were the incumbent Officers and Council members, the Executive Secretary and Assistant Secretary, and the Honorary President. Following brief introductions, Prof. Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi, President of the APA, gave a welcome address and appreciated the efforts by the First Council of the APA during 2009-2010. He outlined the plans and activities of the Second Council of the APA (2011-2012) and particularly emphasized on the importance of active role of Council members in such activities as recruitment of new members, fund raising, the 2012 APA conference, workshops, publications, the APA newsletter, and the APA website, among others. The Council discussed the activities of the association and made the division of labour among council members in the implementation of the association plans.

Members of the Second APA Council (2011-2012)

President:	Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi (Iran)
Vice President:	Terence H. Hull (Australia)
Secretary General:	Socorro A. Gultiano (Philippines)
Treasurer:	Vipan Prachuabmoh (Thailand)
Council Members:	Barkat-e-Khuda (Bangladesh) Bhakta Gubhaju (Nepal) Mui Teng Yap (Singapore) Purushottam Kulkani (India) Ryuichi Kaneko (Japan)
Executive Secretary:	Sureeporn Punpuing (Thailand)
Past President:	Leela Visaria (India)



APA Council Members 2011-2012

APA President received the 2011 United Nations Population Award



The 2011 Population Award winners with UN Deputy Secretary-General, Egypt's Ambassador to the UN and UNFPA's Executive Director. Photo: UN Photo/Mark Garten

On 16 June, the 2011 Population Award was presented to Professor Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi, the APA President, and L'Institut de Formation et de Recherche Démographiques (IFORD). Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Asha-Rose Migiros, presented the award to the laureates during a formal ceremony at the UN. The event also featured Maged A. Abdelaziz, Egypt's Ambassador to the United Nations and Chairman of the Award Committee and Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director of UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, who is the Committee's Secretary. A number of diplomats, population experts and representatives of civil society, the private sector and the press attended the ceremony.

In his acceptance statement, Prof. Abbasi-Shavazi focused on the demographic transition and the youth bulge in the Middle East and North Africa, noting that today's youth are better educated than their parents, are better linked to the rest of the world, and have higher aspirations. That is why, he concluded, it "is important to understand that old policies do not match new demands. It is the responsibility of all of us to develop an updated and "youthful" vision of the future to help guide change in our societies." The voices of the new generation should be heard, added Prof. Abbasi-Shavazi, and population policies should be formulated within society-specific contexts and based on current needs (<http://unfpa.org/public/home/news/pid/7917>).

Prof. Abbasi-Shavazi stated that 'population specialists have much to offer to improve the understanding that Governments can have of the societies that they are in charge of serving and developing'.

Report on the First APA Conference held in New Delhi

The first conference of the Asian Population Association was held in New Delhi during 16-20 November 2010. The Conference was inaugurated on the 16th of November by the Health Minister of the Government of India, Mr. Ghulam Nabi Azad. Dr. Shireen Jejeebhoy, Chair of the Scientific Committee, welcomed the participants and the invited guests. Professor Leela Visaria, the first President of APA, informed the delegates about the Asian Population Association and its aims, objectives and activities. The message from the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) was delivered by Professor Marwan Khawaja from Lebanon.

The conference drew nearly 400 participants from 29 countries – mostly Asian but a few research scholars working on Asia but living in countries like the US, UK, Germany, Netherlands, also attended the conference. In all, 14 themes were identified and internationally renowned experts were requested to select abstracts pertinent to each of the themes and create sessions and identify chairs and discussants for the sessions. The APA had received, in response to a call for submission of abstracts, nearly 700 abstracts. Based on this, 230 papers were presented in 58 sessions. Also, nearly 150 posters were presented over three days. The presence of many young demographers from across Asia who experienced the stimulating environment and high quality of the conference was noticeable.



First APA Conference, 16-20 November 2010
New Delhi, India

Second APA Conference, 26-29 August 2012, Bangkok

Following the submission of proposal from the Institute for Population and Social Research (IPSR) of Mahidol University, the APA Council agreed that the 2nd APA Conference will be held in Bangkok on 26-29 August 2012. A *National Organizing Committee* was assigned to take charge of the administrative preparations and conduct of the conference. The Committee is chaired by the Executive Secretary (Dr. Sureeporn Punpung) in coordination with the Treasurer (Dr. Vipana Prachuabmoh), and will include staff from Mahidol and Chulalongkorn Universities as well as representatives from government and UN agencies.

