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2016 Annual Report

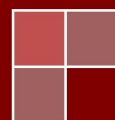
The Asia-Pacific Quality Network

ABSTRACT: Looking back in the year of 2016, we are very proud. This year, APQN entered its 13-year-old blooming age, showing its vibrant, vigorous tendency of sustainable development. In this very year, APQN successfully completed the new election at expiration of the last office term. It ensured the ship of APQN to continue its voyage to the “blue sea” of education quality without boundary under the direction made by the previous 4 Boards as well as under the leadership of the new Board. In this very year, APQN completed “APQN Strategic Plan (2016-2019)”, APQN launched the project of “Compilation of APQN Procedure Manual” pursuant to APQN Constitution, APQN, together with National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in India, released “Bengaluru Statement on Next-Generation Quality Assurance of Higher Education”, APQN held 2016 APQN Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting hosted by Fiji Higher Education Commission in May in Fiji, co-organized Global Summit on Quality Higher Education in September in India, held the International Conference on Quality Assurance co-operated with Macao Institute College in November in China, held the Workshop of APQN’s and APQR’s Memberships with Indonesian Accreditation Agency for Higher Education in Health (IAAHEH) in Jakarta.....



APQN Secretariat

The Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN), 2017-03-31





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THE NETWORK

Definition of the Network

OUR GOAL

To dissolve boundaries for a quality region

OUR VISION

To be a self-sustaining Network, a first point of reference for advice or support, efficient in its operations and open in its information sharing.

OUR VALUES

APQN is:

- committed to quality higher education and supportive of quality organizations in the region

OUR METHODS

APQN achieves its purposes through a range of methods, including:

- dissemination of information through APQNews, documents, journals and books, whether in paper-based or electronic form;
- training and development through seminars, workshops, conferences and staff capacity building;
- developing and utilizing databases and other resources from other organizations;
- other appropriate means as determined by the General Council or the Board.

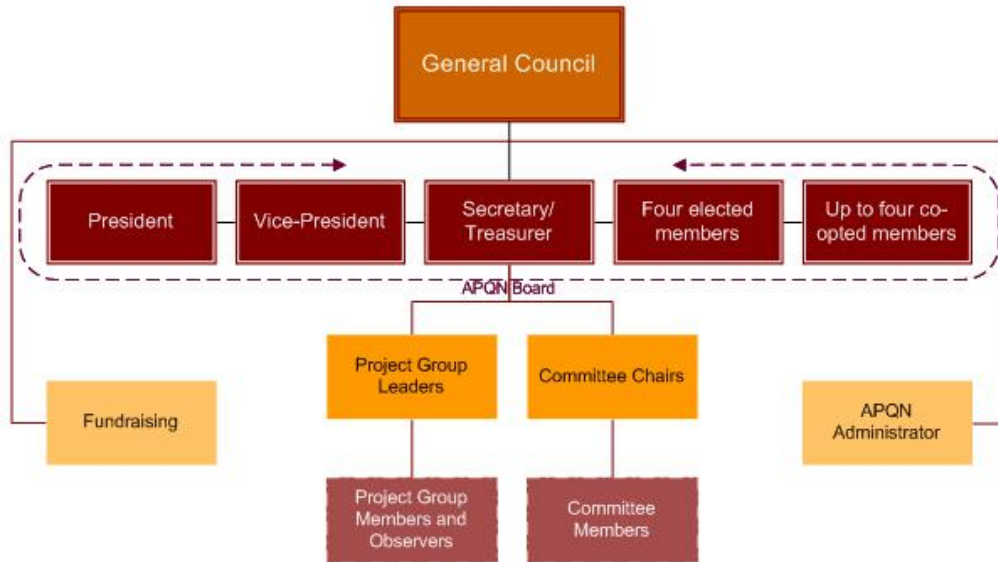
OUR OBJECTIVES

- to promote good practice in the maintenance and improvement of quality in higher education in the Asia-Pacific region;
- to facilitate research in the region into the practice of quality management in higher education and its effectiveness in improving the quality of higher education in the region;
- to provide advice and expertise to assist the development of new quality assurance organizations in the region;
- to facilitate links between quality assurance organizations and acceptance of each other's decisions and judgments;
- to assist members of APQN to determine standards of institutions operating across national borders;
- to permit better-informed international recognition of qualifications throughout the region;
- to assist in the development and use of credit transfer schemes;
- to enhance the mobility of students between institutions both within and across national borders;
- to enable members of APQN to be alert to dubious accrediting practices and organizations where appropriate, represent the region and promote the interests of the region, e.g. vis-à-vis other networks and international organizations.

OUR MISSION

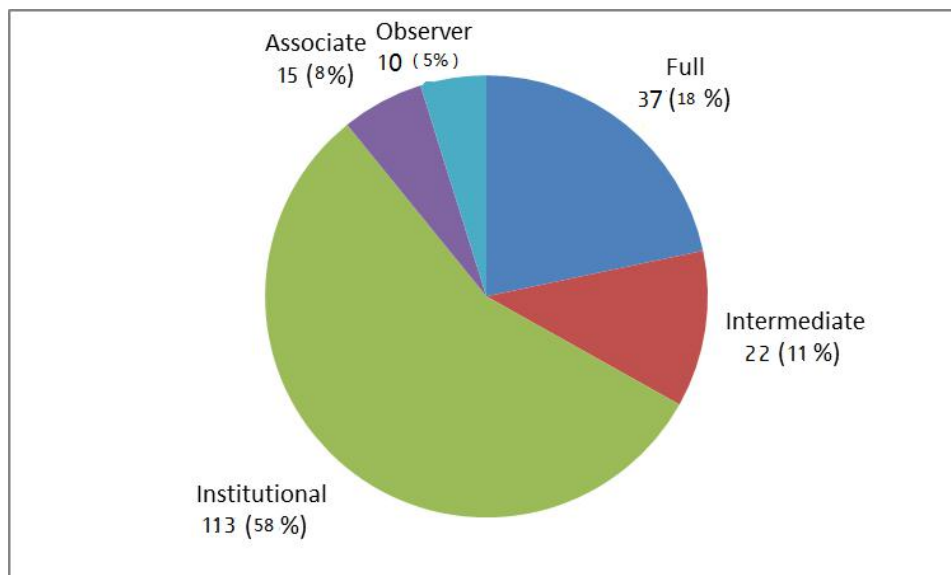
To enhance the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region through strengthening the work of quality assurance organizations and extending the cooperation between them.

Organizational Structure



Members-General Council

APQN NOW BOASTS:



This brings the total number of members across all categories of membership to 197 from 40 countries or territories. Among the members, there are 37 Full members, 22 Intermediate members, 113 Institutional members, 15 Associate member and 10 Observer members. 31 new members were successfully approved as new members of the Network during the reporting period 1 January to 31 December 2016.

