



# JPFP Newsletter

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

March 2026

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## JPFP Held Executive Members' Meeting and Life Safety Education (LSE) Project Team Meeting Growing Interest in Promoting Life Safety Education

On 11 March, the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) convened its Executive Members' Meeting, followed by the Life Safety Education (LSE) Project Team (PT) Meeting. At the outset, Hon. Kamikawa Yoko, Chair of JPFP, delivered opening remarks, emphasizing JPFP's longstanding efforts to address population and development issues that form the foundation of a sustainable society through cross-party parliamentary dialogue, as well as its strength in collaborating with networks of parliamentarians across regions. The Executive Members' Meeting was moderated by Hon. Terata Shizuka, Director of JPFP, during which agenda items including the executive structure, membership expansion, activity reports, and future plans were discussed. Regarding the executive structure, members were invited to nominate candidates for vacant positions, and the structure of the LSE Project Team was also reported. In addition, in light of the decrease in membership following recent elections, members were encouraged to support efforts to expand membership across party lines.

In the second session, Hon. Abe Toshiko, Chair of the LSE PT, delivered remarks, underscoring the importance of LSE and expressing her intention to advance PT activities through strengthened collaboration with relevant stakeholders. This was followed by a presentation by Dr. Takahashi Sachiko (obstetrician-gynecologist and Assistant Professor at the Medical Personnel Development Support Center and Community Medical Promotion Center of Saitama Medical University) on "*Current Status and Challenges of LSE from the Perspectives of Adolescent Clinical Practice and School Education*". Drawing on her clinical experience and educational outreach, Dr. Takahashi highlighted the importance of ensuring that young people have access to accurate knowledge, as well as establishing supportive environments and systems where they can seek help when needed. She also emphasized the need for coordinated efforts among schools, medical institutions, and communities to respond effectively to young people's needs. Representatives from Japan's Children and Families Agency provided an overview of trends in teenage pregnancy and related consultation and support systems. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) reported on teaching materials, guidelines, and the current status of implementation of LSE in schools. The discussion that followed addressed challenges related to public understanding, the need to strengthen collaboration with expert networks, and the potential for new initiatives that incorporate the voices of young people.



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## Parliamentarians' Meeting on Ageing Held in Tunisia

As part of activities for strengthening National Committees on Population and Development, a parliamentary meeting on “Population Ageing and Sustainable Development: Prospects for Social and Health Policies” was held in Tunis, Tunisia, on 30 March, bringing together 25 participants, including parliamentarians, civil society representatives and experts. The meeting was organized by the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) and the Forum of Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAPPD) with support from the Japan Trust Fund (JTF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). Opening the meeting, H.E. Dr. Ezzedine Al-Tayeb, MP, Deputy Speaker of the Tunisian Parliament and Chair of the Health Committee, stressed that population ageing is no longer a future issue but an urgent reality requiring immediate action. He emphasized the role of parliaments in developing legislation, overseeing public policies and ensuring the equitable allocation of resources. The sessions examined the implications of ageing for healthcare, pensions, labour markets, and social inclusion. Participants highlighted the need to strengthen long-term care, reform pension systems, expand healthcare services for older persons and adopt laws to protect their rights. The meeting concluded with recommendations to integrate ageing into national development policies to promote active and healthy ageing, strengthen regional cooperation, and support further research and capacity building on ageing issues.



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## Parliamentarians' Meeting on Gender Equality Held in Tajikistan

On 12 February, a parliamentarians' meeting entitled “*Achievements and Challenges in the Implementation of Gender Equality Policy in Tajikistan*” was held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, under the auspices of the Lower House of Parliament of the Republic of Tajikistan, in collaboration with the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) and the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA; JPPF Secretariat), with support from the Japan Trust Fund (JTF) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The meeting brought together representatives from the government, judiciary, international organizations, and civil society, and reaffirmed gender equality as a state priority, including the advancement of women's rights and the expansion of their roles in economic, environmental, and other sectors.

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### JPPF

Established in 1974, JPPF has the longest history in the world as a supra-partisan parliamentary group on population and development. JPPF, 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 JPPF.

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