

REPORT

AFPPD Standing Committee on Active Ageing

**Parliamentarians' Meeting on ICPD30:
*Leaving No One Behind in an Ageing World***



From
the People of Japan



23-24 April 2024

Tokyo, Japan

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April 23: Meeting

Opening Session

Moderator: Hon. Kikawada Hitoshi, MP Japan, Secretary General of the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JFPF)

H.E. Fukuda Yasuo, Former Prime Minister of Japan, Chair of the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) and Honorary Chair of JFPF, began by commemorating the 50th anniversary of the establishment of JFPF. JFPF was established based on Japan's initiatives to work to solve social problems, such as education gaps, health and hygiene, and gender inequality, while protecting the dignity and rights of individuals. APDA was later established to support JFPF as its Secretariat. The ideals of the ICPD have remained the core philosophy of efforts to address today's population issues. The world today faces much more severe circumstances, growing disparities, regional conflicts, and threatening peace and stability. The challenges are to correct disparities, pursue development, promote dialogue, and build a society that values individuals. It also means bringing about social change. Measures to address ageing are key elements in addressing a sustainable future. To respond to changing circumstances, the world requires innovation that transcends viewpoints and environment improvement.

Hon. Gu Xiaoyu, MP China and Vice-Chair of the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee, National People's Congress of China, introduced the efforts China has been making to balance healthy ageing with social development, such as improving the multi-level pension security system and meeting the health needs of elderly people. China has always attached great importance to the issue of population ageing, and has enacted, revised, and improved relevant laws in a timely manner. In the future, China will take further proactive measures, draw on advanced international experience, explore pension models and systems that are suitable for China's actual situation, and strive to cope with and solve the problem of population ageing, contributing to the realization of the coordinated development of the population and the society and economy.

H.E. Kamikawa Yoko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, stated that the population issue is a common agenda for the whole world, and the ageing is an essential element in solving and thinking about population issues. In Japan, ageing is rapidly progressing. This extension of healthy longevity has been possible because it has been focusing on each stage of the lifecycle, as well as adopting universal health coverage (UHC) that focuses on leaving no one behind. Japan has been actively promoting UHC in various international forums, including healthy ageing. Japan has also been supporting developing countries in addressing ageing society, providing social security networks, and more, in order to share Japan's efforts and knowledge through the JFPF. Through these efforts, Japan has established a spirit of solidarity with other countries. AFPPD was also established to support development cooperation and each country's building of legislative systems and budget allocations. The discussions held at this meeting also will influence those held during the ICPD 30 Global Dialogue next month.

Mr. Andrew Saberton, Deputy Executive Director of UNFPA, stated that the theme of the meeting, leaving no one behind, offers opportunities for innovation and healthcare, and inclusive policies that not only support but facilitate contributions that will help to achieve the ICPD Programme of Actions. It is evident that population ageing calls for designing and

developing meaningful engagement. The commitment to safeguard the rights and well-being of individuals remains critical. The deliberations held during this meeting will embody this commitment. Mr. Saberton also emphasized the importance of leveraging the power of data to analyze and integrate regional resource flows. By promoting healthy ageing and creating inclusive policies, it will be possible to unlock the full potential of societies. UNFPA stands at the forefront of addressing population challenges, advocating for the adoption of policies. The task requires collaboration and partnerships to share legislative frameworks and allocate sufficient resources.





Session 1: Addressing Population Ageing from a Gender Perspective

Hon. Miyaji Takuma, MP Japan, began the session by commenting that Japanese society is one of the most ageing societies in the world, but other Asian countries will not be far behind, so it is important to address the related issues soon. He then introduced the panelists of the session and invited the first presenter.

Hon. Dr. Jetn Sirathranont, MP Thailand and Secretary General of AFPPD, introduced the Healthy Ageing Collaborative (HAC) group, which was established to encourage multisectoral engagement and cooperation at the global, regional, and national levels. This group established the ASEAN Center for Active Ageing and Innovation (ACAI) in Bangkok, Thailand. Thailand has been confirmed to be relatively advanced in gender equality, including through passing same-sex marriage bills, and acts that empower pregnant women and girls with the right to terminate pregnancy. Although there is no specific legislation regarding ageing, marginalized persons, women, and girls are protected under the Thailand constitution. Although a lot of inequality in ageing has been corrected, there is still inequality in rural and urban areas. On the subject of physical and mental health among the elderly, Thailand has identified ways of enhancing happiness among the elderly, through good physical health, keeping to the five precepts of Buddhist teaching, practicing mindfulness, and developing wisdom.

Mr. Paul Ong, Chief Strategic Officer of Tsao Foundation, Singapore, presented a perspective on the conditions of older women in Singapore. The population demographic in Singapore has progressed, and now different age groups are living together in equal proportions. This has many implications on the ways policies are made and resources are allocated. Addressing issues related to women's health, such as symptoms caused by menopause and sexual health screenings, is a major issue. This includes improving education, which has been a serious issue for women as many women in Singapore over 60 lack a basic education. As this makes it harder for elderly women to join the workforce, it leads to situations where some women cannot afford

the costs of living. Although many policies have been introduced to address the lives of women, more needs to be done. A better understanding of the health perspective of women is needed.

Professor Arikawa Kazumune, Department of Oral Health, School of Dentistry at Matsudo, Nihon University, Japan, presented on the current state of oral health in Japan. Due to improvements in dental health services, the environment of oral health has been improving, with the percentage of people with good teeth increasing from 10% to over 50%. More of the elderly are preserving their own teeth, however, a large proportion of those in nursing care require additional oral care. Dental checkups are also mandatory for pregnant women, as periodontal dental disease is more common than for non-pregnant women. This is because pregnancy hormones are compatible with diseases, creating higher risks of infections that can impact the next generation. The use of dental gum has also been shown to help improve oral health for both pregnant women and the elderly, including improving jaw muscles. In an ageing society, it is important to maintain good oral functions, so that people can eat whatever they wish to at any age, which will lead to extending healthy living. It is also clear the oral care needs to be provided to pregnant women in order to support both them and the next generation towards a healthy life.