List of APQN Members of All Categories

No.	Country /Territory	Agency	Membership Status
1	Afghanistan	Quality Assurance and Accreditation Department of Ministry of Higher Education of Afghanistan	Intermediate
2	Australia	National ELT Accreditation Scheme Ltd	Full
3	Australia	The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)	Full
4	Australia	The Office of the Australian Qualifications Framework Council (AQFC)	Associate
5	Bangladesh	International Culture University	Institutional
6	Bangladesh	American International University	Institutional
7	Bangladesh	Southern University Bangladesh	Associate
8	Bangladesh	IUBAT—International University of Business Agriculture and Technology	Institutional
9	Bangladesh	University Grants Commission	Associate
10	Bangladesh	University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh	Institutional
11	Bhutan	Quality Assurance & Accreditation Division, Department of Adult & Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Bhutan	Intermediate
12	Brunei Darussalam	Brunei Darussalam National Accreditation Council (BDNAC)	Intermediate
13	Cambodia	Accreditation Committee of Cambodia	Full
14	Cambodia	International University	Institutional
15	Cambodia	Phnom Penh International University (PPIU), Cambodia	Institutional
16	Cambodia	Build Bright University	Institutional
17	China	China Academic Degrees and Graduate Education Development Center	Full
18	China	Higher Education Evaluation Center of the Ministry of Education, P. R. China (HEEC)	Full
19	China	Beijing Education Evaluation Institute	Full
20	China	Evaluation Center of Chinese Education Quality (ECCEQ)	Full
21	China	Yunnan Higher Education Evaluation Center	Full
22	China	Shanghai Educational Evaluation Institute	Full
23	China	Shanghai University of International Business and Economics, China	Institutional
24	China	Kunming Medical University	Institutional
25	Chinese Taipei	Fu Jen Catholic University	Institutional
26	Chinese Taipei	Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan	Full
27	Chinese Taipei	Taiwan Assessment and Evaluation Association	Full
28	Croatia	Agency for Science and Higher Education	Observer
29	Fiji	Fiji National University	Institutional
30	Fiji	Higher Education Commission	Full
31	Fiji	Secretariat for the Pacific Community	Intermediate
32	Fiji	University of the South Pacific	Institutional
33	Germany	ASIIN e. V.	Observer
34	Hong Kong, China	Vocational Training Council	Associate
35	Hong Kong,	Federation for Self-financing Tertiary Education	Associate

No.	Country /Territory	Agency	Membership Status
	China		
36	Hong Kong, China	Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications	Full
37	Hong Kong, China	Joint Quality Review Committee Limited	Full
38	Hong Kong, China	University Grants Committee	Full
39	India	Arts, Science and Commerce College	Institutional
40	India	Camp Education Society Dr Arvind B Telang College of Arts, Science & Commerce	Institutional
41	India	Chettinad Academy of Research & Education	Institutional
42	India	Dhanwate National College	Institutional
43	India	Govt. College of Education, M. A. Road, Srinagar, J&K	Institutional
44	India	School of Management, Sambhram Academy of Management Studies	Institutional
45	India	K. L. E. Society Basavaprabhu Kore Arts, Science and Commerce College, Chikodi	Institutional
46	India	Kamla Nehru Mahavidyalaya	Institutional
47	India	MIER College of Education	Institutional
48	India	National Assessment and Accreditation Council	Full
49	India	SSESA's Science College	Institutional
50	India	Annamacharya Institute of Technology and Sciences	Institutional
51	Indonesia	National Accreditation Agency for Higher Education	Full
52	Iran	The University of Tehran	Institutional
53	Japan	Japan Institution for Higher Education Evaluation	Full
54	Japan	Japan University Accreditation Association	Full
55	Japan	National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation	Full
56	Kazakhstan	Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating	Intermediate
57	Kazakhstan	Independent Kazakhstan Quality Assurance Agency in Education	Intermediate
58	Korea, South	Korean Council For University College Education(KCCE)	Full
59	Korea, South	Korean Council for University Education	Full
60	Kuwait	Private Universities Council	Observer
61	Laos	Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education Lao PDR	Associate
62	Macao, China	Macao Polytechnic Institute	Institutional
63	Macao, China	Macau University of Science and Technology	Institutional
64	Macao, China	Tertiary Education Services Office	Associate
65	Malaysia	Finance Accreditation Agency	Intermediate
66	Malaysia	Malaysian Qualifications Agency	Full
67	Maldives	Institute for Academic Development, Villa College	Institutional
68	Maldives	Maldives Qualifications Authority	Intermediate
69	Mongolia	Health Sciences University of Mongolia	Institutional
70	Mongolia	Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation	Full
71	Mongolia	IKH Zasag International University	Institutional
72	Mongolia	University of the Humanities	Institutional
73	Nepal	University Grants Commission of Nepal	Intermediate

No.	Country /Territory	Agency	Membership Status
74	New Zealand	Academic Quality Agency for New Zealand Universities	Full
75	New Zealand	New Zealand Qualifications Authority	Full
76	Pakistan	Sarhad university of Science & information Technology	Institutional
77	Pakistan	University of the Punjab, Lahore	Institutional
78	Pakistan	National Accreditation Council for Teacher Education	Intermediate
79	Pakistan	Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan	Institutional
80	Pakistan	Islamia College Peshawar (Chartered University)	Institutional
81	Pakistan	Air University Islamabad Pakistan	Institutional
82	Pakistan	SBK Women University Quetta Pakistan	Institutional
83	Pakistan	Allama Iqbal Open University	Institutional
84	Pakistan	Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science & Technology	Institutional
85	Pakistan	Government College University Faisalabad	Institutional
86	Pakistan	Sardar Bahadur Khan Women's University Balochistan	Institutional
87	Pakistan	Balochistan University of Engineering & Technology, Khuzdar	Institutional
88	Pakistan	Beacon house National University	Institutional
89	Pakistan	Abasyn University	Institutional
90	Pakistan	University of Lahore	Institutional
91	Pakistan	Fatima Jinnah Women University	Institutional
92	Pakistan	University of Science & Technology, Bannu	Institutional
93	Pakistan	University of Peshawar	Institutional
94	Pakistan	Higher Education Commission	Intermediate
95	Pakistan	Indus University	Institutional
96	Pakistan	Institute of Business & Technology-Biztek Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC)	Institutional
97	Pakistan	Institute of Business Management	Institutional
98	Pakistan	Institute of Management Sciences	Institutional
99	Pakistan	Institute of Space Technology	Institutional
100	Pakistan	Iqra University	Institutional
101	Pakistan	University of Management and Technology (UMT)	Institutional
102	Pakistan	Comsats Institute of Information Technology (CIIT)	Institutional
103	Pakistan	King Edward Medical University, Lahore-Pakistan	Institutional
104	Pakistan	Khadim Ali Shah Institute of Technology (Pvt) Ltd	Institutional
105	Pakistan	Lahore College for Women University, Pakistan	Institutional
106	Pakistan	Lahore School of Economics	Institutional
107	Pakistan	Mehran University of Engineering & Technology	Institutional
108	Pakistan	National Agriculture Education Accreditation Council	Intermediate
109	Pakistan	National Business Education Accreditation Council	Intermediate
110	Pakistan	National Testing Service-Pakistan (NTS)	Associate
111	Pakistan	National Textile University	Institutional
112	Pakistan	National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST)	Institutional
113	Pakistan	New Ports Institute of Communication and Economics(NICE)	Institutional
114	Pakistan	Preston University	Institutional
115	Pakistan	Quality Assurance Directorate, Bahria University	Institutional
116	Pakistan	Quality Enhancement Cell, National University of Modern Languages	Institutional
117	Pakistan	Riphah International University	Institutional
118	Pakistan	Shaheed benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar	Institutional
119	Pakistan	Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science & Technology (SZABIST)	Institutional

