



JPFP Newsletter

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

November 2025

Arab and Asian Parliamentarians Meeting: Advancing Reproductive Health, Empowering Youth, and Eliminating Gender-Based Violence

On 24 October, over 50 parliamentarians and experts from 16 countries across Asia and the Arab region gathered in Cairo, Egypt, for an inter-regional parliamentarians' meeting focused on advancing sexual and reproductive health (SRH), empowering youth, and eliminating gender-based violence (GBV). The event was organized by the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA; JPFP Secretariat) and Forum of Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAPPD), with support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Japan Trust Fund (JTF), and International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).

During the opening session, Hon. Prof. Takemi Keizo, Chair of APDA, delivered remarks on behalf of the organizers, highlighting the critical role of parliamentarians in shaping health and development policies and legislation. Egyptian ministers responsible for social solidarity, health, youth and sports, and parliamentary affairs gave opening speeches respectively, outlining national strategies and initiatives. The Japanese Ambassador to Egypt and Deputy Regional Director of UNFPA Arab States Regional Office further underscored the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships in addressing these issues.

In Session 1, participants discussed the interconnectedness between SRH, public health, and gender equality, with particular focus on youth and marginalized groups. Session 2, addressing GBV through legal and social reforms, presenters examined the vital role of parliamentarians in strengthening preventive legislation, ensuring accountability, and securing adequate resources for prevention and survivor support. Session 3, focusing on youth empowerment and inclusive policymaking, explored strategies to enhance meaningful youth participation in decision-making at national and regional levels. Session 4 examined the strategic importance of private-sector participation as a key driver of national and regional development initiatives.

On October 25, participants visited the Egyptian Red Crescent Society and the Azima Rehabilitation and Addiction Treatment Center to observe their respective activities.



Progress in Legal and Policy Development in the Arab Region: Egypt

Since 2017, the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) has been continuously working to strengthen collaboration among Arab and Asian parliamentarians and promote legal and policy development related to population and development issues. Significant progress has been confirmed in key laws, policy formulation, and institutional reforms in this field, according to surveys conducted by the Forum of Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAPPD) among parliamentarians in several Arab countries. These achievements have been realized based on recommendations adopted at the Arab-Asia parliamentarians' meetings organized by APDA and FAPPD, through the dedicated efforts of participating parliamentarians and FAPPD's close coordination. The support provided by the Government of Japan underpinning these activities has been highly appreciated and acknowledged by the Arab countries.

Key Laws Enacted by the Social Solidarity Committee of the House of Representatives in Egypt

1. Legislation on Persons with Disabilities – Eight laws have been enacted in this domain.
2. Childhood and Motherhood Law – Law No. 182 of 2023, issued to reorganize the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) and amend certain provisions of the Child Law to strengthen child protection efforts in Egypt.
3. Elderly Rights Care Law – Law No. 19 of 2024, issued to affirm the Egyptian State's commitment to all segments of society through dedicated legislation for the care and protection of the rights of older persons.

4. Social Security Law – Law No. 12 of 2025, aimed at supporting the most vulnerable groups to ensure a dignified life, empower them economically, and lift them out of the cycle of poverty.



In cooperation with Hon. Dr. Abedhady Elkasbey, Senator of Egypt, and Dr. Mohammed Al-Smadi, Secretary General of FAPPD

A short video clip of the “Asian Parliamentarians’ Conference on Education for Life, Safety, and Human Dignity”



[See the video here](#)

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.

Read more

APDA

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

Read more

Supported by the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)



♥ DONATE

APDA is a certified public entity for the Medal with Dark Blue Ribbon. This is awarded to individuals or organizations that donate substantial funds to a certified public entity for the benefit of the public.

DONATE NOW

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

2-19-5-8F, Nishi-Shinbashi, Minato-ku,
Tokyo 105-0003 Japan

TEL: +81-3-5405-8844 FAX: +81-3-5405-8845

E-mail: apda@apda.jp Website: <https://www.apda.jp/en/>

【Editorial responsibility: APDA】