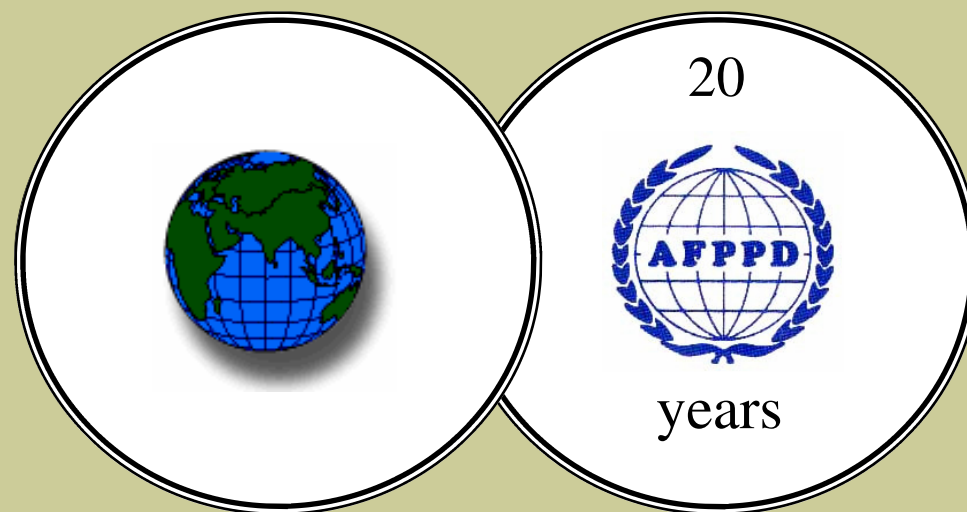


# AFPPD

AFPPD

Asian Forum of Parliamentarians  
on Population and Development



Renewed Commitment and Dedication to Empowering Parliamentarians

**January 2000 - May 2002 Report**



# Report 2000-2002

Parliamentarians can make a difference.  
AFPPD empowers them to do so:  
by educating, motivating and involving for  
**ACTION**

ASIAN FORUM OF PARLIAMENTARIANS  
ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT



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**Celebrating 20 Years of  
Empowering Parliamentarians on  
Population and Development Issues**



*Over the last twenty years Asian Forum has made a significant contribution to the development of the parliamentarians movement in the Asia-Pacific & CIS countries. The National Committees / Parliamentarian Committees in the parliaments are now more active in population, reproductive health, including HIV/AIDS issues than ever before. Based on the ICPD agenda, AFPPD has given importance to bringing home the linkages between population and other issues such as poverty, food security, environment, water, and health.*

*It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge that the funds base of AFPPD has widened with the establishment of the Japan Trust Fund for Parliamentarians, and support from UNAIDS and the Hewlett Foundation. UNFPA Country Offices have also provided support to AFPPD member Committees at the national level. This joint support has made AFPPD a very effective and useful tool for parliamentarian involvement in population and development issues.*

*Asian Forum has not only targeted developing countries in the region, but has also successfully worked towards resource mobilization for population and development. In addition, it has been instrumental in developing other regional forums, including FAAPPD (Africa) and IEPFPD (Europe). AFPPD now supports parliamentarians activities globally through the Japanese Trust Fund.*

*I trust, AFPPD will continue to be at the forefront of parliamentarian commitment and action in the important field of population and development.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Yoshio Yatsu  
Chairperson AFPPD*



# Message from the Acting Secretary General

XX  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

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*Yours sincerely,*

*Napsiah Binti Omar  
Acting Secretary General AFPPD*

*Congratulations to the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) for its 20 years of service to the population field. We at UNFPA are proud of our relationship with the Asian Forum and appreciate the support it has provided for the countries in its region and for its steadfast support for UNFPA.*

*There have been tremendous advancements in the population field in Asia and the Pacific over the past twenty years. The activities of parliamentarians have been important to this record of success. Parliamentarians are critical for passing enabling legislation for the implementation of population programmes, particularly the Programme of Action of the ICPD. They are also the closest link that governments have with the people, and as such, their leadership motivates government officials and their fellow citizens.*

*Over its twenty years the Asian Forum has inspired parliamentarians and governments to act in an area of development that is essential in moving countries toward sustainable social and economic development. We honour the Forum for its success and encourage it to continue its work until all Asians have an opportunity to reach their full human potential and lead happy productive lives.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Kunio Waki  
Deputy Executive Director (Programme)*



The Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) is a coordinating body of the National Committees of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (NCPPD) working to generate support and perpetuate cooperation among Asian parliamentarians in the area of population and development and related fields. The FORUM is committed to facilitating collaboration between the National Parliamentarians Committees of Asia and the Pacific which work in the field of population and development related areas such as population, reproductive health, family planning, food security, water resources, sustainable development, environment, ageing, urbanization, migration, HIV/AIDS, and gender equality.

AFPPD was formed in 1981 at the Asian Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development held in Beijing. AFPPD membership and programme have increased multi-fold. AFPPD has 20 National Committees. Full-time office support is available in Australia, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

AFPPD conducts regional and national seminars, conferences, and study visits as a means to help parliamentarians increase their level of knowledge, information, involvement and motivation in the issues surrounding population and development.

The AFPPD now concentrates more on na-

tional level activities including review of legislation, monitoring of the implementation of programmes and advocacy at the constituency level.

### **AFPPD's Permanent Headquarters**

As per the decision of the AFPPD 1990 General Assembly in Bangkok, reconfirmed in Kuala Lumpur in 1993, the permanent secretariat has been established in Bangkok.

AFPPD moved its operations from New Delhi to Bangkok, Thailand and established its permanent secretariat in 1991.

The AFPPD has an Executive Director and a full time local and international support staff.

The AFPPD was registered with the Department of Skills and Labour, Government of Thailand on the 20th of October 1994 as an

international non-governmental organization.

### **Support**

UNFPA and IPPF provide the basic financial support to AFPPD. Additional funding has been provided by Japan Trust Fund for Parliamentarians, Hewlett Foundation, UNAIDS, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Japan, and Japan International Cooperation of Welfare Services (JICWELS).

The national parliaments and governments of Asia and the Pacific provide support for parliamentarian events held in their respective countries.

The governments of China, Fiji, India, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, and Vietnam provide matching support for national activities in their countries.

## AFPPD's main objectives

- To contribute to the establishment of lasting world peace.
- To encourage and promote parliamentary initiatives designed to improve the living standard and welfare of people in Asia.
- To educate, motivate and involve members of parliament in population, reproductive health and family planning programs in Asia and the Pacific.
- To promote parliamentary activities aimed at building support among governments and their people toward these causes.

### ***More specifically, these activities may include the following:***

- To establish and promote collaboration in the development, utilization and sharing of research findings, expertise and experience, which pertains to population and development amongst parliamentarians, their associates and institutions.
- To facilitate the dissemination and utilization of information resources which promote solutions to the problems of population and development.
- To facilitate, support sponsor and organize meetings and conferences of parliamentarians as well as expert meetings, seminars, workshops and training programs in population and development.
- To facilitate, support and sponsor new and continuing research which contributes to a better understanding of population and development issues. Including

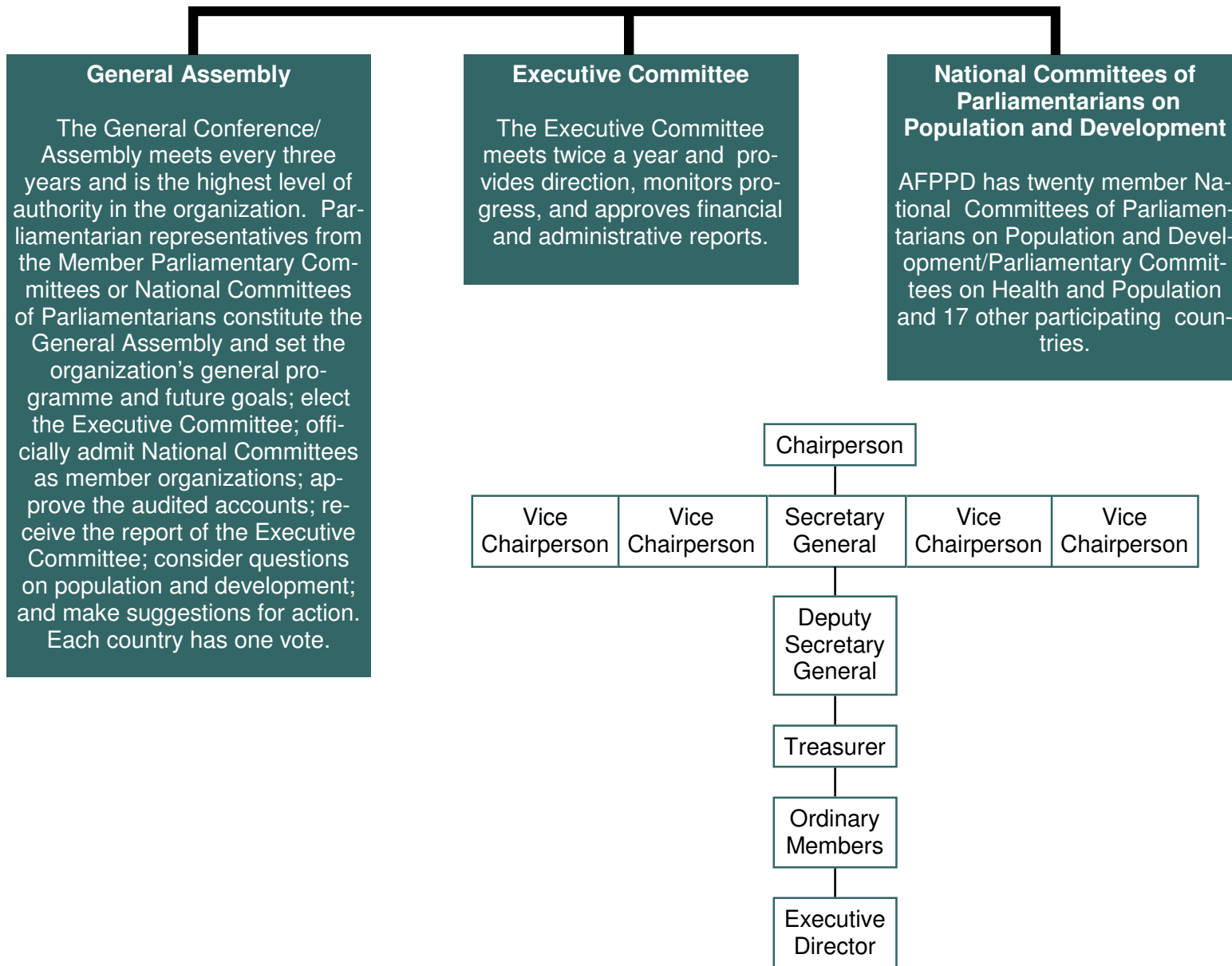
research which seeks solutions to these problems, especially as they apply to the countries of Asia.