Discussion

Hon. Miyaji Takuma, MP Japan, commented that women have specific health issues. He then asked Mr. Ong whether Singapore has any specific initiatives to address issues with women's health, as well as discrepancies such as wages and gender instability.

Mr. Paul Ong responded that Singapore is producing specific support packages for women across different generations, such as towards providing affordable health care. There is also a variety of schemes to support retirement age, predominantly benefitting older women. Further issues are being tackled slowly.

Hon. Dr. Hajjah Halimah Ali, MP Malaysia, asked Prof. Arikawa about the types of chewing gum mentioned in his presentation, to which he responded that he was referring to non-sugary gum.

Hon. Said Oulbacha, MP Morocco, asked Mr. Ong to clarify the definition of menopause in his presentation.

Mr. Paul Ong responded that menopause is not treated like a disease, and it is a part of life that needs to be managed like ageing. One of the key issues is addressing support for female generations, such as social support and providing better care plans so that women can lead healthier lives.



Session 2: AI and Digital Technologies to Support Healthy Ageing

Session Chair: Hon. Makishima Karen, MP Japan

H.E. Alexander Nanta Linggi, MP Malaysia, Minister of Public Work, and Chair of AFPPD Malaysia, explained that by 2030, more countries will be superaged, and this potentially affects the country's development, as elderly people will require more care. There is no doubt that introducing AI and digital technology will play a critical role in empowering older persons in Malaysia. That being said, there will be additional challenges such as elderly people keeping up with the pace of AI and digital technology. Malaysia has paid special attention to digitalization, including formulating the National Artificial Intelligence Roadmap. This roadmap signifies the government's commitment to use AI and aligns with the goals of national policies of society, technological innovation, etc. Hon. Linggi then introduced examples of how Malaysia is introducing digitalization technology to support daily life, such as mobility service support apps, and virtual wards for providing online healthcare and consultations. As the world harnesses the power of AI and digital technology, it must remain vigilant of ethical consideration, and be prepared for future technological developments.

Mr. Tsuji Hayaki, Representative Director of One Smile Foundation, explained that Japan is creating the concept of pursuing one's own happiness first, and this will lead to supporting the happiness of society. This concept can be realized through the use of AI and digital technology. The One Smile Foundation has established a new form of donation technology, whereby sensors

and cameras are used to search for smiles, and each single smile automatically generates a donation from the foundation to persons struggling in daily life. This system has been tested and is due to be implemented in Taiwan, particularly for elderly people living in homes in order to provide them with better chances to enjoy life.

Professor Suk-Won Lee, Executive Director of the Center for International Development Evaluation, Seoul National University, Republic of Korea, first introduced the population trends in Korea. By 2050, Korea is expected to have a society older than Japan, which will lead to an increasing demand for care for the elderly. As such, the national agenda has included priorities to strengthen job, health, and care systems within the country, and to support the use of sensors and AI-based health care. One such initiative is the use of Smart Care, which uses AI to integrate technology and create a more efficient care environment and focuses on providing more specialized services. In the previous two uses, other systems modeled on Smart Care have been introduced using various technologies and detection sensors. The central government has been making many policies to support and foster research and development (R&D) activities and age-friendly industry. It has also made efforts to provide finance for R&D activities for age-friendly industries. The government is determined to foster industrial transformation towards a digital-friendly industry, including through expanding international manpower.

Discussion

Hon. Howard Lee Chuan How, MP Malaysia, asked Prof. Lee, in the event that quantum computing comes online, how much funding will be put towards that technology in order to prevent it being monopolized.

Prof. Suk-Won Lee responded that although most technological advancements have come from Korea, AI services are still in an early stage, and problems found as the services are developed will be reflected into legislation for future technologies.

Hon. Makishima Karen, MP Japan, asked H.E. Linggi and Prof. Lee how countries can evaluate the necessity for privacy and data collection to support innovation, especially when considering personalized treatment.

Prof. Suk-Won Lee responded that data collection will be fundamental to advance to the next step. As for privacy intrusions, they have to be considered within the limits of what will be beneficial for society.

H.E. Alexander Nanta Linggi, MP Malaysia and Minister of Public Work, responded that as AI is developed, the world must prepare to reduce its impacts. There must be security placed on data at every level, whilst ensuring the information that should remain private.



Session 3: Policy Priorities for Ageing Friendly Environments

Session Chair: Hon. Hector Appuhamy, MP Sri Lanka

Hon. Nguyen Hoang Mai, MP Vietnam, explained the current situation of population ageing in Vietnam. By 2050, Vietnam is expected to have one of the highest life expectancies among countries in Southeast Asia. However, elderly people face several challenges, such as high rates of disabilities, narrow coverage and low benefits from social assistance, and poor and fragmented social care services. There is also limited opportunities for employment among the elderly, and a low level of awareness amongst younger generations on the need to plan ahead. The Government of Vietnam has been focused on revising and improving social assistance, including health insurance towards the introduction of UHC. Vietnam has also compiled three groups of policy recommendations to be implemented going forward. The first is to address urgent issues facing the elderly, such as expanding health care coverage. The second promoting the role of the elderly in society. And the third is ensuring adequate preparations for population ageing, including providing lifelong learning programs and employment opportunities.

Hon. Motefaker Azad, MP Iran, stated that Iran has sought to take effective measures to manage and improve conditions relating to population decrease and solving leading problems in the field of elderly and ageing. The trend in Iran has been towards supporting women, as they are the majority of senior citizens. One of the measures considered to prevent harm to the elderly is the need for education and increasing the literacy of the elderly. A plan has also been made to empower elderly women, based on support packages.

One of the most important plans in Iran is the Ageing Friendly Environment Strategic Plan, which will see cities in the country adapted to the elderly in the field of public buildings and urban transportation, as well as social participation, etc. Other initiatives include the training of formal and informal caregivers, and improving education in schools regarding respect for the elderly. Although it has faced difficulties in implementing certain programs, the Government of Iran intends to continue to make advancements towards its humanitarian goals.