No.	Country /Territory	Agency	Membership Status
120	Pakistan	Quality Enhancement Cell, Kohat University of Science & Technology	Institutional
121	Pakistan	Sindh Madressatul Islam University (SMI University)	Institutional
122	Pakistan	University of Central Punjab	Institutional
123	Pakistan	University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir	Institutional
124	Pakistan	Sukkur institute of Business Administration	Institutional
125	Pakistan	Greenwich University Karachi	Institutional
126	Pakistan	NED University of Engineering & Technology	Institutional
127	Pakistan	The University of Agriculture, Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Institutional
128	Pakistan	The University of BRANCH Faisalabad	Institutional
129	Pakistan	Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University	Institutional
130	Pakistan	University of Balochistan	Institutional
131	Pakistan	University of Engineering & Technology, Taxila	Institutional
132	Pakistan	University of Karachi	Institutional
133	Pakistan	Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University	Institutional
134	Pakistan	Ziauddin University	Institutional
135	Philippines	Asia Theological Association	Intermediate
136	Philippines	International Distance Education Accreditation League, Inc.	Associate
137	Philippines	Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities	Full
138	Philippines	Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities Commission on Accreditation	Full
139	Philippines	Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines Inc.	Full
140	Russia	Kazan Federal University	Institutional
141	Russia	The Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance and Career Development	Full
142	Russia	Altai State University	Institutional
143	Russia	National Center of Public Accreditation (NCPA)	Full
144	Russia	Association for Engineering Education of Russia	Full
145	Russia	The National Accreditation Agency of the Russian Federation	Full
146	Samoa	Samoa Qualifications Authority	Full
147	Saudi Arabia	Jazan University	Observer
148	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology	Institutional
149	Sri Lanka	Horizon College of Business & Technology	Institutional
150	Sri Lanka	Quality Assurance and Accreditation Council of Sri Lanka	Intermediate
151	Sri Lanka	South Asian Institute of Technology and Medicine (Pvt) Ltd.	Institutional
152	Thailand	ASEAN University Network	Observer
153	Thailand	Office of the Higher Education Commission	Associate
154	Thailand	Asian Forum on Business Education	Observer
155	Thailand	Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment	Full
156	Timor Leste	National Agency for Academic Assessment and Accreditation (NAAAA)	Intermediate
157	Tonga	Tonga National Qualifications and Accreditation Board	Intermediate
158	United Kingdom	UK NARIC(National Academic Recognition Information Centre)	Observer
159	United Kingdom	The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education	Observer

No.	Country /Territory	Agency	Membership Status
160	Vanuatu	Vanuatu Training Council	Intermediate
161	Vietnam	Center for Educational Testing and Quality Assessment, Vietnam National University - Ho Chi Minh City	Institutional
162	Vietnam	Center for Quality Assurance, Foreign Trade University	Institutional
163	Vietnam	General Department of Education Testing and Accreditation	Full
164	Vietnam	Institute for Education Quality Assurance of Vietnam National University, Hanoi	Institutional
165	Vietnam	Hanoi National University of Education (HNUE)	Institutional
166	Vietnam	Vietnam Vocational Training Accreditation (VVTA)	Intermediate
167	India	* Commerce and Science College	Institutional
168	Mongolia	*Gazarchin Institute	Institutional
169	Pakistan	*Quality Enhancement Cell, University of Haripur	Institutional
170	Russia	*Certification Association "Russian Register"	Intermediate
171	Pakistan	*National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences (FAST National University)	Associate
172	Papua New Guinea	*Divine Word University	Institutional
173	Papua New Guinea	*National Training Council Secretariat	Intermediate
174	Pakistan	*National Defense University	Institutional
175	Kazakhstan	*JSC "Republican Scientific and Methodological Center of Technical and Vocational Education Development and Qualification Assignment"	Associate
176	Pakistan	*Mohammad Ali Jinnah University	Institutional
177	Pakistan	*Government College University Lahore	Institutional
178	Pakistan	*Khushal Khan Khattak University, Karak(Pakistan)	Institutional
179	Pakistan	*The University of Sindh	Institutional
180	Pakistan	*Lahore University of Management Sciences	Institutional
181	China	*Dianchi College of Yunnan University	Institutional
182	India	*Standards for Educational Advancement & Accreditation (SEAA) Trust, New Delhi	Observer
183	New Zealand	*Cornell Institute of Business and Technology	Observer
184	Pakistan	*The Superior College, Lahore	Institutional
185	Pakistan	*University Of Wah	Associate
186	Pakistan	*Pakistan Institute of Development Economics	Institutional
187	Papua New Guinea	*Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology	Associate
188	India	*Symbiosis International University	Institutional
189	Pakistan	*Dawood University of Engineering and Technology	Institutional
190	Bangladesh	*BSB Cambrian Education Group	Institutional
191	Bangladesh	*School of Business, Independent University	Institutional
192	Singapore	*EduValue Pte. Ltd.	Associate
193	India	*K L University (Koneru Lakshmaiah Education Foundation)	Institutional
194	India	*MBAtrek Private Limited	Institutional
195	Pakistan	*Khyber Medical University	Intermediate
196	Kazakhstan	*Independent Kazakh Agency for Quality Assurance in Education	Full
197	India	*Shri. Govindrao Munghate Arts & Science College	Institutional

NOTE: The organizations with “*” are new members of APQN in 2016.

The Board



APQN President
Prof Dr. Jianxin
Zhang(Elected)
CHINA



APQN Vice President
Prof. Angela Hou Yung-chi
(Elected)
CHINESE TAIPEI



APQN Secretary/Treasurer
Prof. Li Yaogang
(Ex officio)
CHINA



Immediate Past President
Dr. Jagannath Patil
(Ex Officio)
INDIA



APQN Board Member
Dr. Manuel Corpus
(Elected)
PHILIPPINES



APQN Board Member
Prof. Zita Mohd
Fahmi(Elected)
MALAYSIA

APQN Board Meeting

On May.15, 2016, the APQN Board Meeting was held in the Secretariat Room, InterContinental Fiji Resort & Spa, Natadola, Fiji.

Dr. Jagannath Patil, Prof. Angela Hou Yung-chi, Prof. Li Yaogang, Prof. Jianxin Zhang and Prof. Colin Peiris made the report. Dr. Galina Motova and Ms. Erika Soboleva were invited to prepare



for the proposal for 2017 conference. NCPA will prepare for the proposal at first. If there is issue, AACUP will also make the preparation. The board made discussion and the approval of APQN Quality Award 2016 and the Issue of the Bid of Secretariat. Prof. Jianxin Zhang released the strategic Plan for 2016-2019.

APQN Additional Board meeting

On September 15, 2016, APQN Additional Board Meeting was held in Bangalore, India. It was held at the same venue of “Global Summit on Quality Higher Education: Sharing Values and Fostering Trust beyond Borders” organized by NAAC, India and co-organized by APQN.

The meeting summarized 4 achievements since the presidency of the 5th Board as following: 1) having releasing “Dissolving Boundaries



for a Quality Region: APQN Strategic Plan 2016-2019”; 2) having set up the first Self-fundraising Project; 3) having completed the application process of Wenhui Award organized by UNESCO; 4) Having Co-hosted the Global Summit on Quality Higher Education: Sharing Values and Fostering Trust Beyond Borders.

As for the future activities, 9 items have been proposed: 1) APQN 2017 Conference in Moscow; 2) the release of APQN Brochure and APQNews(twice every year); 3) the amendment of APQN Procedure; 4) to publish Proceedings of 2016; 5) to publish the Journal of HEED; 6) the cooperation with APQN members; 7) to promote APQR and Quality Label; 8) to seek for opportunity of applying for Erasmus-plus-programme; and 9) about Co-opted members.

ACTIVITIES & PROJECTS

APQN Annual Conference

APQN 2016 Conference was held in Natadola, Fiji on 26-27 May, 2016, which was just one day after the INQAAHE 2016 Forum in the same venue. Both the 2016 APQN Conference and INQAAHE Forum were hosted by Fiji Higher Education Commission (FHEC), Fiji. There were 144 participants from 30 countries, including 87 international participants, 21 Pacific participants, and 36 local participants.



The main theme for the APQN 2016 Conference was “Sustainable Development of Quality Assurance in Higher Education”. The sub-themes were: 1) Quality Assurance and Sustainable Development; 2) The Benefits of Sustaining EQA, IQA, Qualifications Framework and Peer Review System; 3) Higher Education Trends and Accountability of QA in Asia Pacific in Terms of Productivity, Equity and Cost; 4) Quality Assurance of University Governance and Management; 5) Assuring Standards and Quality of Higher Education: Teaching and Learning; 6) Managing Quality of Cross-Border Movements in Higher Education; and the Internet Generation and its Implication on Higher Education Quality Management (OER, MOOCs, Online Distance Courses and Assessment).