- To support, sponsor, produce, and disseminate documentations, translations, publications, scientific and research findings, news letters and promotional materials relating to population and development.
- To establish and augment the financial resources needed to render the Forum capable of fulfilling its functions and responsibilities.
- To formulate and implement relevant projects and programmes and to serve as a channel of communication and collaboration amongst parliamentarians.
- To encourage and promote the formation of national groups of parliamentarians on population and development in those Asian countries which do not yet have national groups of parliamentarians.

### ***In this way AFPPD aims:***

- To increase awareness and promote the understanding of the interrelationship between population and development.
- To initiate, promote and support exchanges and exchange programmes amongst parliamentarians in Asia, and outside the region, in order to encourage new and effective ideas and approaches to population development issues.
- To promote other lawful acts which are appropriate, conducive or necessary to the attainment of the above objectives.

# Structure



## Membership & Partnerships

### Membership

The membership of the Forum consists of national groups of parliamentarians concerned with population and development in those Asian countries which are members of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. There can be only one member in each country.

AFPPD is open to Parliamentary Health and Population Committees of a Parliament or National Committees of Parliamentarians on Population and Development which have membership from all political parties in the Asia Pacific and CIS countries of the Asia-Pacific as defined by ESCAP.

**Admission of new members:** National groups of parliamentarians on population and development shall seek membership in the Forum by making a written application to the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General shall without delay refer the application, with his comments thereon, if any, to the Executive Committee of the Forum. Membership will be granted admission on the approval of a majority of the Executive Committee and expressed either in writing or at the next meeting of the Executive Committee. The approval is then confirmed at the next General Conference of the Forum.

**Associate members** of the Forum include parliamentarians concerned with population and development in Asia Pacific and CIS

countries which are members of the United Nations and its specialized agencies; and those countries in which a national group of parliamentarians on population and development has not yet been formed.

### Member Countries

The following countries have been given full membership: Australia, Bangladesh, China, Cambodia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam.

### Participant Countries

Apart from the above Member Countries, the following countries regularly participate in AFPPD activities: Bhutan, Iran, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Nauru, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, the Solomon Island, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Western Samoa.

### Cooperation with United Nations and Other Organizations

AFPPD received support from UNFPA, UN-AIDS, World Bank, IPPF, AUSAID, Hewlett Foundation, and Government of Japan.

It also works closely with ESCAP, UNDP, UNICEF, WHO, as well as other UN agencies and their regional structures. AFPPD maintains

regular contact with governments, national parliaments, and other population, reproductive health, and HIV/AIDS related NGOs.

### UNFPA and AFPPD

AFPPD has a special relationship with UNFPA and their National Offices in the region. As the founding organization of AFPPD, UNFPA continues to support AFPPD and its National Committees' current programmes in India and Viet Nam. Indonesia has national project support from UNFPA and Fiji, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, and Sri Lanka are supported on activity basis.

UNFPA also manages the Japan Trust Fund of one million US\$ each year, established by the Government of Japan.

### Cooperation with APDA

Asian Population & Development Association (APDA) was formed in Japan to support the AFPPD activities. APDA is the office of Japan Parliament Foundation on Population and Development (JPFP) and the Tokyo office of AFPPD.

APDA also conducts research and surveys, and works to inform and educate the Japanese public about population issues and the need for Japanese support for such activities. In addition, APDA provides support for IPPF resource development.

# Membership & Partnerships

## Partnerships

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

Asia Population and Development Association (APDA)  
Tokyo, Japan

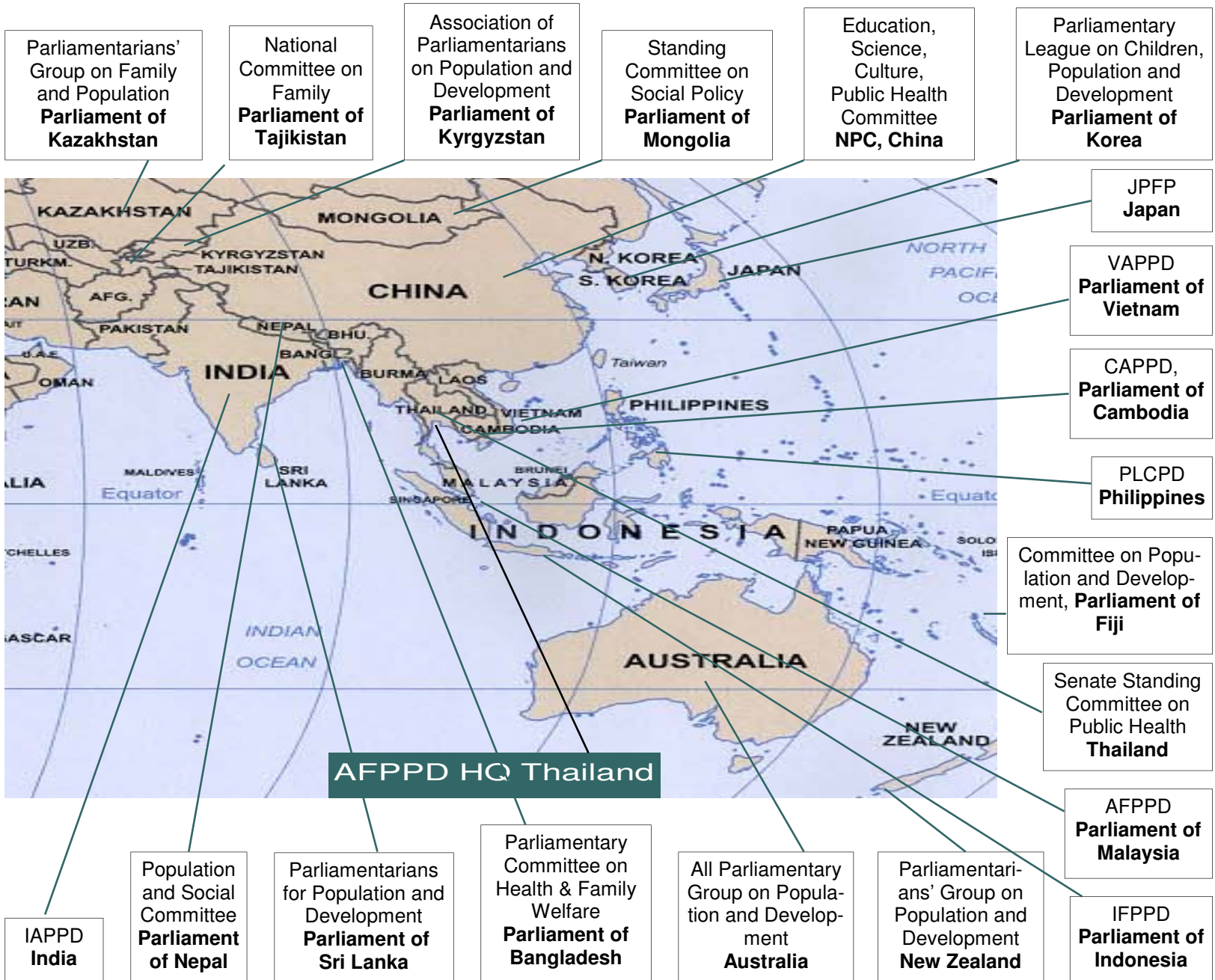
Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (IAPG)  
New York, USA

Inter-European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (IEPPFD)  
Brussels, Belgium

International Medical Parliamentarians Organization (IMPO)  
Bangkok, Thailand

The Forum of Africa and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAAPPD)  
Dakar, Senegal

Global Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (GCPPD)  
New York, USA



**AFPPD HQ Thailand**

## Programmes

### General

AFPPD has conducted a large number of national, state level, regional, and international programmes on issues related to population and development, reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, urbanization, the status of women, violence against women, food security, and water resources. It is AFPPD's goal to inform, educate, motivate, and involve members of parliaments in these issues. AFPPD supports and encourages surveys and research studies in the field of population and development. Emphasis is placed on the involvement of women parliamentarians. AFPPD has conducted opinion surveys with parliamentarians on their views about family planning programmes and their potential for improvement, as well as organized study visits and exchange programmes specifically for parliamentarians. AFPPD encourages South-South Cooperation.