Dr. Iijima Katsuya, Director of the Institute for Gerontology, the University of Tokyo, stated that while Japan has UHC and a mature medical system, it is also looking to create ageing-friendly environments. Japan hopes to encourage all people to be employed, and to promote digitalization in healthcare. This also involves addressing the issue of frailty among the elderly, and to do so, Japan needs to connect medical and nursing care. There are four initiatives that can be implemented in order to address these issues. The first is creating community-based comprehensive care systems, where medical and nursing care, as well as lifetime support, are provided through ICT. The second is preventing frailty as early as possible, through nutrition, physical activities, and other methods. The third is employment for the elderly, even if it is small scale and easily manageable. And the fourth is creating ageing friendly environments, including ensuring they are barrier free, through the use of IT and community volunteers.

Discussion

H.E. Alexander Nanta Linggi, MP Malaysia and Minister of Public Work, introduced the efforts made in Malaysia to address the topic. These include implementing policies to provide friendly services to all persons, government funding activities, and encouraging social workers.

Dr. Iijima Katsuya highlighted the importance of family support in protecting the elderly. He also noted the importance of considering both short-term and long-term solutions, including focusing on education, and working in close cooperation with other stakeholders.

Hon. Dr. Jetn Sirathranont, MP Thailand, shared how Thailand provides budgets to ensure care for the elderly and financial benefits for families.

Hon. Lork Kheng, MP Cambodia, shared policies made to address the elderly population. The government also works to provide finances to poorer families, and encourages families to support their elderly members.

Mr. Abdelmadjid Tagguiche, former MP Algeria, asked Hon. Mai why the percentage of elderly in Vietnam is so different from other Southeast Asian countries, especially considering the Vietnam War.

Hon. Nguyen Hoang Mai, MP Vietnam, responded that Vietnam provides social assistance to people aged 75 and older, and it is attempting to combine this with the social security system.



Session 4: Emerging Population Trends in the Asia-Pacific and Economic Sustainability of Population Ageing

Session Chair: Hon. Kunimitsu Ayano, MP Japan

Mr. Pio Smith, Regional Director of UNFPA Asia and the Pacific Regional Office (APRO), stated that while life-changing advancements have been made, inequalities still exist, exacerbated by climate change and conflict. It is important to acknowledge critical advancements, such as in healthcare and living standards. However, with fewer working-aged individuals, fiscal stability is going to face pressure, as more adults require medical care. UNFPA supports development policies across the region that embrace ageing as an opportunity with women and girls at the core. Countries must consider multifaceted approaches that address the diverse needs of elderly adults, including investing in life learning and creating age-friendly environments. They must also recognize the critical role technology has in driving economies and revolutionizing the way people age. UNFPA supports member states in addressing social issues by employing a set of policies and strategies to enhance sustainable economic development. UNFPA also provides technical advice on the utilization of the national transfer accounts framework, used to assess how changes in the age structure influence a variety of socio-economic indicators.

Hon. Lemauga Lydia Sosene, MP New Zealand, began by introducing the New Zealand Parliamentarians' Group on Population and Development (NZPPD), the only cross-party group focused on population and development issues and advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in the Pacific. The region still faces many issues related to SRHR, such as unmet needs for modern contraception and high rates of sexually transmitted infections. NZPPD therefore focused on promoting SRHR, official development assistance, reducing gender inequality, and sustainable development. Ms. Sosene also highlighted the population demographics within the Pacific region. New Zealand in particular is heading towards a rapidly ageing population, and this increase will create social, financial, and economic challenges for New Zealand. Furthermore, the population trend among younger New Zealanders is increasingly coming from minority, ethnic, immigrant, and indigenous communities. The way forward is, therefore, to embrace and harness this diversity, and understand its value.

Hon. Baktykozha Izmukhambetov, MP Kazakhstan, explained that the Asia Pacific region has experienced significant demographic changes in recent years, including challenges caused by the ageing population, which will produce implications for the economic situation in the region due to shrinking workforces. Countries need to find innovative solutions to ensure the sustainability of economies in the face of these challenges. These include policies that promote active ageing, investing in education and workforce development, and reforming pension security systems. Policies going forward will need to include aspects such as the need to create opportunities for elderly people to be actively involved in society, ensuring the elderly have access to quality healthcare and recreational activities, establishing systems that protect the elderly, providing support for all citizens, and creating programs aimed at all groups of the population.

Mr. Kasper Bodker Mejlvang, President and Representative Director of Novo Nordisk Pharma Ltd., introduced his company and its work to combat global disease. The company believes that the sustainability of healthcare systems helps to tackle chronic diseases, and works to be partners in a sustainable healthcare system that continues to drive innovation. As a company, Novo Nordisk works in partnership to drive innovative and viable solutions to prevent diabetes and obesity. By tackling these and other such diseases, it will be possible to reduce the

burden on individuals and society. Novo Nordisk is working to tackle large-scale projects with different stakeholders throughout Japan, including setting up a regional cooperation with Chiba Prefecture focused on tackling childhood obesity. Novo Nordisk also intends to collaborate with medical societies in order to tackle such objectives and drive change.



Discussion

Hon. Baktykozha Izmukhambetov, MP Kazakhstan, asked Mr. Pio Smith how to tackle the issues of decreasing populations by reducing the spread of contraceptives.

Mr. Pio Smith argued against this, stating that UNFPA would never advocate that women's bodies should be used to forward government policies.

Hon. Dr. Halimah Ali, MP Malaysia, agreed with the comment from Mr. Smith, but added that there are concepts about both respecting the rights of men and women and fertility management. They asked whether UNFPA has any plans to promote fertility, and how governments can help those who want to have children to do so.

Hon. Lemauga Lydia Sosene, MP New Zealand, responded that in the Pacific region, there are fertile women who live in remote areas, and therefore face barriers to healthcare. There are also issues of connectivity with those areas.

Dr. Fadoua Bakhadda, Regional Director of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) Arab World, stated that IPPF supports the comment from Mr. Smith about women's choice on pregnancy but it also supports women who want to have more children. Irrespective of government policies, there are many countries where teenagers want to have more children

than they actually do. IPPF provides assisted fertility and fertility care but emphasized that they are provided based on women's choices.