The new Board for 2016-2019 with Prof. Jianxin Zhang as President took over for the leadership of APQN in the AGM. Prof. Jianxin Zhang delivered an inaugural speech as the new elected President, and presented her dream for a sustainable and vibrant APQN. As there were lots of new challenges and opportunities in the new era, Prof. Zhang would like to commit more passion and energy, and she also encouraged members to work shoulder by shoulder just like brother and sister of one family for the development of APQN.

APQN 2016 Quality Awards

At the Awarding Ceremony in Natadola, Fiji in the evening of May 26, 2016, Dr. Jagannath Patil who is APQN outgoing President expressed his sincere congratulations to all winners and invited the distinguished guests on stage to award the trophies and certificates during the APQN awards ceremony held on the evening of 26th May, 2016 at Natadola, Fiji.

S/N	Category	Winners
1	APQN Best/Model Internal QA Award	1) American International University from Bangladesh 2) Riphah International University from Pakistan
2	APQN Quality Champions Award	Mr. Muhammad Ismail, Higher Education Commission (HEC) from Pakistan
3	APQN Cooperation in QA Award within the Region	1) Yunnan Higher Education Evaluation Centre (YHEEC) from China 2) Fiji Higher Education Commission from Fiji
4	APQN Strengthening Quality Assurance as a Profession	Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACUP) from Philippines
5	APQN International Cooperation in QA Award Outside the Region	European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA)
Total	5 Categories	7 winners

APQN Strategic Plan 2016-2019

The 5th board began its term after the formal announcement on May 27, 2016 in the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Fiji. To realize the value of “committed to quality higher education, and supportive of quality organizations in the region” and to reach the vision of “to be a self-sustaining Network, a first point of reference for advice or support, efficient in its operations and open in its information sharing.” The Strategic Plan is made as the guidance for the new general council in the next three years (2016-2019), which focuses on 7 Goals and 10 Targets:

APQN Strategic Plan (2016-2019)	
Goals and Actions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish ongoing financial viability and stability 2. Develop the website to provide a platform for the communication for all members 3. Populate and maintain the consultant database and make information accessible to all 4. Ensure APQN annual conference efficiently and effectively 5. Complete the research projects facilitate the requests, support and advice for training or others 6. Strengthen relations with other international, regional and national networks/organizations within and outside the Region 7. Broaden the base of services to its members to ensure visibility and sustainability of network activities
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raise more funds by seeking sponsorship, support and in-kind contributions

Targets	<p>from governments, agencies, networks/organizations, philanthropists and other relative stakeholders.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Ensure all countries/territories in the region have access to an accreditation agency – national or regional, establish Qualification Framework. 3. Conduct capability building workshops on evaluators on a user pay principle. 4. Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR) to be implemented in 2016 -2019. 5. APQN Quality Label to be implemented in 2018 -2019. 6. Continue to publish the series of APQN Conference Papers and Journals. 7. Continue to establish QA Consultant Database. 8. Continue to support the countries/territories with the founding of QAAs. 9. Continue to establish mutual relationship with other international, regional and national QA networks/organizations. 10. Strengthen APQN Virtual Library’s Functionality.
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The 6th Guided Online Forum

APQN launched the 6th online forum on March the 2nd which lasted for a month. In order to realize the new QA Trends in Asia, the topic of the forum is “Quality Assurance for Sustainable Learning, Teaching and Research in Higher Education”, which was mainly focused on quality management of distance education, including online courses, programs, MOOCs, OER in terms of the role of QA organizations and institutions. They are both expected to respond effectively to the global trend by various stakeholders.

In addition, current trends on quality assurance research will be included on behalf of APQN members. Hence, there were 3 more sub-themes to be further discussed, namely, 1) Quality Management of Distance Education; 2) External Review of Online Courses, MOOCs and OER; and 3) Research on Quality Assurance of Higher Education.

Four facilitators were invited to lead the discussions: Prof. Dr. Angela Yung Chi Hou (Vice President of APQN), Prof. Stamenka Uvalic-Trumbic (Former Chief of the Higher Education Section of UNESCO), Prof. Deane Neubauer (Co-Director of the Asia Pacific Higher Education Research Partnership) and Prof. Asha Kanwar (President and Chief Executive Officer of the Commonwealth of Learning).



Global Summit on Quality Assurance of Higher Education

On September 16-17, 2016, the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), a premier National Quality Assurance Agency in India, in collaboration with APQN, held “Global

Summit on Quality Higher Education: Sharing values and fostering trust beyond borders” in Bengaluru in India.

It was for the first time the key quality networks and agencies from Asia, Europe, America and Africa joined hands to be the partners of event and assembled on same platform. Global partners included organizations such as CHEA (Council for Higher Education Accreditation) from USA. 120 delegates from India and abroad, over 20 foreign nationals representing global quality assurance bodies participated in the Global Summit focusing on Higher Education Quality Accreditation. This event is the culmination of the efforts by NAAC and APQN in bringing together global quality assurance agencies and heads of accredited institutions from across the country under one platform.

“Bengaluru Statement for 2016 on Next-Generation Quality Assurance of Higher Education: A Shared Vision and Commitment for Fostering Partnership Beyond Borders” was the culmination of the global summit and is counted as the major landmark in the International history of higher education quality assurance.



Book release: a Platform to Share QA Vision and Commitment

During the 2016 APQN Annual Conference (AAC), proceedings from 2012 and 2015 AAC were launched by Dr. JP (the 4th President) and Prof. D. Jianxin Zhang (the 5th President) at Natadola, Fiji.



The Academic Proceeding of 2012 APQN Conference “External Quality Assurance in the Asia-Pacific: What has Changed over a Decade?” was published by APQN, edited by Dr. Jagannath Patil. The proceedings consists of 19 selective conference papers submitted to 2012 AAC held on 29 February-2 March 2012 at Siem Reap Angkor in Kingdom of Cambodia.

The Academic Proceeding of 2015 APQN Conference “Globalization and Diversification of Quality Assurance of Higher Education” has been formally published by the Yunnan People’s Publishing House. Prof. Jianxin Zhang (APQN Board member) and Dr. Jagannath Pail (APQN President) are the joint chief editors. It consists of 6 sub-themes and 49 selective papers submitted to 2015 AAC held on April 17-19 2015 in Kunming in China.

2016 HEED report

Jointly published by Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan(HEEACT) and Asia-Pacific Quality Network, Higher Education Evaluation and Development (HEED) has successfully released its two issues in 2016. HEED discovers global aspects and compelling researches that allow readers to better understand and make critical judgments on higher education evaluation and development. It serves as a platform that welcomes authors, professors, and other erudite scholars from similar fields to share and contribute their findings to the advancement of higher education.

Ten original papers, studies and case analyses underwent a double-blind peer review. With five papers each, the first issue Vol. 10.1 responds to the public’s concern over QA accountability and predicts the new trends of QA for the next decade, and explores how institutions and QA agencies can collect and use data for institutional self-improvement and QA policy making. The second issue Vol. 10.2 is a special issue on student learning and assessment in higher education. HEED has successfully drawn international attention. The number of paper downloads has increased up to 1300 times in 2015. Starting the year of 2016, HEED formed a new Editorial and International Advisory Board. By inviting several top higher education scholars in Asia and heads of international networks worldwide, HEED is building itself as a leading QA journal and bringing new insights into higher education.

International Conference on Teaching & Learning Quality Assurance

This year Macao Polytechnic Institute (MPI) joined hand with the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) again to co-organize the conference with the theme on



‘The New Frontiers of Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance in Higher Education’ from 22 to 24 November 2016. International scholars and experts are welcomed to submit papers on different quality aspects of teaching and learning.

APQR Website Launched in Macao

The formal release of website took place in presence of APQR founder Chairperson Dr. Jagannath Patil, APQN President Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang and Macao Polytechnic Institute (MPI) Vice President Prof. Marcus Im, on the occasion of International Conference jointly organized by MPI and APQN at Macao during 23-24 November, 2016.