### Regional & International

The Asian Forum and the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) of Japan have collaborated to organize a number of regional and international events to encourage parliamentarian involvement in the field of population and development by providing direct access to experts in the field and a forum for the exchange of ideas and information. Highlights include:

- ⇒ **First Meeting of Caribbean Parliamentarians on Population and Development**, organized by UNFPA under Japan Trust Fund. Supported the formation of Caribbean Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, supported by AFPPD, 21-23 November, 2000.
- ⇒ **East and South East Asian Parliamentarians Workshop on Elimination of Violence Against Women**, Bangkok, organized by AFPPD, UNFPA with Japan Trust Fund, with technical assistance from UNFPA/CST, Bangkok, 19-21 June, 2001.
- ⇒ **Afro-Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Development Cooperation and Partnership**, Tokyo, organized by AFPPD in cooperation with UNFPA, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Japan), Japan Trust Fund for Parliamentarians and FAAPPD, 29-30 November, 2001.
- ⇒ **Inter-country Workshop on Networking and Partnership between Young People and Governments on HIV/AIDS Prevention in East and Southeast Asia**, Bangkok, 18-22 March, organized by AFPPD in collaboration with JICWELS, Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare, Japan, UNFPA-CST, UNAIDS-SEAPICT, and AFPPD.
- ⇒ UNFPA is organizing an **International Conference of Parliamentarians on ICPD Implementation**, to be held in No-

vember 2002 in Ottawa. Asian Forum has organized international parliamentarian meetings in Cairo and The Hague and an International Parliamentarians Conference to provide population input at the World Summit in Copenhagen, World Food Summit in Geneva, and the Women Conference in Tokyo. Therefore, UNFPA asked AFPPD to convene the First Parliamentary Steering Committee to organize the Ottawa Conference, held in UNFPA New York on April 6th, 2002.

### National

The Forum supports National Committees of Parliamentarians on Population and Development and Parliamentary Committees on Health and Population throughout the Asia-Pacific, including the CIS countries, by organizing national seminars, workshops and study visits that focus on the various issues within the fields of population and sustainable development. These activities and programmes are a means to increase parliamentarians awareness of the different issues in the field of population and development. National highlights include:

#### ⇒ **Indian Centre for Parliamentarians on Population and Development**

A Center for Parliamentarians on Population and Development was built by the Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development in New

## Programmes

Delhi with the support of AFPPD and Japan. It has facilities for orientation courses, a library, documentation centre and conference rooms. It is one of the important milestones in the parliamentary movement in Asia.

### ⇒ **Japan Trust Fund for Parliamentarians**

AFPPD also works for resource mobilization for population and development issues. The Government of Japan has established a special trust fund of one million dollars per year with UNFPA for parliamentary activities. This is the result of Japanese parliamentarians to provide support for parliamentarians activities.

The Japanese Trust fund has -through UNFPA- supported parliamentary activities in Latin America with the Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (IAPG) and in Africa with The Forum of Africa and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAAPPD) and in Asia-Pacific & CIS countries with the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD).

### ⇒ **Korea Environment Initiative**

The Korean Parliamentary League on Children, Population and Development has taken the initiative to organize an International Conference of Parliamentarians on Environment every year to discuss environ-

ment related issues.

### ⇒ **New members**

In the period 2000-2002, National Committees were established in Cambodia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan.

### **Person-to-Person Advocacy**

AFPPD, supported by the Hewlett Foundation, is implementing an innovative advocacy programme that aims to assess and enhance the awareness, knowledge and commitment of individual parliamentarians on family planning and reproductive health issues. Through an approach called "Person-to-Person Advocacy with Parliamentarians" (PPAP), discussion meetings are conducted by trained advocates on a one to one basis with all the MPs and Senators of the participating countries. After a training workshop in Bangkok, the programme is currently underway in Cambodia, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

The idea behind this innovative programme is to reach each and every Member of Parliament in a country to assess the level of knowledge on population and development and provide the information needed.

### **Small Grant Projects for Parliamentarians' Programme Development**

Under the Japanese Trust Fund, several small grant projects have been carried out:

- In Europe (Belgium), support was provided to mobilize parliamentarians in Central and Eastern European countries.
- In the Philippines, PLCPD received support for the development of a new interactive website for Population and Human Development Legislation.
- In Thailand, support was provided for Training on HIV/AIDS and Geriatrics for Tambon Administrations (TAG).
- In Vietnam, Awareness Training on Population and Reproductive Health for Elected People in the Northern Mountain Areas was supported.

### **Political Commitment for HIV/AIDS**

AFPPD is giving special emphasis on political commitment for HIV/AIDS in cooperation with UNAIDS, UNFPA and the Government of Japan by organizing special advocacy programmes for parliamentarians in this area.

Two regional events were organized to involve parliamentarians and others in HIV/AIDS.

## Regional Activities

### 2000

**44<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee** of AFPPD met in Bangkok, 19 March.

**National Parliamentarians Seminar on HIV/AIDS**, Kuala Lumpur, organized by AFPPD Malaysia in cooperation with AFPPD and UNAIDS, 21 July.

**National Parliamentarian Seminar on Environment**, Jakarta, organized by UNFPA, Indonesia and AFPPD, 2 November.

**National Parliamentarians Seminar on Population and Development** in Western China, organized by Education Science, Culture and Health Committee of National People Congress of China in cooperation with AFPPD, 3-4 November.

**Indo-China Parliamentarians Seminar on Reproductive Health and Sustainable Development**, organized by Cambodian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (CAPPD) in cooperation with AFPPD, 7-8 December.

**45<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee** of AFPPD met in Bangkok, 9 December.

### 2001

**Visit of Iranian Parliamentarians Delegation to Thailand**, 26-30 March.

**Asian-Pacific Adolescent Reproductive Health Conference.** PLCPD and AFPPD managed a session that was dedicated to legislation and ARH, by sponsoring parliamentarians to be panel speakers.

**46<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee** Meeting held in Auckland, New Zealand, 5 May.

**47<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee** of AFPPD in Tokyo, Japan, 28 November.

Start of the two-year Hewlett Foundation funded **Person-to-Person Advocacy with Parliamentarians on Reproductive Health**, November, (see page 16).

### 2002

**48<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee** of AFPPD in Tokyo, Japan, 27 March.

**Training Workshop on Person-to-Person Advocacy with Parliamentarians** for the newly appointed staff in four countries, Bangkok, organized by AFPPD, 22-27 April.



# AUSTRALIA

### All Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (APGPD)

2000

The Group invited Dr Prasop Ratanakorn, Secretary-General of AFPPD and to express their appreciation for his work for the AFPPD on his retirement, March 7.

Ian Howie, the most senior Australian working in the UNFPA met with members of the Group, March 16. He spoke on the Day of Six Billion and global population issues affecting both the developing and the developed world.

The AI Party Group held a discussion with Dr Thomas Frejka, an eminent expert in international academic circles, on "Low Fertility in Post Industrial Society – What Does This Mean for Australia?", April 5.

In September, the UNFPA State of World Population Report 2000 was launched by a member of the Group, Mr. Michael Moore (Australian Capital Territory Minister for Health). The launch was attended by Catherine Pierce, UNFPA Representative for the Pacific based in Fiji. The launch received good media coverage.

In October, members of the Group had a meeting with Christine McCafferty MP, Chair of the

UK Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health. The group held a dinner for Christine, where she outlined the work of the UK Group.

Dr Linda Martin, President of the Population Council, USA, visited Canberra and met with members of the Group. She gave a seminar at the Australian National University and met with government ministers and AusAID.

Group members held breakfast meetings with representatives of the World Health Organisation and Vietnamese Women's Union, in conjunction with Family Planning Australia.

In December, the Group hosted a visit to Australia by Dr Pudjo Rahardjo and Mrs Gule Afruz Mahbub, Senior Advisors with Partners in Population and Development, based in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

2001

Senators Marise Payne and Meg Lees, accompanied by Dianne Proctor from the Secretariat, attended at the Intercountry Workshop on Parliamentary Advocacy on Violence Against Women, organized by Bangkok, June 19-21. As a follow-up to the workshop, the Group sent a copy of the Plan of Action to all parliamentarians (Federal, State and Territory) in Australia. This generated considerable interest and information on state policies and programs, from a range of parliamentarians, including some state ministers.

The UNFPA State of World Population Report 2002 was launched at the New South Wales Parliament in Sydney, Nov 7. Colin Hollis MP, Secretary of the Group, assisted in the organisation of a seminar to launch the Report. Mr. Hollis also spoke at the seminar, which was attended by a range of people including teachers, bureaucrats, local government staff, university and PhD students, representatives from UN agencies, and parliamentarians.

2002

After elections in October 2001, a General Meeting of APGPD was called, on March 11. A new executive, the Hon. Dr. Brendan Nelson MP was re-elected Chair, with Ann Corcoran MP and Senator Meg Lees elected Vice-Chairs, Senator Marise Payne as Secretary, and Kelly Hoare MP as the Group's representative to the AFPPD.

The Group's first activity for the year was to write to US President George W. Bush urging him to release funds being withheld to the UNFPA.

### Throughout 2000, 2001 and 2002

Members of the group have contributed to ARHA's youth conferences on population and development as keynote speakers, which have been held in Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth. Members have continued informal contacts with one another and members of the government and shadow ministries, which play an important role in ad-

vancing the interests of population and development issues both worldwide and within Australia. AGP members also attended AFPPD organized activities and participated in the APA on ICPD.

## CAMBODIA

### Cambodian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (CAPPD)

*The Cambodian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (CAPPD) was formed in the first quarter of 2000 with the adoption of its statutes and the formation of the Executive Committee.*

As a first step, CAPPD established contacts with UNFPA, UNICEF, OXFAM-UK, and NGOs based in Cambodia.

*Participation in Seminars, Round Table Discussions and Various Meetings*

Leaders of the CAPPD have organized or participated in various meetings and seminars in cooperation with members of the National Assembly, Senate and Organizations and Associations:

#### 2001

Ministry for Women and Veteran Affairs; a workshop on Women Status and Violence Against Women;

Meeting on the UNFPA aid project for Cambodia from 2001-2005;

International Children's Day in Sihanoukville;

Round Table Discussion with ESCAP on Development with Sustainability as a representative of AFPPD;

Participated in the workshop on national pride, domestic violence in the Mekong sub-region.