Hon. Motefakker Azad, MP Iran, emphasized that some cultures are not concerned about ageing because they are made up of young populations. Countries should also consider cultural aspects that may be lost due to changes in society.

Hon. Kunimitsu Ayano, MP Japan, added that different countries have different backgrounds and it is important to understand the choices made by each individual. As the Asian Pacific region is made up of different countries, it is important to provide different environments for those who want to have children or not.



Closing Session

Dr. Alvaro Bermejo, Director-General of IPPF, commented that there have been lots of ideas at the meeting on how to promote active and healthy ageing. IPPF took special note of the issues around healthcare throughout the life cycle, and supported SRHR. Countries around the world need gender strength to address the rapidly emerging challenges of ageing society. IPPF is committed to meeting the needs of these communities. Collaboration across all levels of society is essential, while ensuring a special focus on women and marginalized individuals.

Hon. Aisawa Ichiro, MP Japan and Acting Chair of JPFP, congratulated the participants on the session. In ASEAN, there are many young societies but in retrospect, all leaders share the same sense of crisis about the impending ageing society. The UN has forecast that the global population will exceed 10 billion. During the remaining time until the deadline for achieving the SDGs, countries must make the utmost efforts to close the remaining gap, and share awareness. In the last 30 years since the ICPD, countries have been able to achieve many things that link directly to people's livelihoods. At the same time, countries need to address issues of gender equality and share awareness of its importance. Japan is also a leading ageing society country, and it needs to manage society and be a role model in solving the ageing society issue. Japan will continue to share the expertise it has developed with countries around the world.

Hon. Edcel Lagman, MP Philippines and Acting Chair of AFPPD, thanked the speakers and participants for their efforts during the meeting. The situations that countries face compels them to review their laws and policies and emphasizes the changing needs of the population. Policymakers must actively engage in promoting the three pillars of development: women's empowerment, youth investment, and active ageing. The key takeaways from the discussions today are that gender-specific challenges are facing all generations, countries must responsibly use AI and digital technology to provide support, and as the pace of population ageing increases governments must promote active ageing and ensure older persons can continue to thrive.



April 24: Study Visits

Kashiwa City Health and Medicine Department

The participants received a presentation on the efforts made by Kashiwa City to provide Community-based Integrated Care System. The system integrates housing, medical care, nursing care, prevention, and living support so that people can live their lives out to the end in the places they are accustomed to living, even if they need high levels of long-term nursing care. Support includes: In-home services (Home-Visit Long-Term Care, Home-Visit Nursing, Outpatient Day Long-Term Care, Multifunctional Long-Term Care in a Small Group Home, Short-Term Admission for Daily Life Long-Term Care, Equipment for Long-Term Care covered by Public Aid, 24-hour Home-Visit Service, and so forth), Nursing care homes and Geriatric health services when care becomes necessary, health care services in case of illness, livelihood support/preventive care so that seniors can continue to be active and living a , healthy life. Initiatives also include leveraging ICT to build an information-sharing system and a nursing care service. The system aims to provide better care to residents, in consultation with hospitals and other medical care partners.

Kashiwa City is also promoting job placement and social engagement in order to help people to live better. Even when people retire, there are those who want to continue volunteer work. Specific examples of initiatives by the city include helping place people who wish to continue working in jobs, and providing seminars and events to help people regain employment. In collaboration with concerned parties, Kashiwa City is working to prevent frailty by educating citizens and providing means for them to remain active as they age. These initiatives include providing frailty checks and establishing the Kashiwa Frailty Prevention Points system, which incentivizes citizens to remain active and engage in various activities to remain motivated. Kashiwa City hopes to continue to share information among citizens, and make more efforts to prevent frailty.

Lastly, Dr. Iijima Katsuya, Director of the Institute for Gerontology, the University of Tokyo, also presented on the Kashiwa Project. The project is a collaborative effort to prevent frailty, by raising awareness and ensuring the expertise of the elderly are put to use in contributing to society. Against the backdrop of an ageing society, and Japan facing a population decline, citizens awareness of the situation needs to be managed well. The key is to start measures towards healthcare at an early stage, and try to prevent frailty as much as possible. As such, Kashiwa City is trying to promote mechanisms for regional comprehensive support. Kashiwa City is also making efforts to address data-driven policy making, including handling big data. The University of Tokyo is also cooperating with Kashiwa City to address these issues.





Cyberdyne Inc.

The participants were taken to Cyberdyne Studio in Tsukuba City. There, they were given a presentation on the technologies Cyberdyne is working on by Dr. Sankai Yoshiyuki, the President and CEO. In the face of the evolution of society towards Society 5.0, which sees the combination of humans and cybernetics, Cyberdyne is working to create wearable cyborgs, through combining humans, AI robotics, and information systems. Cyberdyne introduced the areas where it has been implementing initiatives, including elderly care, life support, medicine and health care, and work support.

Cyberdyne is also implementing the IMPACT programme, a cross-strategic innovation promotion programme where the neural mechanisms of the brain are analyzed and shared via the cloud. These analyses can then be utilized to provide medical care. Cyberdyne has used such data to create various forms of wearable robotics, known as Hybrid Assistive Limbs (HAL) including leg and hip supports to help people with mobility issues, finger movement support robotics, and a medical monitoring app that helps share information amongst related parties. Various pharmaceutical companies are also approaching Cyberdyne towards collaborations.

Following the presentation, a question and answer session was held. Participants asked what the data collected by Cyberdyne could be used for. Dr. Sankai responded that the data could be used to set up social systems, as well as providing technological support for non-medical fields. It is also possible to use the data to bring technology into society by providing more personalized items. Also, participants asked about the pricing for Cyberdyne technologies. Dr. Sankai explained that even though the technology itself is not very expensive, in Japan general insurance covers treatments that make use of the technology.

Next **Dr. Yasunaga Yoshihiro**, the Sales Director of Cyberdyne, gave a presentation on HAL technology. He explained that Cyberdyne has established rehabilitation centers that make use of HAL technologies to help people suffering from severe injuries and disabilities, such as helping people recover from spinal cord damage. There are 18 rehabilitation centers across Japan, where HAL treatment can be provided to anyone. Patients can also monitor their progress in real-time. Patients are traveling from around the world to receive HAL treatment in Japan.