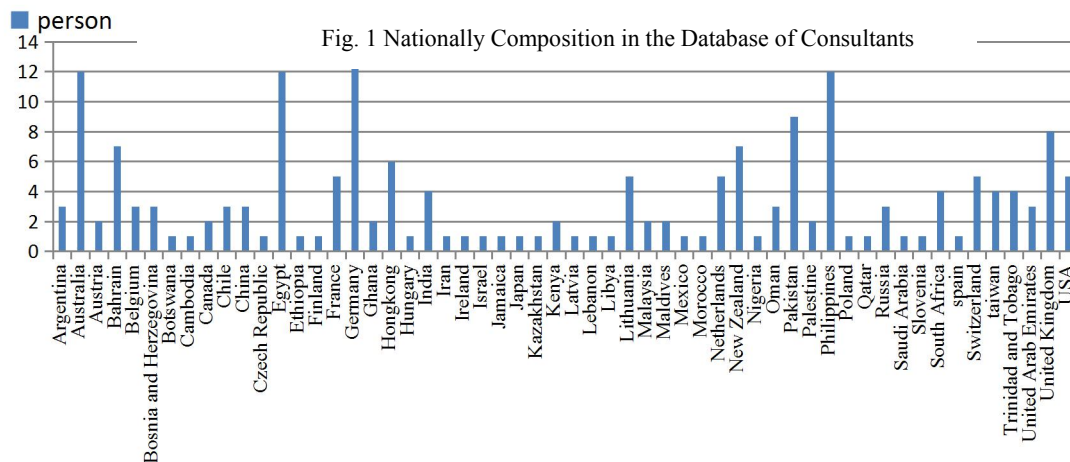
APQR set up by APQN is a Register of external quality assurance agencies (QAAs) that demonstrates certain thresholds of maturity. An independent external review by peers would be the backbone of the APQR.

After initial mentoring by APQN for 2-3 years, it is expected that APQR would be an independent entity on lines of European Quality Assurance Register (EQAR).

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Database of Consultants

As of the 1st October 2016, the Database is composed of 188 consultants from 56 countries/territories. They are willing to provide advice to the member agency in the world, especially in the Asia-Pacific Region. Different consultants have different social backgrounds so that they are competent to advice on different specific and matters of interest to agency.



Many quality assurance system of higher education have been crying out for good consultancy for excellent quality. Through APQN Database of Consultants, hopefully they will get what they need. In order to utilize the Database effectively beyond boundary, the Database should be used as a valuable tool and be well benefited. APQN encourages and welcomes members' valuable opinion and proposals.

Workshop of APQN and APQR's Memberships in Indonesia

On the 18-20th November, 2016 IAAHEH (Indonesian Accreditation Agency for Higher Education in Health) Annual Meeting was held in Century Park Hotel in Jakarta. Around 600 participants attended the seminar and the award ceremony.



On the same venue, APQN's workshop was held, where 11 participants from Indonesian nursing association and Indonesian Association of Nursing Education (AINEC) took part. APQN President introduced the 13-year development of APQN, guided the team how to become an APQN member, third gave instruction on how to be accepted onto APQR, and discussed how to launch nursing accreditation in Asia-Pacific. Dewi Irawaty and Elly Nurachmah from nursing team of IAAHEH presented and lead two groups to work on action plans. The workshop was a success to reach the goals to develop the strategic and operational plan on recognition program. It is for sure that both APQN and IAAHEH is not merely to award accreditation status for the study program, but more importantly, it is to build awareness, motivation, and concrete actions that will lead to the institutionalization of culture of continuous quality improvement.

MoU Between the EASPA and APQN



European Alliance for Subject-Specific and Professional Accreditation and Quality Assurance (EASPA) and the Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) signed the MoU on May 27, 2016 during the APQN 2016 Conference in Fiji.

THE REPORTS

President Report

On the sunny afternoon of the 27th 2016 in beautiful Natadola in Fiji, Dr. Jagannath Patil, APQN's 4th President announced that I was elected the 5th President. On behalf of the new Board, I spoke three points at the short inaugural address: 1) great thanks for the trust on the 5th Board; 2) the Board members feel honored, and at the same time also felt great "pressure"; 3) the Board members are full of confidence in the period of the next 3 years (2016-2019). At last, I said: "I have a dream: everyone in APQN, especially me myself, do not ask what APQN can do for us, but we should ask what we can do for APQN. "

One year passed by before we know it. With the great contribution and support of the immediate past President, APQN has made obvious achievements. I have the honor to present the president annual report for 2016 to APQN General Council, to 197 members in 2016.

I. All in a Year's Work

Looking back in the year of 2016, we are very proud. This year, APQN with 197 members entered its 13-year-old blooming age, showing its vibrant, vigorous tendency of sustainable development.

In this very year, APQN successfully completed the new election at expiration of the last office term. It ensured the ship of APQN to continue its voyage to the "blue sea" of education quality without border under the direction made by the previous 4 Boards as well as under the leadership of the new Board.

In this very year, APQN completed "Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region: APQN Strategic Plan (2016-2019)", in which APQN strengthen the goal, the mission, the vision and the value made by the previous 4 Boards. It ensured APQN's first step to complete the 7 goals and actions along with 10 targets in the next 3 years.

In this very year, APQN launched the first self-fundraising project of "APQN Sustainable Development", reversed APQN Brochure and began to "the Compilation of APQN Procedure Manual" pursuant to APQN Constitution, which added more chapters such as "volunteer", "fund-raising project", "publication" and other chapters based on the original version. It ensured APQN's ability to function systematically and sustainably.

In this very year, APQN, together with National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in India, released "Bengaluru Statement for 2016 on Next-Generation Quality Assurance of Higher Education: A shared vision and commitment for fostering

partnership beyond borders”. It ensured that APQN would join hands with the colleagues from Asia, Europe, America and Africa to establish a global quality platform.

In this very year, APQN held *2016 APQN Annual Conference (AAC) and Annual General Meeting (AGM)* hosted by Fiji Higher Education Commission in May in Fiji, co-organized *Global Summit on Quality Higher Education* in September in India, held *the International Conference on Quality Assurance* co-operated with Macao Institute College in November in China, held *the Workshop of APQN’s and APQR’s Memberships* with Indonesian Accreditation Agency for Higher Education in Health (IAAHEH) in Jakarta, published 2 proceedings of AAC papers ...

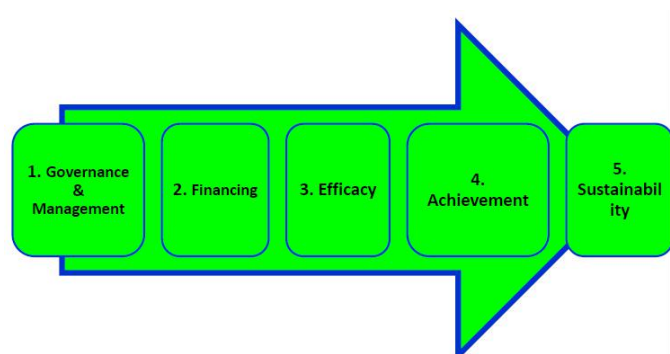
II. APQN’s Sustainable Development

World Commission on Environment and Development, Our Common Future (1987) defines “Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”. “The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”, officially known as *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, is a set of 17 aspirational "Global Goals". It proposes Goal 4: Quality Education - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. In order to realize APQN’s sustainable development and its mission of “enhancing the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region through strengthening the work of quality assurance agencies (QAAs) and extending the cooperation between them”, in 2016, we made the APQN Strategic Plan as the guidance for the new general council in the next three years (2016-2019)

2016-2017 will be the year of procedure building, 2017-2018 is the year of staff capacity building and 2018-2019 is the year of action and achievements. The 5 principles of APQN’s Sustainable Development are: 1) target-orientated principle; 2) project-orientated principle; 3) SMART principle (Specific, Meaningful, Agreed-upon, Results-oriented and Tractable); and 4) Principle of sustainable development. Our 5 key words are “procedure-base, capacity-building, self-reliance, information-sharing and sustainable development”.