#### 2002

Participated in nationwide workshop on the improvement of women's reproductive health;

Participated in nationwide workshop on the youth reproductive health;

Participated in nationwide workshop on Substance and Matrix Plan and Strategy Paper to Alleviate Poverty;

Participated in workshop on women policy dissemination;

CAPPD also participated in various round table discussions on rural development, poverty alleviation, and community development.

#### *Implementation Process of the PPAP Project*

CAPPD has started the implementation of the PPAP project funded by the Hewlett Foundation through AFPPD, as described on page 15.

CAPPD established contacts with Ministries, Organizations and Associations for support of the PPAP project.

CAPPD has conducted the first phase of the base-line survey among parliamentarians as a basis for further implementation of the PPAP, and has held trial discussion meetings with parliamentarians. The first issue of the quarterly newsletter "Cambodian Parliamentarians" of 12 pages was published in July 2002.

#### *Participation in public fora and legislation*

CAPPD has motivated and urged parliamentarians to participate in drafting of laws and to actively support the adoption of laws relating to people and development:

- The control over private profession in medical assistance, medicine and auxiliary medication, August 2000.
- Law on Commune Election, January 2001.
- Land Law, July 2001.
- Adoption of a Protocol excerpted from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, January 2002.
- Law on Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS, June 2002.
- Law on Domestic Violence is in the proc-

ess of being adopted.

The last two legislations were a result of an AFPPD organized Regional Workshop on the topics.

### *Workshops and Co-operation*

CAPPD received a delegation from Vietnam Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (VAPPD) for work experience and planning on people and sustainable development.

CAPPD organized a 2-day workshop for Indo-Chinese Parliamentarians on Reproductive Health and sustainable development with participants from China, Japan, Lao PDR, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, and national & international organizations.

Members participated in a study visit to Vietnam organized by the Vietnam Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development to share experience on projects related to people and development.

Consultative Discussions were held with Cambodian parliamentarians in co-operation with the National Authority for AIDS to discuss proposed draft law on the Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS, on 5 Feb 2001.

A workshop on water resources public awareness and sustainable development was organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Water Resource and Meteorology, 19-30 March 2001.

## C HINA

### **Education, Science, Culture, Public Health Committee, NPC (ESCPH)**

*Over the last three years, Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee (ESCPH Committee), a special committee in charge of population affairs under the National People's Congress (NPC), of the People's Republic of China has given priority to population and development.*

#### **2000**

The ESCPH Committee under the sponsor of AFPPD held a **Seminar on the Population and Development** in the West of China in Beijing on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> November.

The Vice-Chairman of the ESCPH Committee and AFPPD, Mr. Zhang Huaixi presided over the meeting and the Chairman of the ESCPH Committee made the opening remarks. The Jiang Chunyun, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee, and Mr. Yatsu also spoke at the opening ceremony.

There were over 50 participants including the parliamentarians of the national, provincial and municipal congress, high-level officials from the State Family Planning Commission and the Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Land and Resources, Chinese People's Political Consul-

tative Conference and National Bureau of Statistics, NGOs from China Family Planning Association, and professors from the Chinese Academy of Science, Chinese Academy of Social Science and Beijing Economy and Trade College.

The meeting discussed the issues on population and development of the West of China, which, compared with the East, have a higher fertility, low per capita income and a vulnerable environment. Since 1999, the West was a top priority of the development agenda of the central government. The meeting concluded that population issues should be put at a key position and be integrated into the new social and economic development plan. In addition, a service network for reproductive health including family planning should be established and improved.

#### **2001**

An **Investigation and Research Programs on Population and Family Planning** was conducted in Beijing, Hunan, Hebei, Zhejiang from May to August in 2001.

Mme. Peng Peiyun, Vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of NPC, Mr. Zhu Kuaixuan, the Chairman of the ESCPH Committee, Mr. Zhang Huaixi, Vice-chairman of the ESCPH Committee and AFPPD, and more than twenty Committee members attended the program.

The program was an important step towards

new legislation on population and family planning, adopted later by the Standing Committee of NPC, and contributed greatly to better understanding amongst legislators of the issues of population, reproductive health, including family planning and the active involvement in activities of population and development.

A new **Bill on Population and Family** was adopted by the Standing Committee of NPC, in December.

## 2002

**A Seminar on Legislation on Population and Family Planning** was held in March, 2002, in Beijing. The meeting was supported by the ESCPH Committee, Legislative Affairs of NPC, State Family Planning Commission and Legislative Office of State Council.

More than 100 participants attended, including national legislators, local legislators, high-level officials from central government and local governments. Mr. Jiang Chunyun, Vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of NPC, Mr. Zhu Kuaixuan, Chairman of the ESCPH Committee, Mr. Zhang Weiqing, Director of State Family Planning Commission and Mr. Yang Jinyu, Minister of Legislature Office participated the meeting and made speeches.

The meeting called for the improvement of the local legislation in the population and family planning, especially amending local laws and regulations adopted by provincial parliaments

and governments in line with the new Law on Population and Family Planning, and the active and deep involvement of parliamentarians at national and local levels in population and family planning.

## INDIA

### Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IAPPD)

*The Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IAPPD) represented by Parliamentarians/Legislators from all parties has been working for 22 years in sensitizing the elected people's representatives in population stabilization programme and has conducted many activities at national and local level. IAPPD is now one of the active and vibrant national parliamentarians groups. It is supported by UNFPA-India, Ministry of Health and Welfare, India, and AFPPD.*

## 2000

The Indian Association, member of AFPPD, has sent parliamentarians to attend AFPPD and APDA meetings. Mr. Lakshman Singh, MP is also a member of the Executive Committee of AFPPD, representing IAPPD.

Mr. Yoshiro Mori, Prime Minister of Japan dur-

ing his visit to India addressed Indian Members of Parliament at a IAPPD organized dinner reception on 22nd August. Mr. Shin Sakurai, then Chairperson of AFPPD, accompanied Mr. Mori.

## 2001

Mr. Manmohan Sharma, Executive Secretary of IAPPD, was sponsored by AFPPD to participate in a one week training on advocacy in ICPD Programme implementation in Washington D.C. organized by Asia-Pacific Alliance for ICPD and Population Action International (PAI).

### *National level workshops for Parliamentarians*

A Medical Parliamentarians workshop was organized in Delhi, presided by Dr. Vallabhai Kathiria, Union Minister for Heavy Industries and IMPO member, and attended by parliamentarians with a medical background, 24 April 2001.

Two other workshops for parliamentarians were organized in Delhi to enhance their knowledge on ICPD issues, 22 Aug & 5 Dec 2001.

IAPPD also received Dr. Taro Nakayama, MP (Japan) and Chairperson of Japan Parliament Federation on Population (JPFP) and Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), IMPO, along with a group of Japanese parliamentarians led by Mr. Housei No-

rofu, MP (Japan). They were in India on the invitation of the Indian Government to celebrate 50 years of India-Japan friendship.

### **Project on “Involvement of Elected Representatives for Advocacy on Population, Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS, Reproductive Rights and Empowerment of Women” (1999-2002).**

Keeping in view the past experience in working with parliamentarians, UNFPA Country Office in India and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India have assigned a project to IAPPD for sensitizing the elected representatives from Panchayati (village level elected representatives) Raj Institutions and civic bodies to Parliamentarians/legislators of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan States in India on “Involvement of Elected Representatives for Advocacy on Population, Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS, Reproductive Rights and Empowerment of Women”.

#### *Project Launching in Delhi*

The project was launched on 14th December, 1999, in the Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi, which was presided over by the Honourable Deputy Speaker Lok Sabha Mr. P.M.Sayeed; Mr. N.T.Shanmugham Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, was the Chief Guest, Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director, UNFPA, was the Guest of Honour. Mr. Mahendra Singh Kalukhera, Minister for Agriculture, Madhya Pradesh joined as leader

of the delegation of the legislators from Madhya Pradesh. Ms (Dr.) Girija Vyas, MP participated with a delegation of Rajasthan Legislators. Ms. Shabana Azmi, MP and Goodwill Ambassador UNFPA and Mr. Vinod Khanna, MP was among parliamentarians from different political parties that attended. This was followed by a parliamentary workshop.

#### *Launching in Madhya Pradesh*

The launching for the above project was organised in the State of Madhya Pradesh in Bhopal on 18th July, 2000. The ceremony was presided by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Mr. Sirniwas Tiwari. Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shri Digvijay Singh, inaugurated the project. Mr. Shiv Khare, Executive Director AFPPD, Bangkok, and Ms. Shabana Azmi, MP, Goodwill Ambassador UNFPA also spoke. Most of the MLAs of the state, Chairpersons Zilla Parishads, Chairpersons Municipal Committees, Mayors of the Municipal Corporations, representatives from the Institute of Co-operative Movement, representatives of UNFPA assisted IPD project; Family Planning Association, Bhopal, and others joined the event.

#### *Launching in Rajasthan*

The project launching ceremony in the State of Rajasthan was organized on 6th November, 2000, Jaipur. Chief Minister of Rajasthan Mr. Ashok Gehlot was the Chief Guest, Mr. Abdul

Aziz, Minister of States, Rajasthan and Smt. Zakiya, Minister for Women and Child Development, Rajasthan. Mr. Deepak Gupta, then Senior Programme Advisor, along with his Jaipur Office colleagues represented UNFPA. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India, Mr. Laxman Singh MP, Vice-Chairperson AFPPD, Bangkok. Smt. Urmilaben Patel, former Union Minister and Dr. (Ms.) Girija Vyas, MP both Vice-Chairpersons IAPPD, spoke at the occasion.