Following the presentation, the participants were given the opportunity to experience using HAL technology.





Appendix 1: Recommendations

Parliamentarians' Meeting on ICPD30: *Leaving No One Behind in an Ageing World*

Recommendations

23 April 2024

Population ageing is a phenomenon experienced globally, underscored by advancements in social, health, and economic sectors that have led to increased life expectancy. This shift not only aligns with individual aspirations for longevity and health but also prompts the world to brace for its socio-economic implications, including various challenges and changes. By 2050, it is estimated that the number of people aged 65 years or older will reach 1.6 billion, a significant leap from 761 million in 2021. In response, countries must embrace and support this demographic shift by implementing measures to ensure good health, adequate social care, and dignified ageing opportunities, particularly through robust Universal Health Coverage (UHC). These efforts should be in line with the pioneering objectives of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and its Programme of Action (POA), which focused on ensuring rights and choices for everyone.

This Parliamentarians' meeting on 'ICPD30: Leaving No One Behind in an Ageing World' was hosted in Tokyo, Japan, on 23 April 2024. The meeting was organized by the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD), the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), and the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP), with support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) through the Japan Trust Fund (JTF).

The meeting brought together more than 120 participants from parliaments, governments, international organizations, youth organizations and academia, involving 22 countries, to share and discuss good practices in policies, legislation and programs aimed at achieving active and healthy ageing. It focused on policies, systems, and services that could strengthen current issues related to ageing, including how to improve the lives of older people, respect their autonomy, dignity and choices, and how to take preventative measures as a long-term solution addressed through a life-cycle approach, that enshrines gender equality, social inclusion and human rights as its core. Further it emphasized the necessity to support all generations across the life span to address fundamental socio-economic and developmental challenges experienced due to rapid population ageing and fertility decline.

Taking into account the outcomes of discussions and interventions that took place during the working sessions, we, the parliamentarians of the Meeting, arrived at the following recommendations:

1. Reaffirm the commitment to the ICPD PoA and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as the pathway to achieve equitable future for all;
2. Recall that 'leaving no one behind' is the key principle of the SDGs, and that more resilient and sustainable health systems led by universal health coverage (UHC), which is complementary to and reinforcing population issues, are critical to achieving the SDGs;

3. Ensure the importance of promoting active and healthy ageing, enhancing people's overall quality of life by improving physical and mental health, the provision of psycho-social support services and long-term care through resilient UHC, providing access to employment, physical security, and income stability through improved social protection mechanisms;
4. Recognize the importance of data collection, analysis, and dissemination, as well as data protection and privacy rights including, where applicable, rights to information and rights to access, focusing on the needs of older populations, in line with the Leave No One Behind commitments;
5. While inequalities persist through older ages, we recognize that ageing processes vary individually, and that rights, dignity and choices for everyone should continue to be promoted and protected;
6. Recognize the importance of securing economic independence, promote social and technological innovation, including digitalization and ethical utility of artificial intelligence (AI) and other emerging technological advancements that serve their needs, and develop various alternatives for long-term care;
7. Ensure the development and strengthening of social policies to accelerate human capital investments in people of all ages so that all individuals can attain their highest potential through access to health, education and decent work and have access to social safety nets to reduce the concentration of poverty in older populations;
8. Recognize that the challenges older persons face often have their origins in early years. Therefore, reaffirm strengthening the life-cycle approach, particularly promoting healthy lifestyles throughout the life course. Revisit the concept of the chronological age when considering policy interventions;
9. Ensure provision of special attention to gender perspectives of population ageing where mainstreaming of gender and disability into public policies promoting societies for all ages as a key consideration;
10. Promote macro-level planning in the context of emerging population trends, using the evidence from the National Transfer Accounts to support policy response to the generational economy and improve inter-country exchange, to reap benefits of lessons learnt on implementing NTA recommendations for those anticipating such trends in the future;
11. Promote older persons' voluntary decisions to accommodate their living needs, making sure to create an enabling environment that eliminates discrimination against older persons or ageism and all other intersectionalities that further exacerbate discrimination of enjoying a healthy old age through the promotion of social inclusion and age-friendly environments to transform society toward healthy ageing;
12. Recognize the importance of older persons' access to accurate information and services on sexual health to improve their physical and psycho-social wellbeing and also to prevent sexually transmitted infections in old age as agreed with in the ICPD PoA;

13. Take affirmative action to develop a model or common legislation that places intergenerational solidarity and interdependency of the young, working-age, and old populations at the center with respect to their rights;

14. Recognize the invaluable contributions of older persons to climate-related issues and the need to leverage their experiences in disaster recovery, post-conflict scenarios, and climate strategies keeping in mind that older persons are persons in vulnerable situations disproportionately affected by climate change;

15. Recommit to work with development partners; civil society organizations; local, national, and regional governments; and multilateral organizations to cooperate with national parliamentary bodies and regional and global fora on population and development to implement the ICPD PoA and the 2030 Agenda;

16. Reaffirm that we parliamentarians and policymakers must pay careful attention to the needs and rights of all people, including the older persons everywhere, especially in conflict zones.

Resolved, as it is hereby resolved, that the above-mentioned recommendations will be brought to the consideration of respective national parliaments for their consideration to further legislate the necessary initiatives and policies with the appropriate budgetary support for the full and faithful implementation of the concerned governments.