In “APQN Strategic Plan (2016-2019)”, APQN will complete 7 goals and actions along with 10 targets in the next 3 years.

Among all the projects that APQN is working on, “APQN’s Sustainable Development” led by me is worth mention. 5 crucial factors of APQN’s sustainable development might be: 1) governance and management; 2) financing;



3) efficacy; 4) achievement; and 5) sustainability. This project has both academic value and practical value and can help APQN reach its vision, value and missions and it will help APQN to realize its sustainable development as a non-profit & non-governmental organization.

III. Offering Thanks

As I the beginning of my first year of service, I have many people to thank.

First of all, I must thank 197 members of APQN General Council who trusted me and voted me as the 5th president, the members of APQN Board: Prof. Angela Hou Yung-chi (Vice President), Prof. Li Yaogang (APQN Secretary/Treasurer), Dr. Jagannath Patil (Immediate Past President and Board Member), Board members: Dr. Manuel Corpus, Prof. Zita Mohd Fahmi, Dr. Galina Motova, Ms. Malini Nair – Prasad, Administrator: Fang Le and Zhang Lingfei, who have entrusted me with administrative responsibility and supported me fully throughout.

Second, I must express appreciation to APQN former presidents as well as the pioneers! Together with all the Board members, with the lead of the 1st President, Mr. Peter Cheung, the 2nd President, Ms. Concepcion Pijano, the 3rd President, Dr. Antony Stella, the 4th President, Dr. Jagannath Patil, APQN has made extraordinary development. With their 13-years effort, they have left APQN legacy to us, we will heritage the legacy and make APQN greater!

Third, I am also most grateful to all the quality assurance networks/organizations who have remained exceptionally helpful and friendly to APQN, such as UNESCO, CHEA/CIQG, INQAHHE and many others. That relationship has made all the difference in what might otherwise have been a difficult year.

Conclusion

There is no doubt that in the new year APQN will face more difficulties and challenges, but will also face new opportunities. Strength and weakness co-exist, opportunity and threat go hand in hand. Standing on a new starting point, based on the solid foundation of APQN's 13-year development, APQN will work together with all members, work hard for the goals and development of 2017's vision.

I firmly believe, through the joint-efforts of 197 members in APQN this big harmonious family, APQN is bound to achieve the ideal of sustainable development. Under the guidance of the core value concept "**dissolving boundaries for a quality region**", with the pioneering spirits and unremitting efforts of all APQN people, APQN will certainly "move from one success to another success".

I end the report with gratitude for all those who made APQN vibrant and sustainable development possible, with high expectation for the successful administration in 2017, and with renewed appreciation for the passion and devotion so many of us have for this remarkable network.

Jianxin Zhang
APQN President, Feb 10, 2017

Vice-President Report

Driven by global competitions, lifting internationalization level of higher education of a nation has been often adopted by governments as one of the most important strategies for human resources development and global talent attraction. Over years, a notable evolution in higher education internationalization was the rise of regional identity and cultural awareness throughout regional collaborations, engagement and alliances. In order to enhance regional integration and collaborations in higher education, several international quality assurance organizations play a major role. As a leading quality assurance network in Asia, APQN provides a quality platform not only bridging quality assurance organizations and institutions closely in Asia but also linking Eastern quality assurance community with the Western world.

With the efforts of the new APQN board and the support of all APQN members, the year of 2016 was quite productive and fruitful. I was so delighted to engage several new initiatives, which were implemented successfully, including holding 6th on-line forum, preparing APQN manuals, reviewing Database of consultants, publishing HEED in a new international publisher, and completing the 2013-2014 APQN proceedings.

In order to realize the new QA Trends in Asia, APQN launched the 6th online forum on March 2, which last one month, The online forum focuses on “Quality Assurance for Sustainable Learning, Teaching and Research in Higher Education”, with three subthemes, “Quality Management of Distance Education” , “External Review of Online Courses, MOOCs and OER” , “Research on Quality Assurance of Higher Education”. Serving as a Forum Convener, I invited three well-known scholars to lead and facilitate the discussions each week. They included Mr. Stamenka Uvalic-Trumbic, Former Chief of the Higher Education Section of the United Nations Organization for Education, Science and Culture (UNESCO); Professor Deane Neubauer, Emeritus Professor of Political Science at the University of Hawaii, Manoa, and Professor Asha Kanwar, President & Chief Executive Officer Commonwealth of Learning. More than 130 messages were posted throughout the forum. Altogether 80 quality assurance experts, representing 22 APQN member institutions from 12 different countries took part in this important endeavor during the month of March.

The Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) cooperated with the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAHE) to develop the database of consultants since 2009. Up to present, 186 experts have been included to the Database of Consultants after review. In order to realize the functions and utilities of the Database, three consultants were interviewed first, then a survey was conducted. APQN is planning to hold a workshop for the future prospect of the database by collecting more APQN members’ opinions. Besides, APQN will also promote and market the database throughout APQN website, newsletters, conference, etc.

Strengthening its research capacity is the other objective of APQN. In 2014, HEEACT

with APQN jointly published an English journal Higher Education Evaluation and Development (HEED), a scholarly refereed journal aimed at encouraging research in higher education evaluation and development and raising standard of evaluation researches and QA, thus sharing outcomes of evaluation and developments and trends worldwide. Up to present, HEED has published more than 85 academic articles, including several from APQN member organizations. Starting in 2017, HEED is transforming into an E-journal with its contents published by an internationally recognized publisher, Emerald, as open access on a dedicated research platform and disseminated globally.

Publishing conference proceedings is another APQN task. The 2013-2014 proceedings consist of three sections and 11 chapters discussing global new trends in quality assurance, quality assurance issues at the national contexts and the best practices of QA approaches in Asian higher education.

Thanks to the support of APQN members, I continued to serve as Vice President. I am so grateful that I was given this precious opportunity again to work with President Zhang and other board members in the projects above. With mission and passion, I will stand aside with the new APQN board and members, bringing APQN into the next brighter decade.

Angela Yung Chi Hou
APQN Vice President, Feb 27, 2017

Secretary/Treasurer Report

Thanks to the leadership of the Board, especially the Office Bearers and the continuous support of the members and interested parties, the APQN Secretariat in 2016 has effectively and efficiently completed the routine work with more innovation, which are valuable for the vibrant and sustainable APQN. The details for the work of the Secretariat in 2016 are following.

1. APQN Members and the Board

The Secretariat has devoted lots of energy to attract new members, such as approaching the prospective members in the database of APQN and the non-member participants of APQN's activities, answering queries in the process of application and timely feedback after pre-review of the application, providing support for the review of Membership Review Committee, and making follow-up for the review of the Board. The number of APQN's members in all categories has reached to 197 from 40 countries or territories with 31 new members. For the existing members, the Secretariat has updated their information and provided detailed and thoughtful consultations.

The Secretariat has communicated frequently with the Board, especially the President and Vice President for the important issues, as they are the APQN Office Bearers along with the Secretary/Treasurer.

2. APQN Annual Conference and AGM

APQN 2016 Conference was held in Natadola, Fiji on 26-27 May, 2016, which was just one day after the INQAAHE 2016 Forum in the same venue. Both the 2016 APQN Conference and INQAAHE Forum were hosted by Fiji Higher Education Commission (FHEC), Fiji. There were 144 participants from 30 countries, including 87 international participants, 21 Pacific participants, and 36 local participants.

The Fiji Higher Education Commission (FHEC) hosted the APQN 2016 Conference and AGM, which just followed the 2016 Forum of the International Quality Assurance Agencies Network in Higher Education (INQAAHE) in the same venue.