The ceremony was attended by more than 500 people including MPs, Ex.MPs, MLAs, Ex.MLAs, Zilla Parishad Pramukhs and Members; Counsellors Jaipur Corporation; Village Panchayat Sarpanches, Panches; Village level elected representatives; Political party workers; representatives of NGOs; cooperative banks; Milk Production Societies; institutions working in the field of education; social workers; and experts.

#### *District level workshops in Rajasthan*

As part of the project, district level sensitization workshops were organized at Ajmer, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Alwar and Dausa in the State of Rajasthan, from December 2001-June 2002. They were attended by more than 150 participants, mostly elected village panchayat leaders from the rural areas.

#### *District level workshops in Madhya Pradesh*

In Madhya Pradesh 13 district level workshop

were organised at Ujjain, Shajapur, Dewas, Ratlam, Mandsaur, Neemuch, Sehore, Raisen, Bhopal, Vidisha, Guna, Shivpuri, Dhar, from Sept 2000 to Feb 2002.

UNFPA-India evaluated the project and renewed the same for another year with a focus on two districts

## INDONESIA

### Indonesian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IFPPD)

*The Indonesian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IFPPD) has organizationally been established with the proclamation by the Parliament since October 2001 and was formally inaugurated by the House Speaker on May 15, 2002. So far, 43 members have been registered and more parliamentarians are expected to become members. IFPPD is established inside the Parliament.*

On 15 February, 2002, a consolidation meeting on vision, mission and objectives of the establishment of IFPPD was conducted. It was attended by officers from BKKBN, UNFPA, Ministry of Women Empowerment and some key-speakers. This meeting gave direction to the future activities of the IFPPD.

18-22 February 2002, three IFPPD's represen-

tatives (Mr. Surya Chandra Surapaty, Ms. Zawiyah Ramlie, Ms. Ermalena) together with Mr. Abdul Aziz Hoesin (Deputy to the Ministry of Women Empowerment) and Ms. Nia Pratiwi (UNFPA Jakarta Officer) attended the "International Conference on Expanding Horizons, Understanding the Complexities of Violence Against Women" in Australia.

IFPPD participated in the "Regional Conference on Mainstreaming Gender in National Poverty Reduction Strategies", organized by the World Bank in Hanoi, Vietnam 12-14 March, 2002. IFPPD was represented by Ms. Ermalena (Secretary Executive). The outcomes of the conference were discussed with other institutions concerned with gender issues at the national level, besides having been published in IFPPD's first newsletter.

Mr. Surya Chandra Surapaty as Chairman of IFPPD attended the "18<sup>th</sup> Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development", organized by Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), 27-28 March 2002, as published in IFPPD's first newsletter and circulated among the parliamentarians.

The Asian Forum selected Indonesia for the Hewlett Foundation supported Person-to-Person-Advocacy with Parliamentarians project with monitoring support from UNFPA Indonesia. The PPAP project will cover all Members of Parliament in two years. Ms. Ermalena (Secretary Executive), Ms. Nia Pratiwi (UNFPA Officer), Ms. Lily Widia Puspasari (Project Co-

ordinator) together with four Project Discussants attended the Inter-country Workshop "Person-to Person Adcocacy with Parliamentarians" in Bangkok, Thailand, 22-27 April 2002, organized by AFPPD.

IFPPD was inaugurated by House Speaker, Mr. Akbar Tanjung, on May 15, 2002. The inauguration was attended by representatives of Ministry of Health, Ministry of Women Empowerment, BKKBN, International Donor's Agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations, Embassies, and Mass Media. Mr. Nesim Tumkaya was one of the keynote speakers on the Seminar "Population and Sustainable Development" that followed after the inauguration ceremony. The other speaker was Mr. Prijono Tjiptoherjanto (Advisor to the Vice President of Republik Indonesia).

IFPPD has launched its first quarterly Newsletter (May-July 2002) titled "Info-Forum Parlemen untuk Kependudukan dan Pembangunan/ Info-Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development ." The first brochure was also published, and distributed during this event, and circulated to all parliamentarians.

Meetings to share information with other international agencies have been conducted from January to March 2002, such as with the World Bank, GTZ, European Union, British Council, NDI, UNDP, IRI, IDEA, and ADB.

### JAPAN

#### Japan Parliamentarians Federation on Population (JPFP)

*JPFP was the first National Parliamentarians Group formed in 1980-1981 with a large number of prominent Japanese parliamentarians*

#### 2000

JPFP members met with representatives from IPPF (President Ms. Ángela Gomez, Hon. Treasurer Gay Swee Poh, and Director General Ms. Ingar Brueggemann.), April 21.

JPFP members had meetings with UNFPA Executive Director Dr. Nafis Sadik and UNFPA Deputy Executive Director Mr. Kunio Waki, May 23.

JPFP members met with Ms. Imelda Henkin, Director of Asia and the Pacific Division UNFPA.

JPFP members met with IPPF Director-General Ms. Ingar Brueggemann, July 31.

JPFP General Meeting took place August; Election of new officers, Japan's financial contribution to UNFPA and IPPF, Visiting and discussing the program in Mongolia

JPFP had a meeting with IPPF Director-General Ms. Ingar Brueggemann, September 4.

JPFP members met with Mr. Kunio Waki, Deputy Executive Director UNFPA, September 14.

JPFP members welcomed the Chinese parliamentarians delegation headed by Minister of State Family Planning Commission, October 18.

UNFPA Executive Director Dr. Sadik addressed JPFP joint sub-committee, November 28.

#### 2001

JPFP members had a meeting with UNFPA Executive Director Dr. Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, February 13.

JPFP Subcommittee on Gender Issues meeting took place with members of IPPF International Medical Advisory Panel, May 10.

During the JPFP General Meeting, June 13, Financial and activity report for FY 2000, Budget and activity plan for FY 2001, and Report on the 17<sup>th</sup> APDA meeting were discussed.

JPFP members welcomed the Korean Parliamentary Delegation, visiting Japan under the APDA Study Tour inviting program, August 6.

JPFP joint subcommittee (International Cooperation and Global Issues) "Reshaping Globalization" organized a study group with Ms. Hilary French of World Watch Institute in Tokyo, September 5.

JPFP Executive Members met with UNFPA Executive Director Dr. Obaid and IPPF Director-General Ms. Brueggemann, September 18.

Dr. Obaid and Ms. Brueggemann visited Chief Cabinet Secretary and a JPFP member Mr. Yasuo Fukuda September 20 and discussed funding for population programmes.

Under the APDA Study Tour visiting program, two JPFP members visited Lao PDR, November 11-16, (Lao PDR).

JPFP members welcomed the Mongolian Parliamentarians Delegation came to Japan under the APDA Study Tour inviting program, November 13-14.

Female JPFP members had a meeting with UNFPA Deputy Executive Director Mr. Kunio Waki, December 5.

JPFP General Meeting was held on December 12. Executive Members were elected, Ministry of Foreign Affairs explained to the MPs Japan's financial contribution to population programmes and the Japanese Trust Fund, and the report on the visiting program to Lao PDR, and the Report from Executive Director were discussed.

## 2002

JFPF members participated in the AFPPD Afro-Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting, November 29-30. Six JFPF members visited three African countries and learned about population and development situations, January 12-19 (Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya).

UNFPA Deputy Executive Director Mr. Waki Kunio met with JFPF members who participated in the above study tour and discussed their impressions, January 23.

Four JFPF members participated in the 16<sup>th</sup> APDA meeting on Population and Development in Asia and Parliamentarians' Initiatives, March 18-20, (Bangkok, Thailand).

Participation in the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary APDA international Forum: "Considering Population Issues-Conditions for Human Survival and Future of Our Society", March 26.

Participation in the 18<sup>th</sup> APDA meeting: "Water and Sanitation, Regional Development and Population", March 27-28.

JFPF and Globe Japan invited Dr. Lester Brown, former Director of Worldwatch Institute to address a joint subcommittee of members of JFPF, April 12.

Four JFPF members participated in the 17<sup>th</sup> APDA meeting with the main theme: "Food Security, Water Resource and Population Issues

in Asia and the Pacific-Sustainable Development for the Future of Humankind", May 4-5, (Auckland, New Zealand).

JFPF members participated in the High Level Policy-Makers' Symposium on South to South Collaboration, September 11-12, (U.N. University, Tokyo) .

APDA, JFPF in collaboration with AFPPD and UNFPA organize annual *Parliamentarians Meetings*:

- ⇒ 16<sup>th</sup> Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development, Bangkok, organized by Asian Population and Development Association of Japan (APDA) in cooperation with the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD), 18-20 March.
- ⇒ 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Parliamentarian Seminar: Food Security, Water Resources, Population Issues in Asia and the Pacific, Auckland, New Zealand, organized by APDA and in cooperation with the New Zealand Parliamentary Group and AFPPD, 4-5 May.
- ⇒ 18<sup>th</sup> Asian Parliamentarian Meeting: xxx

## KAZAKHSTAN

### Parliamentarians' Group on Family and Population, Kazakhstan (PGFPK)

*The Parliamentarians of Kazakhstan formed the Parliamentarians' Group on Family and Population ("Otbasy-semia") to promote population and development related activities among parliamentarians in the country. Under the chairmanship of Mr. Beksultan Tutkushev, this group became a member of AFPPD in 2001.*

The president, Mr. Beksultan Tutkushev, attended AFPPD and APDA parliamentarians meetings in Tokyo, Japan, and organized a CIS parliamentarians meeting, May 4-5, 2001, in Almaty on Clean Water, Health, and Population. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Yoshio Yatsu, MP Japan and Chairperson AFPPD. 20 parliamentarians attended and agreed on a joint declaration.

## KOREA

### Korean Parliamentary League on Children, Population and Development (CPE)

*The CPE is an official parliamentary Committee that deals with population issues and member*

of AFPPD.