A *Scientific Committee* was also formed to take charge of the selection of topics/sessions and conveners for the Conference. The Committee consists of Dr. Mui Teng Yap (Chair), Prof. Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi, Prof. Terence Hull, Prof. Barkat-e-Khuda, and Prof. Pramote Prasartkul. The Council proposed the following session topics and potential co-conveners for the 2012 Conference:

- Fertility levels, trends, determinants, policies (Mui Teng Yap)
- Reproductive and sexual health (Iqbal Shah/Meimanat Hosseini)
- Mortality, longevity and health (Leela Visaria)
- Infant and child health (Santosh Jatrana)
- International migration (Maruja Asis/Irudaya Rajan)
- Internal migration and urbanization (Tommy Firman/Yu Zhu)
- Demography of refugees and displaced people (Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi)
- Population Aging and intergenerational relations (Bhakta Gubhaju)
- Labor force and employment (Barkat-e-Khuda)
- Demographics of education (Wolfgang Lutz)
- Environment, climate change and population (Zongwei Zhao/Adrian Hayes)
- Poverty and development (Abbas Bhuiya)
- Household, marriage and family (Gavin Jones)
- Life course analysis in Asian countries (Shireen Jejeebhoy/K.G. Santhya)
- Gender issues – social norms and son preference (Iwu Utomo)
- Techniques of demographic analysis (Purushottam Kulkani)
- Data quality and accessibility (Terence Hull)
- Population policies and programs (Baochang Gu)
- Other topics (Chair of Scientific Committee)

The Secretariat decided to use the Oxford Package. The announcement for the submission of abstracts was sent to members in August 2011 and online submission was opened on 15 September 2011. Deadline for the submission of abstract was originally set for 15 December 2011 but was eventually extended to 15 January 2012 following reasonable requests from members particularly in countries or regions that did not yet have ample representation in abstract submission. The results of the acceptance of papers shall be sent to members before 1 April 2012.

The conference shall be held at the Swissotel Le Concorde in Bangkok. A subsidized rate has been negotiated with the Swissotel for the conference participants. Information on accommodation can be found at the APA website: www.asianpa.org/conference2012



THE 2ND ASIAN POPULATION ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE
26-29 AUGUST 2012
BANGKOK, THAILAND

CALL FOR ABSTRACT

The APA invites the submission of abstracts from scholars engaged in research related to any of these following themes:

- Fertility - levels, trends, determinants, policies
- Reproductive and sexual health
- Mortality, longevity and health
- Infant and child health
- International migration
- Internal migration and urbanization
- Demography of refugees and displaced people
- Population aging and intergenerational relations
- Labor force and employment
- Population and education
- Environment, climate change and population
- Poverty, population and development
- Household, marriage and family
- Life course analysis in Asian countries
- Gender issues – social norms and son preference
- Techniques of demographic analysis
- Data quality and accessibility
- Population policies and programs
- Others and posters

Apply now: www.asianpa.org
**Deadline for abstract: 15 December 2011

www.asianpa.org webadmin@asianpa.org +662-441-0201 ext. 308

APA Scientific Groups

One of the main functions of the Asian Population Association is to identify emerging and critical population issues for the Asian region and to encourage high-level scientific research on these issues. As an initiative in this direction, the APA Council proposed to establish Scientific Groups consisting of a small number of experts to address selected topics of interest. The APA Scientific Groups generally has three to five members including the Chair who is responsible for developing a programme of activities for the Group. The initiative for Scientific Groups may come either from the members or from the Council. These Scientific Groups are expected to organize one or more scientific event(s) annually/biannually. The APA will help bring relevant researchers together, may assist in seeking funds, and provide any support within its means.

The Council reviewed and discussed the proposals and expressions of interest in setting up thematic working groups. The following topics and potential conveners were identified as priority areas of interest:

1. Marriage Transition in Asia

Chair: Gavin Jones, National University of Singapore (arigwj@nus.edu.sg)

2. Data Quality and Accessibility

Chair: Terence Hull, Australian National University (Terry.Hull@anu.edu.au)

3. Population and Poverty

Chair: Abbas Bhuiya, International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research (abbas@icddr.org)

4. Spatial Demography

Chair: Peter Xenos, University of Hawaii (xenosp@hawaii.edu)

The members of the Scientific Groups are:

Group 1: Marriage Transition in Asia:

1. Gavin Jones (*Chair*), Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore, Singapore
2. Tey Nai Peng, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya, Malaysia
3. Shalini Grover, Institute of Economic Growth, University of Delhi, India
4. Setsuya Fukuda, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Rostock, Germany

Group 2: . Data Quality and Accessibility

1. Terence Hull (*Chair*), Australian National University, Australia
2. Pramote Prasartkul, Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University, Thailand
3. Wendy Hartanto, Deputy for Population of the National Population and Family Planning Board, Indonesia
4. Guo Zhigang, Professor Department of Sociology, Peking University, China