Appendix 2: Program

AFPPD Standing Committee on Active Ageing Parliamentarians' Meeting on ICPD30: *Leaving No One Behind in an Ageing World*

Tokyo, Japan
23-24 April 2024
Program

Monday 22 April	
AFPPD ExCom Meeting (members only)	
16:00-17:00 The 96th Executive Committee Meeting of AFPPD (ExCom members only) (Venue: <i>International Conference Room, 1st Floor, The 1st Members' Office Building of the HoR</i>)	
Day 1: Meeting Tuesday 23 April:	
08:00-08:15	Registration for Parliamentarians and National Committee officers <i>Location: Meet at the Main Banquet Floor Entrance, The Main Building, Hotel New Otani</i>
08:20-08:40	Depart from the hotel and travel to the 1st Members' Office Building of the HoR
08:30-08:50	Registration for International Organizations and observers <i>Location: In Front of the International Conference Room, 1st Floor, The 1st Members' Office Building of the HoR</i>
09:00-10:00	Venue: <i>The International Conference Room, 1st Floor, the 1st Members' Office Building of HoR</i> Opening Session MC: Hon. Kikawada Hitoshi , MP Japan, Secretary General of JPFP Addresses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ H.E. Fukuda Yasuo, Former Prime Minister of Japan, Chair of APDA, Honorary Chair of JPFP➤ Hon. Gu Xiaoyu, MP, Vice-Chairperson of the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee, NPC, China➤ H.E. Professor Takemi Keizo, Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan, Chair of AFPPD➤ H.E. Kamikawa Yoko, Minister of foreign affairs of Japan (TBC)➤ Mr. Andrew Saberton, Deputy Executive Director, UNFPA
10:00-10:20	<i>Group Photo & Coffee break</i>

10:20-11:20	<p>Session 1: Addressing Population Ageing from Gender Perspective</p> <p><i>Thematic Questions: Population ageing is becoming a major trend globally. The United Nations has adopted “Decade of Healthy Ageing” for years 2021-2030, aligned with the last ten years of the SDGs, aiming to improve the lives of older people. Ageing processes vary individually, and emphasizing the key principles of rights, dignity and choices is important. Challenges older persons face often have their origins in early years and preventative perspectives should be addressed through the life-cycle approach. Taking into consideration “leaving no one behind”, special attention needs to be given to gender perspectives of population ageing and policy to address them. Moreover, it is vital to respect the autonomy of older persons, getting away from paternalistic decision-making models, to accommodate their living needs. This Session will review the ICPD and its contribution to the concept of no one left behind, in relation to addressing the population ageing.</i></p> <p>Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hon. Miyaji Takuma, MP Japan <p>Presentation (10 minutes each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hon. Dr. Jetn Sirathranont, MP Thailand, Secretary General of AFPPD ➤ Mr. Paul Ong, Chief Strategic Officer, Tsao Foundation, Singapore ➤ Prof. Arikawa Kazumune, Department of Oral Health, School of Dentistry at Matsudo, Nihon University, Japan <p>Open discussion (30 minutes)</p>
11:20-12:20	<p>Session 2: AI and Digital Technologies to Support Healthy Ageing</p> <p><i>Thematic Questions: Digitalization and Artificial Technologies (AI) which are the global megatrend are becoming an important tool for supporting healthy ageing. These technologies have been delivering innovative solutions to ageing population by assisting them to lead an independent and healthier life. It is believed that applying AI and digital technologies can further strengthen older persons’ roles in communities and promote long-term contribution to the socio-economic growth in their respective countries. This Session will discuss the role of AI and digital technologies in empowering older people and promoting healthy ageing.</i></p> <p>Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hon. Makishima Karen, MP Japan <p>Presentation (10 minutes each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ H.E. Alexander Nanta Linggi, MP, Minister of Public Work, Chair of AFPPD Malaysia ➤ Mr. Tsuji Hayaki, Representative Director, One Smile Foundation ➤ Prof. Suk-Won Lee, Executive Director, Center for International Development Evaluation, Professor of Seoul National University, Republic of Korea <p>Open discussion (30 minutes)</p>
12:20-13:20	<p>Lunch (Venue: Multipurpose Room, 1F, The 1st Members’ Office Building of the HoR)</p>

13:20-14:20	<p>Session 3: Policy Priorities for Ageing Friendly Environments</p> <p><i>Thematic Questions: In the Asia and Pacific region, one in four people will be above the age of 60 years by 2050, tripling aged population between 2010 and 2050. Some countries in the region are experiencing rapid population ageing compared to the rest, compelling diversification in policymaking related to the ageing population. Rapid ageing requires parliaments to adopt relevant legislation and oversee policy implementation that decrease the negative impacts of an ageing population. Poor and irrational policies can negatively affect social security systems, wellbeing, and healthy living. This Session will discuss initiatives to address older persons healthy, productive, and dignified life.</i></p> <p>Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hon. Hector Appuhamy, MP Sri Lanka <p>Presentation (10 minutes each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hon. Nguyen Hoang Mai, MP Vietnam ➤ Hon. Motefakker Azad, MP Iran ➤ Dr. Iijima Katsuya, Director of Institute of Gerontology and Professor of Institute for Future Initiatives, The University of Tokyo <p>Open discussion (30 minutes)</p>
14:20-15:20	<p>Session 4: Emerging Population Trends in the Asia-Pacific and Economic Sustainability of Population Ageing</p> <p><i>Thematic Questions: Ageing population has profound implications for the macroeconomy, influencing economic growth, generational equity, human capital, saving and investment, and the sustainability of public and private transfer systems. How the future unfolds will depend on key actors in the generational economy: governments, families, financial institutions, and others. Low fertility is another factor that contributes to population ageing. Ageing is ultimately about individuals, but major systems of economic measurement neglect the viewpoint of individual life cycle. National Transfer Accounts which document how people at each age acquire and use economic resources to meet their own needs is a useful analytical tool for those anticipating such demographic trends in the future.</i></p> <p>Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hon. Kunimitsu Ayano, MP Japan <p>Presentation (10 minutes each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr. Pio Smith, Regional Director of UNFPA Asian Pacific Regional Office (APRO) ➤ Hon. Lemauga Lydia Sosene, MP New Zealand ➤ Hon. Baktykozha Izmukhambetov, MP Kazakhstan ➤ Mr. Kasper Bødker Mejlvang, President and Representative Director, Novo Nordisk Pharma Ltd. <p>Open discussion (20 minutes)</p>
15:20-15:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15:30-16:00	<p>Words into action: Planning and commitment setting</p> <p>Chair: Hon. Edcel Lagman, MP Philippines, Acting Chair of AFPPD</p>