### 2000

A seminar on “Growth and Life on North Korea”, was organized by CPE, July in Seoul, Korea and attended by Members of Parliament, UNDP, UNICEF, and others.

The National Committee participated in a conference on “Environmental Ethics and Public Education”, held in November in Hyderabad, India.

UNDP organized a seminar on “Asia-Pacific Forum for Parliamentarians and Civil Society Organization on Environment Governance” in December in Tokyo, Japan and was attended by Members of Parliament, UNDP and others.

### 2001

“Governing Council 21/Global Ministerial Environment Forum” was held in February by UNEP. Member of Parliamentary, Government, Minister and others attended the forum, which took place in Kenya, Nairobi.

Members of Parliament met with the Minister of Environment of China, in April in Seoul, Korea, organized by CPE.

Members attended the “17<sup>th</sup> APDA-AFPPD Asia-pacific Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development”, May, Auckland, New Zealand.

Members participated in the “Intercountry Workshop of Parliamentary Advocacy on Violence Against Women” in East and South-East Asia and the Pacific was held in June in Bangkok, Thailand.

Members attended the “18<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development”, organized by APDA and AFPPD, March, Tokyo, Japan.

Parliamentarians participated in the Study Tour on Population and Development organized by APDA in Tokyo, Kobe, and Kyoto, Japan in June.

The seminar on “Efficient Management for Water Resources” organized by CPE was held in August in Seoul, Korea and was attended by Member of Parliaments, NGOs, and experts.

Members of Parliament and officers visited Shanghai and Beijing in China for the Study Tour on The Environment organized by the National People’s Congress of China in November.

## KYRGYZSTAN

### Association of Kyrgyz Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AKPPD)

*The Association was the first affiliate of AFPPD from the CIS region, December 1997. The Parliament officially approved the formation of a Parliamentary Committee as a member of AFPPD.*

The AKPPD organized orientation meetings for member parliamentarians and participated in parliamentary meetings in India, Thailand, and Japan.

The first CIS countries parliamentarians meeting on population and development, and poverty alleviation was organized in Bishkek, 2001. This meeting was well received and attended by nearly all the countries in the region.

Mr. Bakataev, full-time officer in the Kyrgyz Republic and secretary of the Association was selected to participate in an advocacy training in Washington D.C., organized by APA Alliance and PAI (Population Action International).

Ms. Maya Saginova was also invited to participate in the the PPAP training in Bangkok.

## MALAYSIA

### Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, Malaysia (AFPPD Malaysia)

*Although Malaysia does not have a population policy, AFPPD Malaysia was constituted in xxx with office inside the Parliament. A new committee was elected under the leadership of a new President, Hon. Datuk Zainal Abidin Zin, a Minister in the Prime Minister's Office..*

## 2000

As a follow-up to the Inter-Country Meeting of Parliamentarians and Specialists on HIV/AIDS and STDs in East and South East Asia which was held in Bangkok from 12-14 November 1999, AFPPD Malaysia organised a one-day seminar on "Impact of HIV/AIDS to the Socio-Economic Development" at Hotel Nikko, Kuala Lumpur. A total of 200 participants attended, including Members of Parliament, NGOs, State Assemblies, students, Hon. Colin Hollis, Secretary General, AFPPD, and Mr. Steven Kraus, Programme & External Relations Advisor, Asia-Pacific Inter-Country Team, Bangkok. Datin Paduka Marina Mahathir, President Malaysian AIDS Council spoke at the meeting.

Members of AFPPD Malaysia with two other NGOs members visited a "one-stop centre" for HIV/AIDS positive people, which was established in 1998.

APDA Japan sent a team of academicians and to Malaysia to do a study on "Aging and Health in Malaysia", from July 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>.

Oct 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, a two-day seminar on HIV/AIDS and its Implications to Socio-Economic of Ma-

laysia was held in Sabah (West Coast of Malaysia). It was officiated by the Rt. Hon. Chief Minister. More than 350 participants attended the seminar, including parliamentarians, State Assembly members, teachers, counsellors, students, GO and NGO officers.

State Government of Sabab organised a Forum on "Gender Perspective in Development" for Government Officers, NGOs, and Members of Parliament and State Assemblies on Oct 7<sup>th</sup>. AFPPD Malaysia sent two of its committee members as participants.

## 2001

From Feb 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, AFPPD Malaysia was invited to attend the In-Country Consultation Meeting on HIV/AIDS organised jointly by Ministry of Health, Malaysian AIDS Council and UNAIDS. The objectives of this meeting was to provide an insight into the issues of HIV/AIDS in order to prepare a comprehensive "Malaysian Country Paper" for the ASEAN Leaders Special Session Meeting in Brunei to be held in November 2001.

A Press Conference was held at Parliament House on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, as a follow-up action on EAW in Bangkok where the Resolution was distributed to the Press.

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, AFPPD Malaysia attended the First National Population Forum of the Millennium organised by Federation of Family Planning Associations, Malaysia and University of

Malaya. The theme "Challenges of Adolescents and Youths in the New Mellinnium - A Reproductive Health Perspective". This forum was organised in conjunction with World Population Day.

A Forum on "Population Challenges in the New Mellinnium" for women Parliamentarians and State Assemblies was held in Kuala Lumpur Sheraton Hotel on Aug 19<sup>th</sup> as a follow-up to AFPPD's meeting on Violence Against Women. It was officiated by the Minister of Women and Family Development where the EAW Resolution was handed over for action to be taken by the government.

16<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Sept, APDA Japan sent researchers from Japanese Universities to Malaysia to study the issue of "Aging and Health in Malaysia" in close cooperation of AFPPD Malaysia and Malaysian Economic Planning Unit, Ministry of Health and the Selangor State Government.

Two committee members of AFPPD Malaysia attended the Afro-Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Development Cooperation and Partnership at New Otani Hotel, Tokyo, 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> Nov.

## 2002

On Jan 10<sup>th</sup>, a lunch was organised by AFPPD Malaysia to celebrate the New Year and the Muslim New Year at the Parliament House which was attended by parliamentarians and

most of the UN Agencies Directors.

Members attended a Brain Storming sessions, Jan 14<sup>th</sup>, by UNDP Country Office in Kuala Lumpur to assist in the formulating of the next Country Cooperation Framework (CCF) for the period 2003-2007 to set out the broad parameters and scope of UNDP efforts during the coming cycle.

On Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>, AFPPD Malaysia organised a one-day Forum on “Challenges to the Youth in the New Millenium” for 200 students from 4 Universities at Genting Highland.

Members attended Media Dialogue “Partners in Advocacy for Reproductive Health” organised by IPPF East & South East Asia and Oceania Regional Office in Kuala Lumpur, Feb 27<sup>th</sup>-Mar 1<sup>st</sup>.

Three Members attended the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of APDA International Forum on “Considering the Population Issues-Conditions for Human Survival and Future of Our Society” at Hotel New Otani, Tokyo, Mar 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>.

AFPPD Malaysia has started the implementation of the PPAP project funded by AFPPD. After the first round of discussion meetings with parliamentarians, meetings are currently being held with State Assembly representatives.

June 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, Hon.Datuk Zainal Abidin Zin, President attended a seminar on “Food Secu-

rity and Agricultural Cooperation in the context of Globalisation” in Manila organised by International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

AFPPD Malaysia regularly sent parliamentarians to AFPPD and APDA parliamentary meetings.

AFPPD Malaysia in cooperation with the Government of Malaysia organised an Asian Women Parliamentarians Meeting on Sept 7-8.

## MONGOLIA

### Standing Committee on Social Policy, Mongolia (SCSPM)

*The Mongolia Parliament has been participating in AFPPD activities since 1993. A study visit of Mongolian parliamentarians took place in May 1995 to observe Thai family planning as well as HIV/AIDS programmes. The Standing Committee on Social Policy and Parliament of Mongolia became member of AFPPD in 1998.*

Since then, Mongolia has been an active participant of all AFPPD activities in population and development. The Committee also worked closely with UNFPA office in Ulan Bator in educating parliamentarians.

A delegation of Mongolian parliamentarians visited Japan as the guest of Japan Parliamentarians Federation on Population and Development from 12<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> November 2001. They met Japanese parliamentarians and visited health and population related institutions.

The Standing Committee on Social Policy with support from AFPPD and UNFPA organized a roundtable as a way to eliminate violence on 8<sup>th</sup> May. This was attended by parliamentarians, youth and child agencies, other NGOs, and Government Officers.

## NEPAL

### Population and Social Committee, Nepal (PSCN)

*The Population and Social Committee of the House of Representatives of Nepal has been a member of AFPPD from the beginning.*

The Committee not only participated but organized National and Sub-regional Meetings on Population and HIV/AIDS in Katmandu (Nepal) in cooperation with AFPPD and IMPO. Nepal also attended South Asian Meeting of Parliamentarians on Population and Development in Colombo (Sri Lanka) in 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> August 1999. AFPPD supported the organization of

national workshop on “The Role of Parliamentarians on the Fight Against HIV/AIDS” by UNFPA and Population and Social Committee of the Parliament of Nepal. Mr. Nikom Chourkittisophon, Senator of Thailand, represented AFPPD at the workshop. More than 100 members of Parliamentarians of Nepal attended the workshop.