Group 3: Population and Poverty:

1. Abbas Bhuiya (*Chair*), Deputy Executive Director, International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh
2. Dharmalingam Arunachalam, Director, Sociology & Social Research, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
3. Aniceto Orbeta Jr., Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS), Philippines

Group 4: Spatial Demography

1. Peter Xenos (*Chair*), University of Hawaii, USA
2. Christophe Guilmoto, Institute of Research for Development, France
3. Arnisson Ortega, Center for Social Science Computation and Research (CSSCR), University of Washington, USA

Important dates and information about the 2nd APA Conference:

Activity	Date
Deadline for abstract submission	15 January 2012
Review and decision making on abstracts	January – March 2012
Announcement of the selected abstracts	1 April 2012
Submission of full paper	1 June 2012
Registration / Visa arrangements	April-August 2012
End of Early Bird rate registration fee	15 May 2012
Conference	26-29 August 2012

Fundraising

Professor Terence Hull, Vice President of the APA, visited Bangkok during 14-17 August 2011 and had meetings with the UNFPA to seek their support for the APA activities. The APA President also visited Bangkok during 9-11 November 2011 and had meetings with the Asia Regional Office of the Rockefeller Foundation as well as the UNFPA to discuss their support for the APA conference. The Rockefeller Foundation agreed to contribute US\$ 50,000 towards the costs of the conference. The Asia-Pacific Regional Office of the UNFPA also agreed to support the APA conference but the final decision will be made in 2012.

Professor Sureporn Punpuing and colleagues met with Thailand's Ministry of Health and discussed channels and means by which the Ministry can collaborate with the APA Secretariat and facilitate Thai participation in the conference. In the Philippines, Dr. Socorro Gultiano, Secretary General of APA, and colleagues met with the UNFPA Country Representative and her staff to discuss possible collaboration on population projects and to request for financial assistance for Filipino participants to the APA conference.

Amendment of the APA Constitution

The Council discussed two issues in connection with proposals to amend the APA Constitution: (a) to elect regional representatives in the APA; and (b) to change the term of office of the Council from two years to three years. The Council decided against "regionalization" in the election of Council members as there seemed to be no value added in selecting regional representatives as each Council member is tasked to represent the interest of all members of the APA.

The Council, however, concurred with the proposal to change the period of office of the Council from two to three years. Following a thorough review of the constitution, it was decided, in line with the stipulations for constitutional amendments, that the following amendments be formally submitted to the APA President by 25 members of the APA for appropriate action and approval:

Article 4. Officers and Council

- The Officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary-General and a Treasurer; and shall be elected by the membership. *They shall constitute the Executive Committee.*

Article 5. Period of Office

- The Council will be elected by the membership as a whole every *three* years. The elected officers shall serve in their specific capacities for the term of the Council.
- Members and Officers of Council shall not be eligible for election more than two consecutive terms in one capacity and not more than three terms in any *elected* capacity.

Article 9. Election of Officers and Members of the Council

- An election of four Officers and five Members of the Council shall be held every *three* years .

Article 12. Meetings and Conferences of the Association

- The Council shall arrange conferences *every three years* to be held in conjunction with General Assemblies. It shall, however, be open to the Council to organize regional or other meetings.

If approved, the amendments on the term of office would be applicable to the Councils to be elected in the future and not to the present Council.



Second APA Council Members Meeting, 19-20 February 2012
Mahidol University, Thailand

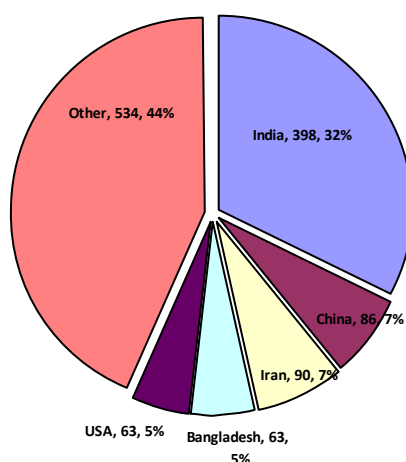
Membership Fee

As APA is in its early stage, interested scholars are invited to visit the APA website (<http://www.asianpa.org>) and join the APA to support the Association. An annual membership fee of US\$25 has been fixed for regular members while membership has been made free for students. **Members are kindly reminded to pay their dues for 2012.** <http://www.asianpa.org/pay-membership-fee>

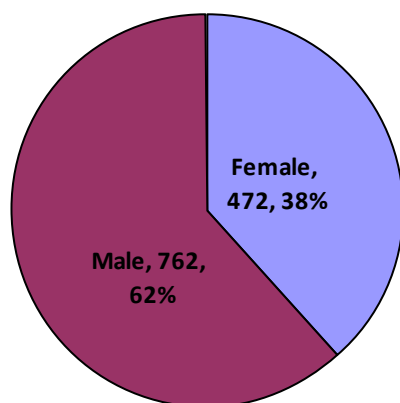
APA Membership

As of March 2012, the APA has a total of 1,234 members (939 regular members and 295 students). The breakdown of members by gender, and country of residence is shown below.

