



# JPFP Newsletter

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

August 2025

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## JPFP Submits Request to State Minister for Foreign Affairs to Increase Japan's Contributions to UNFPA and IPPF

On 26 August, Hon. Kamikawa Yoko, Chair of JPFP, Hon. Kikawada Hitoshi, Secretary General of JPFP, and Hon. Terata Shizuka, Director of JPFP, submitted a formal request to State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Miyaji Takuma, urging an increase in Japan's contributions to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) for FY2026.

At the outset, Hon. Kamikawa highlighted that, amid rising expectations from African countries following TICAD9, Japan should provide full support to UNFPA and IPPF, which play critical roles in the population field, and contribute to the international community through public-private partnerships. Hon. Kikawada then pointed out that the suspension of U.S. contributions in this sector has created a critical situation and emphasized the continuing importance of Japan's support, including for the situation in Afghanistan. Hon. Terata stressed that, facing growing domestic "country-first" opinions, support for international cooperation aligns with Japan's interests and expressed her commitment to actively contribute through JPFP activities.

In response, Hon. Miyaji expressed his appreciation for JPFP's vigorous activities and, drawing on his own experience visiting African countries, highlighted the importance of addressing rapidly changing population dynamics, advancing SRHR initiatives, and ensuring that assistance reaches the most vulnerable populations in a targeted and effective manner. In turn, JPFP leadership reaffirmed their commitment to work proactively across party lines to meet the heightened international expectations following TICAD9.

### Courtesy Call on State Minister for Foreign Affairs Miyaji by JPFP Chair Kamikawa and Leadership

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan website:

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit\\_000001\\_02641.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/pressit_000001_02641.html) (Japanese)



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## **TICAD9 Thematic Event: Let's Discuss the Future of Africa Together with Members of Parliament**

On 21 August 2025, the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA; JPFP Secretariat) held the TICAD9 Thematic Event, “Let’s Discuss the Future of Africa Together with Members of Parliament”, at Pacifico Yokohama in Yokohama City, Japan. At the opening session, Hon. Aisawa Ichio, Senior Vice Chair of JPFP and Chair of the Japan–AU Parliamentary Friendship League, and Mr. Nakamura Ryo, Director-General for Global Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, delivered opening remarks, sharing insights on Africa’s demographic trends and the importance of Japan’s international cooperation, and examples of collaboration between APDA and regional fora.

During the panel discussion, moderated by Hon. Makiyama Hideki, former Minister of Justice, parliamentarians representing the African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (FPA) and the Forum of Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAPPD) exchanged views, expressing gratitude for Japan’s support and highlighting progress in education, health, and programmes for women and youth. Dr. Hala Youssef, Adviser of UNFPA Arab States Regional Office (APRO), provided a wrap-up and reaffirmed the critical role of parliamentarians and actions needed for future collaboration. At the closing session, Hon. Kamikawa Yoko, Chair of JPFP, and Dr. Alvaro Bermejo, Director-General of IPPF, emphasized the importance of long-term partnerships and collaboration with private sectors and youth for sustainable development.

This programme was supported by the Japan Trust Fund (JTF), UNFPA and International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).



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## AFPPD Standing Committee Meetings on Women and Youth

With the support of the Japan Trust Fund (JTF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), APDA and the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) organized AFPPD Standing Committee Meetings (Study Visits) in **Bosnia and Herzegovina** (May) and **Maldives** (June).

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, in cooperation with the UNFPA Bosnia and Herzegovina Office, a study visit programme was organized primarily for parliamentarians from Central Asia and Eastern Europe. Participants exchanged views with the Parliamentary Committee on Gender Equality, observed comprehensive support services for survivors of sexual violence at a general hospital, and learned about initiatives on gender-sensitive legal education at the University of Sarajevo.

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In the Maldives, APDA, AFPPD and the Maldives Parliamentary Group on Population and Development (MPGPD), co-hosted a sub-regional parliamentary meeting on “Women’s Empowerment and Investment in Young People in South Asia”. During the meeting, key issues were highlighted, including women’s concentration in low-paid sectors, domestic violence and associated stigma, limited political participation, as well as the high proportion of youth not in education, employment, or training (NEET) and their reliance on informal employment. Participating parliamentarians adopted the Malé Declaration, reaffirming their commitment to reviewing discriminatory laws and strengthening legislative measures to advance gender equality.



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## JPFP

Established in 1974, JPFP has the longest history in the world as a supra-partisan parliamentary group on population and development. JPFP, in concert with APDA, has created a network of parliamentarians on population and development, through which a diverse range of knowledge and experience has been shared to accomplish concrete results.

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## APDA

APDA since its establishment in 1982 has served as the secretariat of JPFP.

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Supported by the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)



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