## NEW ZEALAND

### **New Zealand Parliamentarians' Group on Population and Development (NZPGPD)**

*The New Zealand Parliamentarians' Group on Population and Development (NZPPD) was established in 1998. The all-party group was set up as a result of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo and a Parliamentarians' study tour to Thailand and Viet Nam in 1997 to visit family planning and reproductive health projects. Phillida Bunkle, Katherine O'Regan, Judith Tizard and the Rev Ann Batten participated in the tour and, as a result, were co-founders of the Group.*

*The Group is working to increase debate and information about global population issues, including sexual and reproductive health, especially in the Pacific Island nations, and to enhance New Zealand's contribution to development projects that focus on reproductive*

*health in the Pacific and Asia.*

#### **2000**

Guest Speaker, Ingar Bruggeman, Director General for IPPF spoke to the NZPPD. Ms Bruggeman emphasised the importance of family planning in the area of population and development and also the significant role and influence that Parliamentarians have in raising public awareness on these issues.

The Parliamentarians' Group hosted the launch of UNFPA State of the World Population, Parliament Buildings, Wellington. In attendance were the Minister for ODA, Hon. Matt Robson, Chair of the NZPPD, Ms. Steve Chadwick, UNFPA Representative, Ms. Catherine Shevlin Pierce and Ms. Chris McCafferty, Chairperson for the All UK Parliamentarians' Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health.

Dr. Pudjo Ruharjo and Ms Gule Afruz Mahbub from Partners in Population and Development were guest speakers at the NZPPD breakfast meeting. Discussions took place on South-to-South Initiatives and how cooperation between developing countries can contribute to long-term development and sustainability.

#### **2001**

A Notice of Motion was tabled in the House of Representatives expressing regret over the US Administration policy to reinstate the Global Gag rule.

In partnership with the APDA, the NZPPD co-hosted APDA's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Auckland, New Zealand, with the theme: Food Security, Water Resource and Population Issues in Asia and the Pacific-Sustainable Development for the Future of humankind. Hon. Judith Tizard opened the meeting with Steve Chadwick, Luamanuvao Winnie Laban MP and Anne Tolley MP delivering addresses during the 2-day meeting.

Steve Chadwick, Pansy Wong and the Hon Phillida Bunkle meeting on Violence Against Women Meeting, Bangkok, Thailand. A Programme of Action was formulated at this meeting and participants briefed NZPPD on their return.

NZPPD hosted a dinner at the Asia Pacific Alliance for ICPD (APA) meeting in Christchurch, New Zealand, APA is an alliance of population, development and environmental NGO's and ODA representatives from donor countries who meet annually to discuss how they can collectively progress the Programme of Action agreed to at ICPD.

NZPPD took part in a panel discussion that discussed population growth and the effect on the environment as part of the UNFPA State of the World Population Launch-Turnbull House, Wellington. The panel also consisted of representatives from regional organizations, government, and tertiary institutions. The Minister for the Environment, the Hon. Marion Hobbs, was a guest presenter as well as a member of the

NZPPD. The launch was well attended by MPs, NGOs, and UNFPA

### 2002

Hon. Phillida Bunkle attended APDA's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting in Tokyo. Her report on this meeting was tabled at the May MP Group meeting

Steve Chadwick participated in a study tour to Kiribati and Fiji arranged by FPAID. The study tour looked at the linkages between population growth and the environment. As a follow up Ms. Chadwick moved at the May NZPPD meeting that the Group support the re-establishment of a Pacific Parliamentarians' Group that focuses on Population and Development issues.

A number of activities were to take place from May till September, however due to an early election called by the Prime Minister, all NZPPD activities were suspended until after a new government was announced.

Prior to the election the Group had identified four key areas that they would like to focus their efforts on for upcoming activities they were:

- Sustainable Development
- HIV/AIDS
- Official Development Assistance
- Violence Against Women

The Secretariat will be formulating an action plan on how best these needs can be met.

The center left Labour party led by the Rt Hon. Helen Clark was re-elected for another term. As a consequence a majority of the NZPPD including the Chair Steve Chadwick, will be serving another three-year term.

## P HILIPPINES

### Philippines Legislators' Committee on Population and Development Foundation, Inc. (PLCPD)

*PLCPD was formed in the early stages of AFPPD and has been quite active. It has office in the Senate Building*

From the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> Congresses, i.e. 1998-2001, the challenge had been made to the Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and Development (PLCPD) to pursue legislation on population and human development that impact on the lives of the Filipinos.

Recognizing PLCPD's active role in the advocacy of population and human development issues, the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians' for Population and Development (AFPPD) elected Rep. Neric O. Acosta to be a member of its Executive Committee. PLCPD is a long-standing member of AFPPD.

From 1998 to June 2001, PLCPD membership more than doubled to 64 members from the

original 31. The House of Representatives grew from 26 legislators in 1998 to 57 by the end of December 2000. These legislators were tasked to improve the awareness of our colleagues on PLCPD's mission and goals, represent our country in local and international conferences and pass measures on population and human development. Thirty three (33) of them will still be part of the 12<sup>th</sup> Congress.

In fulfilling its mission, advocacy within the ranks of policy makers and civil society was extensively undertaken during the 11<sup>th</sup> Congress. Five major concerns advocated by the institution were enacted. These were the following:

- Clean Air Act (RA 8749 ) proposed by Sen. Juan M. Flavio, Rep. Neric A. Acosta
- Solo Parents Welfare Act (RA 8972) by Sen. Juan M. Flavio, Rep. Ranjit Shahani
- Solid Waste Management Act (RA 9003) by Sen. Juan M. Flavio, Rep. Carlos O. Cjuangco
- Early Child Care Development Act by Sen. Juan M. Flavio, Rep. Bellaflor An garacastillo
- Establishment of a Public Employment Service Office (RA 8759) by Sen. Blas F. Ople, Rep. Manuel Roxas III

#### *The Population and Development Bill*

The passage of the integrated population and development policy in the last Congress was PLCPD's greatest challenge. Known as HB 8110 filed by Rep. Luwalhati R. Antonino and

several other members and SB 2054 filed by Senator Rodolfo Biazon or simply the Pop Bill, this piece of legislation did not even reach the floor. Of the 57 PLCPD House members, 22 co-authored the bill.

Notwithstanding the opposition of the Catholic Church, some members, especially those in the Board of Trustees, painstakingly and patiently defended the essence of the Pop bill. They made efforts to advocate the bill even among the members.

Mindful of the negative perception that a candidate's support for family planning may affect one's election chances, the Board of Trustees directed the Secretariat to conduct a survey validating the PLCPD commissioned KAP survey of 1991 regarding voters' behavior vis-à-vis the position of candidates on family planning. The Board of Trustees agreed to conduct the survey three months before the May 2001 election and declared that its result should be used as basis to convince legislators to support the Pop Bill. After negotiations with Pulse Asia, TFG agreed to provide funding for the project. The survey conclusion cleared the misconception about population issues and was widely disseminated.

However, the political and social events rocking the nation during the last quarter of 2000 that culminated in January 2001 overshadowed the advocacy momentum achieved by the Pop Bill. Finally, the early recess and the May election brought to a standstill the possi-

ble progress that the bill could have taken inside Congress.

#### *Other Bills*

Aside from the Population Bill, PLCPD had its hands full working with other champions in advocating other significant human development issues concerning women, children, urban poor and good governance. The measures filed by PLCPD members that were left pending during the last Congress are as follows:

- Integrated Population and Development Act (HB 8110) proposed by Reps. Antonino, Acosta, Angara- Castillo, Lagman-Luistro, Cojuangco, Rosales, Jacob, Moreno, MaciasII, Angping, Sing son, Yotoko-Villanueva, Bunye, Lopez, Vergara, Padilla, Libarios, Nachura, Villa rosa, Fortuno, Paez
- SB 2054 by Senator Rodolfo Biazon
- Juvenile Justice System by Sen. Teresa Aquino-Oreta
- Domestic Violence/ Abuse of Women in Intimate Relationships (AWIR) by Reps. Sarnas, Liban, Rep. Angara- Castillo,
- Anti Trafficking of Women and Children/ Minors by Sen. Loren Legarda-Leviste
- National Land Use Act by Reps. Rosales, Alvarez, Tañada, Liban Senator Legarda-Leviste
- Local Housing Board by Sen. Biazon, Ople
- Local Sectoral Representative by Rep. Rosales

PLCPD employed various methods and forms of advocacy to raise legislators' and public awareness of population and human development issues. Forums, press conferences, consultations with NGOs and GOs and media exposures were regularly conducted; publications were widely disseminated; and researches, training, workshops and seminars were conducted.

#### *Networking*

Networks were established through Secretariat support such as the *Task Force HB 8110* later renamed Reproductive Health Advocacy Network and the *People's Legislative Advocacy Network* (PLAN). These organizations are expressions of solidarity among NGOs and GOs advocating for policies on human development. As prime mover in these coalitions, PLCPD has gained as much influence in setting their direction.

Aside from these organizations, PLCPD is considered a partner of other sectoral formations, namely, the Kilos Kabaro; Interface; Juvenile Justice Group (JJ group); People's Alarm; Gender & Development (GAD) Core Group at the HOR; and the Local Advocacy Project Tripartnership. This section of the civil society put their trust on PLCPD members to initiate and push for policy reforms in their respective concerns.

Expanding the organization's level of partnership, members were frequently sent to various

international conferences. Nineteen of those international conferences were participated in by members, mostly sponsored by AFPPD.

PLCPD established partnership with institutions eager to support its programs and activities for population and human development. During the 11<sup>th</sup> Congress, the following funding institutions shared their resources and assisted PLCPD in attaining its goals during the last three years: Inter-Church Christian Organization (ICCO), Christian Aid, The Ford Foundation, The David and Lucille Packard Foundation, Asian Forum of Parliamentarians for Population and Development (AFPPD), The Futures Group (TFG), UNFPA.

### *Vietnam study tour*

A six-day parliamentary Vietnam study tour was made by five legislative members to provide them with insights on how well this country is able to push for population and human development policies and programs that greatly contribute to their development.