16:00-16:25	Closing Session Addresses (7 min each): ➤ Dr. Alvaro Bermejo , Director-General of IPPF ➤ Hon. Edcel Lagman , MP Philippines, Acting Chair of AFPPD ➤ Hon. Aisawa Ichiro , MP Japan, Acting Chair of JFPF
16:25-16:40	Travel back to hotel
18:20	Depart from the hotel
19:00-20:55	JFPF 50th Anniversary Reception
Day 2: Study Visit Wednesday 24 April	
<i>Participants will visit various ageing-related centers and observe practical measures and experiences for active and healthy ageing in Japan.</i>	
09:00-09:10	Location: Meet “Main Banquet Entrance”, The Main Building, Hotel New Otani
09:10	Departure from hotel toward Kashiwa City
10:30-12:00	Briefing at Kashiwa Regional Medical Collaboration Center
12:00-13:00	Travel to Tsukuba city
13:00-14:00	Lunch at Cyberdyne, INC.
14:00-15:00	Briefing and field visits at Cyberdyne, INC.
15:00-16:20	Return to hotel
Thursday 25 April	
	Participants Departure



From
the People of Japan



Organized by:

Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JFPF)
The Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD)
The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

Supported by:

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
Japan Trust Fund (JTF)
International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

Corporate Supporters:

Novo Nordisk Pharma Ltd.

Appendix 3: Participants list

Participants' List				
No		Name	Country	Position
MPs and NCs from Asia				
1	Hon.	Lork Kheng	Cambodia	MP
2	Ms.	Mith Chanlinda	Cambodia	CAPPD coordinator
3	Hon.	Gu Xiaoyu	China	MP, Vice-Chair of the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee, NPC
4	Mr.	Zhou Huiyu	China	Deputy Director-General of the Population and Education Office, the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee, NPC
5	Ms.	Wen Quan	China	Director of the General Administrative Office, the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee, NPC
6	Mr.	Chen Naikang	China	Director of the Culture Office, the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee, NPC
7	Mr.	Zhang Chaohui	China	Deputy Director of the Culture Office, the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee, NPC
8	Mr.	Yu Hao	China	Principal Staff Member of the Public Health Office, the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee, NPC
9	Hon.	Motefakker Azad	Iran	MP
10	Hon.	Baktykozha Izmukhambetov	Kazakhstan	MP
11	Hon.	Lee In-Young	Korea	MP, Chair of Korean Parliamentary League on Children, Population and Environment
12	H.E.	Dato Alexander Nanta Linggi	Malaysia	Minister for Work, Chair of AFPPD Malaysia
13	Hon.	Dato' Mohd Isam	Malaysia	MP
14	Hon. Dr.	Halimah Ali	Malaysia	MP
15	Hon.	Chiew Choon Man	Malaysia	MP
16	Hon.	Isnaraissah Munirah	Malaysia	MP
17	Hon.	Howard Lee How Chuan	Malaysia	MP
18	Mr.	Azri Norfikri	Malaysia	Officer of AFPPD Malaysia
19	Ms.	Devani Alaga	Malaysia	Officer to the Minister of Work
20	Mr.	Muhammad Azreen bin Jamaluddin	Malaysia	Press secretary to the Minister of Work
21	Ms.	Nur Aqidah Fauzi	Malaysia	Photographer to the Minister of Work
22	Hon.	Edcel Lagman	Philippines	MP, Acting Chair of AFPPD
23	Ms.	Aurora Quilala	Philippines	Deputy Executive Director of PLCPD
24	Hon.	Hector Appuhamy	Sri Lanka	MP
25	Hon.	Jetn Sirathranont	Thailand	MP, Secretary-General of AFPPD
26	Hon.	Nguyen Hoang Mai	Vietnam	MP
27	Hon.	Lemauga Lydia Sosene	New Zealand	MP
MPs and NCs from Arab				
28	Hon.	Abdelmadjid Tagguiche	Algeria	Former MP