The Secretariat has communicated with FHEC frequently for the preparation of the Conference and AGM, such as confirmation of the venue and hotels, release of the Call for Contributions and open of the online registration system. The Secretariat has also forwarded the Call for EoIs for the 2017 Conference and AGM for several times.

3. Management of Projects

The Secretariat has concentrated fully on the management and supervision of the APQN projects, including:

- 1) 2016 APQN Quality Awards,
- 2) Strategic Plan 2016-2019
- 3) Releasing of pins for HECT electronic periodical
- 4) APQN Quality Label,
- 5) APQN 6th Online Forum,
- 6) Expansion of the Database of Consultants in cooperation with International Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE),
- 7) Development of virtual library for its members for serving this purpose,
- 8) Publishing of 2015 Conference Proceedings
- 9) Exploration and Practice of the Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR),
- 10) Publications based on APQN 2016 Conference Papers.

The Secretariat has planned the activities, drafted and released the Call for EoIs, preliminarily reviewed the applications, made recommendation for the Board, conducted coordination and supervision, and provided technical support in the process and so on. In addition, the Secretariat also released the Call for Members and Experts to Join APQN Projects, to invite interested members to join in the existing/proposed projects of common interest and to conduct short term projects relevant to APQN's objectives.

5. Publication and Liaison

The Secretariat has actively taken the responsibility to collect and disseminate information among the APQN members and those interested to APQN. In the year of 2016, the Secretariat drafted, designed the APQN 2015 Annual Report, and distributed the hard copy to all members and uploaded the soft copy on the APQN website;

In the year of 2016, the Secretariat has continued the liaison and communication with the Bangkok Office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE), European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA), European Consortium for Accreditation in Higher Education (ECA), and Arab Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ANQAHE). APQN has cooperated with INQAAHE for the expansion of Database of Consultants and with ENQA for the quality assurance of cross-border higher education. APQN also has signed MoU with the European Alliance for Subject-Specific and Professional Accreditation reinforce and provide a platform for the desired cooperation between the two networks.

6. Finance

In March, 2016, the Secretariat organized the annual audit for the 2016 Finance Statement, the audit report has showed that *“the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of Asia-Pacific Quality Network as at December 31, 2016, and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the Accounting Standards for Non-profit Organization.”*

According to the APQN 2016 Annual Finance Report, the operation cost of the Secretariat has kept about 60% of the annual income of membership fees. The Secretariat has made great efforts for the collection of the membership fees. Up to the writing of this report, about 70% of members have paid their 2016 membership fees.

7. Words for the Future

The year 2016 is also the year for the bid of the APQN Secretariat with the term from 2016-2019. On May 31, 2016 the Secretariat in Shanghai won the bid again and will continue its full support for the operation of the networks, and keep the efficiency and effectiveness. Within this period, except the assigned tasks of information distribution, administrative support and finance management, the Secretariat would like to creatively complete:

- 1) to make more promotional activities to attract more new members;
- 2) to broaden the sources of income by professional service to the international organizations, country governments, member organizations and other interested parties;
- 3) to strengthen the capacity-building the Secretariat staff.

Li Yaogang
APQN Secretary/Treasurer, March 15, 2017

Reports from the Board Members

Dr. Jagannath Patil

It gives me great pleasure to submit a brief report on activities undertaken by me as an Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) Board member in capacity of Immediate Past President.

1. Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR) development:

The newly elected APQN Board 2016-2019 honored me with opportunity to continue as the Chairperson of the APQR of which I had privilege of being a founder during my tenure APQN President during 2013-2016. It is pleasure to inform all stakeholders that we have launched a brand new independent website of APQR named www.apqr.co. All the work of developing documents and guidelines for APQR is completed. Thanks to support of APQN President Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang and other APQR members, a good number of applications and queries have been received to join APQR.

2. NAAC-APQN Global Summit-2016:

I had privilege of making pioneering efforts as convener of “Global Summit on Quality Higher Education: Sharing Values and Fostering Trust Beyond Borders” jointly organized by APQN and National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) on 16-17 September 2016 at Bengaluru, which resulted into historic Bengaluru Statement 2016 on Next-Generation Quality Assurance of Higher Education: A shared vision and commitment for fostering partnership beyond borders.

Bengaluru Statement – 2016 called upon quality assurance networks, organizations and stakeholders of higher education to join hands and commit to work together to enhance quality in higher education in service of students and society.

NAAC, APQN and other partners have agreed to deliberate further on this statement and develop action plan by making specific commitments to deliver on the various issues raised for the benefit of quality in higher education. NAAC has already initiated a project on “Compilation of Good practices in Quality Assurance across the Globe”, as follow-up of the summit.

NAAC and APQN together can take this agenda forward to promote QA capacity building in Asia-Pacific.

3. APQN Website:

The APQN Board has also entrusted me to facilitate launch of revamped APQN

website. The awards of contract have already been given and together with inputs of all board members, we hope to launch new APQN website during Annual Conference at Moscow, Russia.

4. Other highlights:

Apart from these issues it has been a great pleasure and privilege to be part of various APQN Board activities such as APQN Finance Committee, Program Committee, APQN Quality Information Portal, APQN Quality Label and various other initiatives under the committed and dedicated leadership of APQN new President Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang and enthusiastic Board members.

We hope to continue the legacy of APQN as the torch bearer of higher education quality assurance networking in Asia-Pacific.

Jagannath Patil
Immediate Past President of APQN, Founder Chairperson of APQR

Dr. Manuel T. Corpus

After the 2016 AAC and AGM in Fiji, I have the following contributions to support APQN:

1. Approached and invited state universities and quality assurance agencies to apply for membership in APQN. I choose only those institutions with reputable name and integrity. Before the Moscow Conference, I will be able to submit one or two applications.

2. Expand APQN influence to Philippines. I invited APQN President Jianxin Zhang as guest speaker in our 30th AACCUP Annual National Conference. President Jianxin made us in APQN Board proud as she was able to explain to 472 heads of state universities and top educators what APQN is, its programs and projects, and its image as the second biggest QA body in the world. Dr. Jianxin has also been an excellent Ambassador of QA. She made many friends.

3. Proposal of Board Meeting. I proposed that the Board would have a meeting in Manila last February to be hosted by AACCUP, but it did not materialize. Reason: Board Members are too busy. I will propose again that next year; the Board makes an out-of-town meeting before the 2018 APQN and AGM, and AACCUP will offer to host the meeting in Manila.

4. I have convinced the AACCUP Board of Trustees to undertake the following projects:

- 1) Apply to host 2018 AAC and AGM. I have convinced our highest higher

education body, the Commission on Higher Education and the 110-member Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC) to support the AACCUP in this project.

2) Subject AACCUP to evaluation by a foreign body, possibly by APQR.

3) Organize an International Conference on the Internal Quality Assurance of Quality Assurance Agencies and Institutions to be held in December, 2017 or January, 2018. We will seek as partners in this project the Philippines Commission on Higher Education and the PASUC. We need the APQN as co-organizer or as endorser of the Conference.

5. I have regularly participated in APQN Board discussions on line.

Manuel T. Corpus
APQN Board Member, March 13, 2017

Dr. Galina Motova

My first year on the Board of APQN has been a real challenge and at the same time valuable experience. The main task of this year is hosting the APQN annual conference and GA in Moscow and tackles all the issues connected with the venue, visa and information support, accommodation and catering of the participants. The topics for discussion include both traditional issues of internal and external quality assurance and new trends: new methods of assessing student learning outcomes; interrelationship of accreditation and ranking systems. These topics are of interest not only for accreditation agencies but also for representatives of academic community. The title of the conference also reflects a distinguishing feature of the venue – it's the first time that the conference has been held in Moscow, Russia – the most western part of the Asia- Pacific Region, which presents a good opportunity for our European colleagues to participate in discussions.