Membership by Country of Residence



Membership by Gender



Forthcoming Conferences

The IUSSP Seminar on the Demography of Refugee and Forced Migration will be held in Tehran during 14-16 May 2012. The seminar is being organized by the IUSSP Panel on Refugees in collaboration with the University of Tehran, Australian National University, and the Population Association of Iran.

International Seminar on Population Dynamics and the Human Dimensions of Climate Change, Canberra, Australia, 27-29 November 2012. This seminar is being organized by the IUSSP Scientific Panel on Climate Change in collaboration with the Australian National University.

The 27th IUSSP International Population Conference will be held in Busan, Korea, August 26-31, 2013. Check the IUSSP Website (<http://iussp.org>) for further information.

Remembering JVC

Just short of her 65th birthday, Dr. Josefina V. Cabigon, an active member of the APA who served in the APA Nomination Committee in 2010, passed away unexpectedly on 5 April 2011 from a massive stroke due to a ruptured brain aneurysm. JVC or Josie, as close friends and colleagues call her, was a well-known demographer in the Philippines and a well-loved professor and adviser to her students. She obtained her PhD at the Australian National University in 1991, served as Director of the University of the Philippines Population Institute (UPPI) in 1999-2002, and was Vice President of the Philippine Population Association (PPA) in 2006-2007.

In 2009 Dr Cabigon was a Distinguished Scientist Awardee of the National Research Council of the Philippines. She is best known for her expertise in technical and substantive demography particularly on the calculation of life tables. She was heavily involved in program evaluation research and a strong advocate for the application of demographic insights to socio-political problems. Affectionately dubbed as the “energizer bunny” of UPPI, JVC worked tirelessly on research projects, professional associations and teaching responsibilities, right up to the time of her death.

Second Meeting of APA Council, 19-20 February 2012

The APA Council held its second meeting at the APA Office of the Institute for Population and Social Research (IPSR) in Mahidol University during 19-20 February 2012. The main agenda of the meeting was to discuss various preparatory activities in connection with the 2nd APA Conference to be held in Bangkok during 26-29 August 2012. In his Welcome Address, The APA President, Prof. Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi, thanked the APA Council and the Secretariat for successful accomplishment of the APA activities that were planned at its first meeting in March 2011. He also highlighted the activities that need to be completed before the upcoming APA conference. Referring to the submission of 1,500 abstracts to the 2nd APA conference, Prof. Abbasi-Shavazi mentioned that this is an indication of the high potential of research output as well as enthusiasm of the APA members in sharing their research findings at the conference. He outlined the tasks to be accomplished by individual committees, particularly the Scientific Committee and the Fundraising Committee to ensure the successful organization of the 2nd conference as well as the sustainability of the association.

Simultaneous meetings were held by the two committees followed by full council meeting to discuss the progress made on the APA plans and activities. The Scientific Committee reviewed the recommendations by theme leaders and accepted around 460 abstracts for oral and around 340 papers for poster presentations. The committee also drafted a preliminary program for the conference including the plenaries. Authors will be notified about the final decision on their abstracts by 1 April 2012. There was also an issue regarding plagiarism by one of the APA members, and the Scientific Committee and the Council decided to suspend the member from participation in the 2nd APA conference.

The Fundraising Committee discussed potential sources of funds and conference expenditures. Possible funding sources for the Conference were identified: UNFPA, Rockefeller Foundation, Population Association of America, International Development Research Center, Population Council, Japan Foundation, the Australian Center of Excellence on Population and Ageing Research, IIASA, Thailand Ministry of Health, among others. The Committee meetings also discussed payment procedures for membership fees and registration fees.

The Council also discussed the amendment of the APA constitution that will be included in the Newsletter for the information of the members, and shall be discussed at the next AGM at the time of the conference. On 19 February, the Council also visited the Swissotel Le Concorde, Bangkok, the Venue of the APA conference, and held a Fundraising and Networking Dinner with several colleagues from Mahidol and Chulalongkorn universities.



APA Council Members Meeting, 19-20 February 2012
Mahidol University, Thailand



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