### *Evaluation of activities*

Efforts to consolidate the organization have been our focus for the last three years. As a summary to our accomplishments during the last Congress and to remind us of the challenges that we must face, the following is a portion of the findings of the Organizational and Effectiveness Program that we have asked our consultants to conduct for PLCPD.

“Since 1998, there have been attempts to consolidate the structure, management and procedures of PLCPD and to build fund resources albeit incrementally, alongside the gradual build up of its programs and recruitment of personnel. PLCPD has come along way since near bankruptcy in 1996.”

## SRI LANKA

### **Sri Lanka Committee of Parliamentarians for Population and Development (SLCPPD)**

*Sri Lanka, Colombo, 1979, was the venue for the first International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, organized by UNFPA with IPU. Two Sri Lankans -Mr. Ranjit Atapatu & Mr. Nevile Fernangdo played a special role in the development of the Asian Parliamentarian movement. Because of the political situation, it took some time to finally set up the Sri Lankan Committee of Parliamentarians*

During the period 2000-2002, the Sri Lanka Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development have undertaken several activities. The most important of these has been the conduct of sub-national level semi-

nars for elected members of local bodies, Provincial Councils and Pradeshiya Sabhas. About 20 seminars have been held during this period. At these seminars local level population and RH issues in the respective sub-national areas were presented by experts. The presentations were followed by discussion and recommendations for action.

Sri Lanka was represented at the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development held in Auckland, New Zealand in May 2001 by Hon. U.L.M. Mohideen Member of Parliament. Dr. A.T.P.L. Abeykoon Director of the Population Division, Ministry of Health which functions as the Secretariat to the Sri Lanka Committee was invited as a resource person to present a paper on “Carrying Capacity with Focus on Food, Water and Water Resources”.

The Secretariat has been publishing annually Population Bulletins, and Data Sheets for distribution among Parliamentarians and sub-national level elected representatives. Action is currently being taken to appoint the next Executive Committee of SLCPPD from the Members of Parliament who were elected to the Parliament of Sri Lanka at the recently concluded General Elections.

Efforts have been made since ICPD to strengthen the Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development which was constituted representing all parties in Parliament, chaired by the Minister of Health.

UNFPA with the assistance of the Population Division of the Ministry of Health organized several meetings to create awareness on vital Population and RH issues that need policy changes and early attention. An information kit and policy briefs on population and RH issues were given to the Parliamentarians from time to time.

The Population Division of the Ministry of Health in collaboration with the UNFPA and the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) organized a South Asia Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development in the year 1999 in Colombo, which was attended by five South Asian countries. At this two-day meeting, Reproductive health issues faced by the countries were discussed and the meeting was very successful in sharing the experiences in the field of RH.

Parliamentary Members from Sri Lanka also participated in Regional Meetings on Population and Development. UNFPA Sri Lanka, together with the Population Division of the Ministry of Health, will address the newly emerging RH with the Parliamentarians during the present 6<sup>th</sup> Country Cycle of Assistance to get their support for the National RH policy and the Programme in Sri Lanka.

## THAILAND

### Senate Standing Committee on Public Health, Thailand (SSCPT)

*The Senate Committee on Public Health under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Prasop Rattanakorn has been associated with AFPPD since its inception.*

Dr. Malinee Sukavejworakit has been nominated as the Vice-President of AFPPD and in this capacity she attended AFPPD Executive Committee Meetings in New Zealand and Japan.

Dr. Malinee and Mr. Jon Ungphakorn received officials of the Family Planning Association who were in Thailand for an advocacy training. They were briefed on HIV/AIDS and the 30 baht health scheme.

The House of Representatives for the first time organized a 5-day seminar on Reproductive Health.

The Senate Committee on Public Health with assistance from AFPPD conducted a nationwide training and education programme for elected Tambon (sub-district) leaders on HIV/AIDS which proved to be very useful.

A large number of House of Representative Members participated in AFPPD sponsored conferences and meetings.

The Senate Standing Committee on Public Health works to consider, assess, study and proceed with any public health related medical issues. Therefore, the Senate Standing Committee on Public Health has appointed sub-committees, including:

#### Public Health

The committee assesses the Bill on National Health Security approved by Members of Parliament and by the Senate during the phase of receiving the principles, Session I. A seminar was held to gain opinions from the people and agencies from the public and private sectors to consider other public health related issues or activities.

#### Traditional Thai-practices and medicine, and alternative medicine and drug use.

These two sub-committees are appointed in order to give opinions, monitor, and follow up on developments in medicine of the present scheme and the traditional Thai practices, public health, health promotion and developments in substance use.

#### The 30 Baht-scheme Project and the National Health Security Bill.

A seminar was held at Parliament Building No. 2, to gain opinions from senators, Faculties of Medicine, the Medicine Association, representatives from medical organizations, private hospital associations, the Ministry of Public

Health, medical club of the centre hospital or a general hospital, and representatives from a private sector. A second seminar was held to gain opinions from representatives of public and private sectors, and from the general public.

### Contagious Diseases

This committee focusses on the security system arrangement and the elimination of dangerous contagious diseases, including transmission through intravenous drug use.



### Vietnamese Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (VAPPD)

2000

The Seminar on “Communication between Policy Makers and Researchers on Population and Health issues” took place May 13-15 2000 in Namdinh. It was organized by VAPPD and UNFPA, with 35 participants, including MPs, representatives from Ministries and NGOs, researchers and representatives from two provinces. The seminar’s outcome included recommendations to MPs, Ministries, and research institutes.

On 14-16 August 2002, in Ho Chi Minh City, a Southern seminar on reproductive health and malnutrition prevention policy was organized by VAPPD, UNFPA, and UNICEF. There were 180 people in attendance and elected officials from 32 provinces were present. A Plan of Action was presented to Parliament, Government, Ministers and Governors.

A Northern seminar on reproductive health and malnutrition prevention policy was held August 23-25, 2000 in Nghe province. The seminar was organized by VAPPD, UNFPA, and UNICEF. There were 180 participants, including elected officials from 29 provinces. A Plan of Action was given to the Parliament, Government, Ministers, and Governors.

In Hanoi in June 200, VAPPD and UNFPA organized a National seminar on Population and Reproductive health care policy of Vietnam in the New Millennium. There were a hundred participants that included MPs, representatives from Ministries and NGOs from 15 provinces. A letter was sent to the Parliament, Government, Ministers and Governors.

VAPPD and UNFPA distributed 23,000 4-page copies of the Newsletter on Population Problems Today in Hanoi. The newsletter has 6 issues, with topics such as Environment and Population, Forest and Population, Urbanization, Law on Elderly, Adolescent Health and Abortion.

2001

70 participants and MPs from Ministries, NGOs and representatives from 13 provinces of the Mekong Delta Region attended the Regional Seminar on “ Elimination Violence Against Women Policy ” in November in Tien-giang. VAPPD and UNFPA organized the seminar. A letter with recommendations was sent to the Parliament and governors.

A national seminar on “Elimination of Violence Against Women Policy ” took place in December 2001 in Hanoi. It was organized by VAPPD and UNFPA, with 75 participants, including MPs, representatives from Ministries, and NGOs from 10 provinces. Embassies and donors also attended the seminar. Recommendations to Parliament, Government, Ministers and Prime Minister were formulated.

VAPPD, UNFPA and National Institute of Nutrition (Ministry of Health) distributed 23,000 copies of Newsletter “Population Problems Today” to all elected officials from national to district level in Hanoi, containing 2 special issues on Malnutrition Prevention and Violence Against Women.

In December 2001, the Seminar on “Communication between Policy makers and Researcher on Population-Reproductive Health Issues in the Mountains”, organized in Hatay by VAPPD in co-operation with AFPPD. Participants included MPs, Ministries, NGOs, and researchers from 5 mountain provinces.

The seminar formulated recommendations to MPs, Ministries and research institutions.

## 2002

The regional seminar on “Population and Reproductive Health Policy for Provincial Level in Mountainous Region” took place in Jan, 2002 in Bak Kan. It was organized VAPPD and AFPPD. The participants were MPS from ministries, NGOs from 16 provinces of Northern mountainous region. A Plan of Action was given to Parliament and Prime Minister.

The regional seminar on “Population and Reproductive Health Policy for Most Disadvantage District Level in Mountainous Region”, organized by VAPPD and AFPPD. The seminar took place in April 2002 in Ha giang. There were 160 people, including MPs, Ministries, NGOs, and 49 districts of 16 provinces of region. A recommendation letter was sent to Parliament, Government, and Prime minister.

Regional seminar on “ Tuberculoses Prevention Policy in Mekong Delta Region” held on 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> March, 2002 in Soc Trang and organized by VAPPD and WHO. A total of 120 attendants, including MPs, ministries, NGOs and 13 provinces of the Mekong Delta region. A letter on TB Prevention was given to Parliament and the Prime Minister.

On March 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 2002 in Kon Tum, VAPPD, WHO and Ministry of Health organized the Regional Seminar on “ Tuberculoses prevention

policy in Tay nguyen region” The participants included 45 MPs from ministries, NGOs, and representatives from 5 provinces of Tay nguyen region. The seminar formulated recommendations to Parliament and Prime Minister on TB prevention.

VAPPD and UNFPA organized the meeting on “Population Bill” with CST of UNFPA from Bangkok There were 15 participants, including MPs, Ministries and researchers. The meeting took place in Hanoi, March 2002. The Draft of the Bill on Population is now being presented to Parliament for debate.

A seminar on “Communication between Policy makers and Researcher on Law and policy on Pop-RH issues in the Mountains” held in April 2002 in Hanoi. It was organized by VAPPD and AFPPD with 35 participants, including MPs, Ministries, NGOs and researchers from 7 mountain provinces. Recommendations were presented to MPs, Ministries and research institutions.

Three special issues of the Newsletter “Population Problems Today” were distributed by VAPPD, UNFPA and WHO in Hanoi.



Country Reports



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