All these arguments have served as a basis for a broad advertising campaign, which was launched in October 2016. The conference web site and advertising leaflets have been prepared; the journal Accreditation in Education has placed an article and an advertising block, information letters have been sent to Asian and European accreditation agencies. Advertising leaflets were disseminated among the delegates of INQAAHE conference in Bahrain and IREG in Qatar. I hope this effort would bear its fruit and the conference will gather together a wide range of participants.

Another important area of work is dissemination of information about the APQN activities in the Russian academic community. Russia has been traditionally oriented towards cooperation with the European region and is not quite familiar with the work of Asia-Pacific accreditation agencies. The information about the activities of APQN was presented at international and national conferences in Barnaul (September, 2016), Kaliningrad (November, 2016), Moscow (February, 2017). Even more important is to inform the Ministry of Education and other power bodies about the developments in the APQN network. With active and efficient involvement of APQN's President Jianxin official letters were sent to the Russian Ministry of Education and federal bodies of power informing them about AAC and APQN.

Besides, I have been actively engaged together with the Secretariat and the Board in collecting information about the participants for publishing a booklet; collecting and reviewing conference papers for choosing speakers and presenters for parallel sections. I am trying to be an active participant in all current APQN issues and discussions.

Galina Motova
APQN Board Member, March 18, 2017

Ms. Malini Nair – Prasad

It has been a year since Fiji Higher Education Commission, a QAA, hosted the 2016 APQN conference at one of the reputable and fine 5 star Resort, where not only the participants gained valuable knowledge but were able to sneak out and enjoy the sun, sand and sea. The best friendliest natural environment Fijians can offer with a smile I must say.

The 2016 conference was attended by over 120 participants from around the globe from those being very modest and passionate about quality of higher education and sustainable development of quality assurance in higher education. While many HEIs or QAA are implementing these systems it is also very important to ensure the sustainability of these initiatives from far and wide.

During the 2016 APQN conference there were very interactive sessions apart from just the paper presentations. Prof Sid Nair and Prof Arun Patil took to the floors on hands workshop with active discussion on Improving the Quality of Teaching and Learning: Student Voice in Institutional Settings while Prof Jianxin Zhang and Prof Jagannath Patil held workshops on Quality Label. As part of the host for the Pacific, many Pacific Islands Countries also came together to support and talk about the quality assurance and sustainability. One of the best parts of being the host of the wonderful conferences I guess!!!

The 2016 APQN conference proceedings will be published soon and launched at the 2017 APQN conference in Russia. I am confident that the members influence will continue to encourage our proud tradition of involvement of quality assurance in the higher education sector.

“We must ensure our system of higher education offers world-class quality for a world-class economy” - Bob Taft.

The President and Board members - Salutations for standing as a strong team!

Malini Nair – Prasad
APQN Board Member, February 25, 2017

Prof. Zita Mohd Fahmi

The ASEAN Quality Assurance Network (AQAN), a sub-regional network in South-East

Asia, consists of ten full members of QA agencies and national authorities responsible for external QA. It was established in 2008 and is a registered Entity with ASEAN. **Most of the members are also members of APQN.**

It has been established to support the roadmap for establishing higher education common space similar to the initiatives in Europe through the QA field. It is one of the many initiatives to support the ASEAN as a single community agenda, under the ASEAN Social and Cultural Community pillar. The road map identified the need to promote QA principles and practices, seeking common agreed core requirements, capacity building and this consequently led the development to the regional QA framework. Harmonization of the higher education is important in the ASEAN agenda for a single community where the human development through education and training is a predominant factor particularly for ASEAN Economic Community. There is shared consciousness of the benefits of collaboration and sharing, and the crucial role of QA in promoting harmonization in higher education. The role of QA is stated Kuala Lumpur Declaration and implementation work plans of 2016.

AQAN developed the regional QA framework in 2015. The ASEAN Quality Assurance Framework (AQAF) is an indigenous, development-oriented and a neutral instrument which serves as a common reference point to align QA systems, higher education institutions and qualifications across the region. Its purpose is to enhance the quality of education in the region and support the mobility of students, workers and services both within and outside the region and regional QA frameworks—European Standards and Guidelines (2015), Chiba Principles of APQN and INQAAHE GGP. The framework consists of 4 interconnected ‘quadrants’: EQA establishment, EQAA QA systems, internal QA of institutions as well as national qualifications framework. A robust QA system is intended to build zone of trust for the purpose of recognition of qualifications within ASEAN and beyond. Another driving factor is the establishment of the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework which requires a robust national QA system to be in place. This crucial factor has been instrumental in the recent development of new QA agencies in the region.

With the support of the EU SHARE project (2015-2019) and European QA experts, guidelines for agency reviews and institutional assessment were jointly developed. The project will assess the strength and appropriateness of the Framework on 4 mature agencies and guide capacity building for the younger agencies (2017-2018). Eleven higher education institutions will be assessed vis-à-vis the Internal QA Principles of AQAF. This exercise will also benefit the agencies and institutions involved.

The journey toward harmonization and regionalization is a long and challenging journey but it has begun with small steps and key instruments. The national systems will set their own roadmap to address this development and are encouraged to be guided by AQAF.

Zita Mohd Fahmi

APQN Board Member, April 14, 2017

Report on Finance

The account has been audited by Shanghai HuGang JinMao Certified Public Accountants Co., Ltd. The result indicates that “the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) as at December 31, 2016, and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the Accounting Standards for Non-profit Organization.” The details of the income and expense can be seen from the table of “the 2016 Report on Finances (Audited)”.

APQN Statement of Income and Expenses (in USD)

	Categories / Programs	Budget	Total
S/N	Income		
1	Annual Membership Fees, Initial joining fees	45,610.00	38,145.84
2	Interest received	700.00	609.15
3	QACHE Project	6,497.11	0.00
4	Asia Pacific Quality Register	7,500.00	0.00
5	Other income by fundraising or service	20,000.00	0.00
	Total income	81,599.23	38,754.99
S/N	Expense		
1	Administration	500.00	915.20
2	Audit fees	1,000.00	923.65
3	Bank fees/TT fees	1,200.00	495.09
4	Website maintenance	3,800.00	3,047.98
5	Administrator Salary	18,000.00	18,000.00
6	Publications of APQN Series Conference Papers	7,500.00	0.00
7	Asia Pacific Quality Informational Portal	2,500.00	0.00
8	APQN Quality Label	2,500.00	0.00
9	Asia Pacific Quality Register	2,000.00	0.00
10	APQN Media Fellowships to Promote Awareness about QA and APQN among Stakeholders	2,000.00	0.00
11	APQN Online Forum	2,000.00	2,000.00
12	APQN QA Collaboration and Exchange Program	2,000.00	0.00
13	APQN New Projects and Initiatives	5,000.00	0.00
14	Annual Conference Sponsorship and other travel	17,000.00	9,862.21
15	APQN Quality Awards 2016	1,500.00	0.00
16	QACHE Project for Macao Seminar and Staff Cost, etc	6,497.11	0.00
17	Publication of Journal, Annual Report and others	6,500.00	7,293.52
	Total Expenses	81,497.11	42,537.65
	Balance for 2016	102.12	-3,782.66
	Balance carried forward from 2015	167,528.07	151,515.59
	Balance	167,630.19	147,732.93

Note:

1) The income of the membership fee adds up to 38,145.84 USD with the interest 609.15. Till December 31, 2016, the overall income adds up to 38,754.99 USD. It should be noted that the donation 50000 Yuan from Mr. Zhang Jianping was listed as a RMB account. So the auditor did not take it into the report.

2) As for the expense, the Administrator Salary is 18,000.00 USD. The website maintenance is 3,047.98 USD. The Annual Conference Sponsorship and other travel costs 9,862.21 USD. The Publication of Journal, Annual Report and others costs 7,293.52 USD.

3) Till December 31, 2016, the total expense is 42,537.65 USD. The balance for 2016 is -3,782.66. With the balance carried forward from 2015, the total balance is 147,732.93.

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