29	Hon.	Mohammed Al Ammadi	Bahrain	Former MP
30	Hon.	Abdelhady Elkasbey	Egypt	MP
31	Hon.	Abdulkhaleq Malik	Iraq	MP
32	Hon.	Said Oulbacha	Morocco	MP
33	Hon.	Abdul Hamid Al Nukari	Syria	MP
34	Hon.	Ezzedine Al-Tayeb	Tunisia	MP
35	Hon.	Mohammed Al-Saedi	UAE	MP
36	Dr.	Mohammed Al-Smadi	Jordan	Secretary-General of FAPPD
Participants from Japan				
37	H.E.	Nukaga Fukushima	Japan	Speaker of the House of Representatives
38	H.E.	Fukuda Yasuo	Japan	Former Prime Minister of Japan, Chair of APDA, Honorary Chair of JPFP
39	H.E.	Kamikawa Yoko	Japan	Minister of Foreign Affairs
40	H.E.	Takemi Keizo	Japan	Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare, Chair of AFPPD
41	H.E.	Ito Shintaro	Japan	Minister of Environment
42	Hon.	Aisawa Ichiro	Japan	MP, Acting Chair of JPFP
43	Hon.	Kikawada Hitoshi	Japan	MP, Secretary General of JPFP
44	Hon.	Abe Toshiko	Japan	MP; State Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology
45	Hon.	Shimizu Kayoko	Japan	Former Minister of Environment, Member of APDA's Board of Councillors
46	Hon.	Mihara Asahiko	Japan	Former MP, Member of APDA's Board of Directors
47	Hon.	Makishima Karen	Japan	MP
48	Hon.	Makihara Hideki	Japan	MP
49	Hon.	Horiuchi Noriko	Japan	MP
50	Hon.	Ishida Masahiro	Japan	MP
51	Hon.	Makiyama Hiroe	Japan	MP
52	Hon.	Miyaji Takuma	Japan	MP
53	Hon.	Kunimitsu Ayano	Japan	MP
54	Hon.	Sakurai Shu	Japan	MP
55	Hon.	Terata Shizuka	Japan	MP
56	Hon.	Yoshida Kumiko	Japan	MP
57	Hon.	Aoki Kazuhiko	Japan	MP
58	Hon.	Horii Kenji	Japan	MP
Resource Persons				
59	Mr.	Paul Ong	Singapore	Chief Strategy Officer, Tsao Foundation
60	Dr.	Arikawa Kazumune	Japan	Department of Oral Health, School of Dentistry at Matsudo, Nihon University, Japan
61	Mr.	Tsuji Hayaki	Japan	Representative Director, One Smile Foundation
62	Prof.	Suk Won Lee	Korea	Executive Director, Center for International Development Evaluation, Seoul National University, Republic of Korea
63	Dr.	Iijima Katsuya	Japan	Director of Institute of Gerontology and Professor of Institute for Future Initiatives, The University of Tokyo
64	Mr.	Kasper Bødker Mejlvang	Japan	President and Representative Director, Novo Nordisk Pharma Ltd.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs				
65	Mr.	Akahori Takeshi	Japan	Director-General / Assistant Minister (Ambassador), Global Issues,
66	Ms.	Ichino Satomi	Japan	Global Health Strategy Division, Global Issues
UNFPA and IPPF				
67	Mr.	Andrew Saberton	UNFPA	Deputy Executive Director
68	Mr.	Pio Smith	UNFPA	Regional Director, Asia and Pacific Regional Office (APRO)
69	Dr.	Hala Youssef	UNFPA	Deputy Regional Director, a.i., Arab States Regional Office (ASRO)
70	Ms.	Wassana Im-em	UNFPA	Technical Specialist on Population and Development, Asia and Pacific Regional Office (APRO)
71	Ms.	Narita Eiko	UNFPA	Chief, Tokyo Representation Office
72	Ms.	Ueno Fuyo	UNFPA	Administrative assistant, Tokyo Representation Office
73	Dr.	Alvaro Bermejo	IPPF	Director-General
74	Dr.	Fadoua Bakhadda	IPPF	Arab World Regional Director
75	Mr.	Taniguchi Yuri	IPPF	Chief (Asia/GoJ), Donor Relations and Fundraising Team
Embassy				
76	Ms.	Nie Jia	China	Counsellor, Embassy of China in Japan
77	Ms.	Yin Caixin	China	Interpreter
78	Mr.	Anvar Mirzatillayev	Kazakhstan	Counsellor of the Embassy of Kazakhstan in Japan
Observers				
79	Mr.	Afoataga William Sosene	New Zealand	Observer
80	Ms.	Tatsuno Yuka	Japan	Market Access & External Affairs Division, Director of Public Affairs, Novo Nordisk Pharma Ltd.
81	Ms.	Hannda Mami	Japan	Novo Nordisk Pharma Ltd.
82	Mr.	Hayato Chishaki	Japan	One Smile Foundation
83	Ms.	Katsube Mayumi	Japan	Chair of JOICFP
84	Ms.	Kamiya Asami	Japan	JOICFP
85	Ms.	Kusano Hiromi	Japan	JOICFP
86	Ms.	Kitajima Taki	Japan	JOICFP (J-E interpreter)
87	Ms.	Kawamoto Rika	Japan	JOICFP
88	Ms.	Sunami Aki	Japan	JOICFP
89	Mr.	Ueda Yoshihisa	Japan	Attorney-at-Law; Former Ambassador
90	Mr.	Nakayama Joji	Japan	Member of APDA's Board of Councillors
91	Mr.	Kano Mitsunobu	Japan	Member of APDA's Board of Councillors
92	Ms.	Yoon Hanna	Korea	Member of APDA's Board of Councillors
93	Mr.	Kawasaki Shigeru	Japan	Member of APDA's Board of Councillors
94	Ms.	Tomita Keiko	Japan	Member of APDA's Board of Councillors
95	Mr.	Shirahama Fuminori	Japan	Shizuoka city council member, Chair of Shizuoka Vision Research Institute
96	Mr.	Kikuchi Hideyuki	Japan	Observer
97	Ms.	Asami Akiko	Japan	Observer
98	Mr.	Uenobe Yu	Japan	Observer
99	Ms.	Harada Rio	Japan	Observer

100	Mr.	Okamura Hideaki	Japan	Deputy Director of Health and Medical Care Department and Director of Regional Medical Promotion Division, Kashiwa City
101	Mr.	Umezawa Takayoshi	Japan	Manager of General Affairs and Planning Division, Health and Medical Care Department, Kashiwa City
102	Mr.	Oboshi Teruhiko	Japan	Observer
103	Ms.	Yamamoto Karuta	Japan	Observer
104	Mr.	Yoshihara Sota	Japan	Observer
105	Mr.	Shikii Shun	Japan	Observer
106	Mr.	Haketa Leo	Japan	Observer
107	Mr.	Miyazaki Amaki	Japan	Observer
108	Mr.	Konno Takeru	Japan	Observer
109	Mr.	Oshiro Souta	Japan	Observer
110	Mr.	Hyeonmin Hong	Korea	Observer
111	Ms.	Yena Park	Korea	Observer
112	Ms.	Hyolim Kelly Lee	Korea	Observer
The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)				
113	Dr.	Ikegami Kiyoko	Japan	Secretary General of APDA
114	Ms.	Tsunekawa Hitomi	Japan	Executive Director of APDA
115	Dr.	Farrukh Usmonov	Japan	Interim Executive Director of AFPPD
116	Ms.	Haga Yukika	Japan	APDA
117	Ms.	Fuke Mio	Japan	APDA
118	Ms.	Osada Eri	Japan	APDA
119	Ms.	Hanabusa Yuki	Japan	APDA
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121	Mr.	Mori Shintaro		Interpreter (J-A)
122	Mr.	Shintani Keiji		Interpreter (J-A)
131	Ms.	Ota Haruko		Interpreter (J-E)
132	Mr.	Hirano Ryo		Interpreter (J-E)
133	Ms.	Minami Yasuko		Interpreter (J-E)
134	Ms.	Nishikawa Yukiko		Interpreter (Study Visit only)
135	Mr.	Aleksej Rachubo		Interpreter(E-R)
136	Mr.	Iouri Dvorjak		Interpreter(E-R)
137	Mr.	Max Ellis		Rapporteur
144	Mr.	Shiwei Zhang		Photographer
145	Mr.	Ootani Junichiro		Videographer
146	Mr.	Nakanishi Sou		Videographer