

Article 1: Purpose

An entity called the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum on Global Health is hereby established (APPFGH or Forum) under these Articles of Association (Articles) for the purpose of strengthening the role of parliamentarians throughout the Asia-Pacific region in promoting and protecting human health and well-being.

Article 2: Principles

The Members of the Forum acknowledge the following core principles:

- 2.1 Parliamentarians work to strengthen health governance by developing health policy and enacting health legislation; improving health service delivery through financing and reform; facilitating budget appropriation and mobilizing resources; and accelerating progress towards universal health coverage.
- 2.2 Parliamentary powers and duties encompass many health issues, including health systems strengthening; health security in management of outbreaks and emergencies; prevention and control of communicable diseases; prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases; health promotion through the life course, including maternal and child health and vulnerabilities, people with disabilities and older people; environmental protection and the health impacts of climate change; and the social determinants of health, such as poverty, violence, gender, and ethnicity.
- 2.3 Parliamentarians are increasingly responsible for ensuring that national health policies reinforce global health governance. While countries prioritize health interventions according to national capacities, resources and needs, parliamentarians must also consider the international ramifications of these interventions, especially in the area of governance.
- 2.4 Parliamentarians recognize that solutions for health will require whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches that address the concerns of all stakeholders, considering the complexity of the global health landscape and the many factors that impact health, such as trade, industry, finance, education, agriculture and population movement.

Article 3: Objectives

The Forum's objectives are:

- 3.1 To provide a platform for Members, as well as international partners, to exchange ideas for prioritizing health agendas and promoting sustainable action at the community, national and global levels;
- 3.2 To promote awareness of the Forum and advocate for health among fellow Parliamentarians;
- 3.3 To encourage mobilization of greater resources for health; and
- 3.4 To continue expanding the scope of the Forum to other health matters as appropriate under the circumstances.

Article 4: Members

- 4.1 Membership to the Forum shall initially be open to the 30 countries comprising the Member States of the World Health Organization Western Pacific Region and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).
- 4.2 Eligibility of membership may be expanded to additional countries upon decision of the Forum Assembly.
- 4.3 An eligible country may become a Member by agreeing to these Articles.
- 4.4 Each Member shall be represented by a committee within the country's national parliament in the following order of preference:
 - (a) committee established for this Forum; or
 - (b) standing committee for health or its equivalent.
- 4.5 A Member may withdraw from the Forum for any reason by submitting written notice to the President. Withdrawal shall take effect immediately upon receipt of the notice by the President.

Article 5: Assembly of the Forum

- 5.1 The Assembly of the Forum comprises all Members of the Forum.
- 5.2 The Assembly holds the following responsibilities:
 - (a) to assemble for annual assembly meetings;
 - (b) to elect the officers of the Executive Committee;
 - (c) to confer powers and duties upon the Executive Committee, as necessary;
 - (d) to designate an entity or entities to serve as Secretariat;
 - (e) to approve revisions to these Articles, if necessary; and
 - (f) to make recommendations on future actions by the Forum.
- 5.3 In addition to assembly meetings, the Forum may convene ad-hoc meetings and other activities, as appropriate.
- 5.4 Where consensus on a decision cannot be reached, the Assembly shall vote as follows:
 - (a) a quorum of at least one-third of the total number of Members shall be present to initiate the voting process;
 - (b) a Member may abstain from voting;
 - (c) the decision shall be made on the basis of a simple majority of the Members present; and
 - (d) a voting tie shall be broken by an additional vote by the President.

Article 6: Executive Committee

- 6.1 The Executive Committee consists of the following officers:
- (a) President, to be elected by the Assembly and hold office for four years;
 - (b) Vice-President, to be appointed ex officio as the host country of the previous assembly meeting; and
 - (c) Vice-President, to be appointed ex officio as the host country of the next assembly meeting.
- 6.2 The President shall undertake the following responsibilities:
- (a) to oversee the organization of assembly meetings, ad hoc meetings, and other activities of the Forum;
 - (b) to nominate an Honorary President, as appropriate; and
 - (c) to exercise any other powers and duties conferred to the office by the Assembly.
- 6.3 Each Vice-President shall undertake the following responsibilities:
- (a) to organize an assembly meeting of the Forum in the Vice-President's home country, in consultation with the President; and
 - (b) to assist the President as necessary.
- 6.4 The Members elected to the Executive Committee shall designate suitable Parliamentarians to represent the offices, respectively.
- 6.5 If the President becomes unable or ineligible to carry out the responsibilities of the office, the Assembly shall elect a new President.

Article 7: Secretariat

- 7.1 The Secretariat may consist of any entity or entities deemed by the Assembly as fit to fulfill the responsibilities, including an intergovernmental organization.

These Articles were agreed upon by the Parliamentary representatives of the following countries: Australia, Cambodia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, and the Republic of Korea, at the First Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentarian Forum on Global Health, held on 2-3 July 2015 in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

These Articles were amended by the Parliamentary representatives of the following countries: Australia, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Palau, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Viet Nam, at the Third Meeting of the Forum, held on 24-25 August 2017 in Tokyo, Japan.