

2019

2019 Annual Report

The Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN)

PRESIDENT MESSAGE: Welcome to 2019 APQN Annual Report! In 2019, APQN with 240 members from 42 countries/territories, has entered its sixteenth anniversary, showing its vibrant, vigorous tendency of sustainable development. With the great contribution and support of all APQN members, APQN has made obvious achievements. One of the most important things is the 2019 AAC and AGM in Colombo, Sri Lanka. 151 participants from 30 countries/territories attended over 20 sessions to discuss the theme of “Quality Assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region: Insight into the Future”. One of the most remarkable things is the Amendments of APQN Constitution (version 9.0). One of the most crucial things is to elect the sixth Board Directors and have the fourth host of APQN Secretariat. In 2019 APQN has published “Anthology of 2018 AAC”, “APQN Strategic Plan (2019-2022)”, “APQNews (Issue 19)”, “APQNews (Issue 20)”... Let’s call for responsibility and solidarity!



APQN sixth Board

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2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Asia-Pacific Quality Network Inc.
Trading As APQN

Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region
January 30 2020

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE NETWORK	- 4 -
DEFINITION OF APQN	- 4 -
THE AMENDMENTS OF APQN CONSTITUTION (VERSION 9.0)	- 6 -
APQN CONSTITUTION (VERSION 9.0).....	- 8 -
THE BOARD	- 18 -
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE.....	- 19 -
THE GENERAL COUNCIL: 240 MEMBERS.....	- 20 -
WELCOME TO JOIN APQN	- 28 -
APQN 1 ST BOARD MEETING HELD IN COLOMBO OF SRI LANKA	- 29 -
2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) IN COLOMBO	- 30 -
INAUGURAL ADDRESS AT 2019 AGM IN COLOMBO	- 33 -
APQN 2 ND BOARD MEETING HELD IN COLOMBO	- 36 -
APQR COUNCIL MEETING IN 2019 WAS HELD IN SRI LANKA	- 37 -
APQN STRATEGIC PLAN (2019-2022).....	- 38 -
ACTIVITIES & PROJECTS	- 42 -
NEW YEAR GREETING FROM APQN	- 42 -
2019 AAC HELD IN COLOMBO, SRI LANKA	- 44 -
GLOBAL YOGA ACCREDITATION SUMMIT HELD IN NEW YORK	- 51 -
THE APQL REVIEW AT SIU, INDIA	- 53 -
RELEASE OF THE BROCHURE OF “APQN 15 TH ANNIVERSARY”	- 55 -
RELEASE OF THE ANTHOLOGY OF 2018 APQN ACADEMIC CONFERENCE	- 56 -
APQR REVIEW TO MNCEA IN MONGOLIA	- 57 -
APQR REVIEW TO ECAQA IN KAZAKHSTAN	- 59 -
APQR REVIEW TO IAAR IN KAZAKHSTAN	- 61 -

REPORTS BY THE BOARD	- 62 -
PRESIDENT ANNUAL REPORT BY JIANXIN ZHANG	- 62 -
VICE PRESIDENT ANNUAL REPORT BY GALINA MOTOVA.....	- 70 -
SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT BY PINGPING LIU	- 72 -
REPORT FROM BOARD DIRECTORS.....	- 74 -
<i>Jagannath Patil</i>	- 74 -
<i>Deepthi Bandara</i>	- 78 -
<i>I-Jung Grace Lu</i>	- 79 -
<i>Farida Nurmanbetova</i>	- 80 -
2019 REPORT ON FINANCE	- 81 -

THE NETWORK

Definition of APQN

Our Goal

**To Dissolve Boundaries
for a Quality Region**

Our Vision

To promote quality culture and develop self-sustaining organizations, being the first point of reference, will advise and support, enhance interaction and share information among member organizations.

Our Value

To be committed to the quality of higher education and is supportive of both internal and external quality assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Our Purpose

1. to promote good practices in developing an effective and comprehensive quality culture of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region;
2. to foster research activities in quality assurance practices for rebuilding the employability oriented higher education in Asia Pacific Region;
3. to provide advice and expertise in order to assist in the development of new quality assurance organizations in the region;
4. to facilitate cooperation among Quality Assurance Agencies (QAAs) and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), and recognize each other's decisions and judgment;
5. to assist APQN members in determining the quality standards operating across national borders;
6. to ensure better-informed international recognition of qualifications throughout the region;
7. to assist in the development and application of credit transfer systems;
8. to enhance the mobility of students between institutions both within and across national borders;
9. to make the APQN members aware of and alert against the dubious accrediting practices and organizations;
10. to promote the interest of the Asia-Pacific Region by effective representation vis-à-vis interacting with other networks and international organizations.

Our Method

1. dissemination of information through APQNews, documents, journals, anthologies and books, whether in paper-based or electronic form;
2. training and development through seminars, workshops, conferences and staff capacity building;
3. developing and using databases of experts and good practices both in EQAA and international networks such as INQAAHE, CHEA/CIQG and other appropriate organizations working on accreditation and quality assurance in education;
4. recognition and dissemination of good practices through Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR), Asia-Pacific Quality label (APQL) and APQN Quality Awards (AQA) and so on;
5. other appropriate means as determined by the General Council or the Board.

Our Principle

- 1) procedure-based;
- 2) capacity building;
- 3) self-reliance and information-sharing;
- 4) sustainable development for final goal.

APQN

APQN is a non-profit, non-government organization.

APQN is an organization is established under the name of the Asia-Pacific Quality Network Inc. (APQN).

APQN intends to operate as a regional network in association with the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education Incorporated (INQAAHE).

The Amendments of APQN Constitution (version 9.0)

According to the decisions of the first Board meeting of the sixth Board held on March 30, it's high time for APQN to amend APQN Constitution (v. 9.0), which was amended five years ago.

Approved by the sixth Board, the following is the schedule of the Amendments of APQN Constitution:

Date	Item
July, 2019	The General Council agreed to accept Individual Member by voting
August 1-20	The Office Bearers amend APQN Constitution by: (1) adding the member category of "Individual Member"; (2) adding APQN mission, value, vision and goal which APQN implements for more than a decade; (3) adding the benefits of APQN members according to "APQN Procedure Manual" released in 2018; and (4) some expressions that might cause confusion.
August 20-30,	Endorsement by the sixth Board Directors
Sep. 1- Oct. 30	APQN Secretariat sent the first cycle of e-mails to APQN members for feedback and endorsement.
Nov. 1-30	APQN Secretariat sent the second cycle of e-mails to APQN members for feedback and endorsement.
Dec.1-2	Amending the Constitution according to the feedback from the members
Dec. 3	APQN Secretariat submitted the Board "APQN Members' Feedbacks on the Amendments of APQN Constitution".
Dec.3-15	The Board discussed again and get it proofread by a native speaker
Dec. 30	Release "APQN Constitution (v.9.0)" at APQN Website
April 18, 2020	Report the Amendments of APQN Constitution to all the members at Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The amendments of the 9th version of APQN Constitution include the following 4 aspects: (1) Adding the member category of "Individual Member"; (2) adding APQN mission, value, vision and goal which APQN has implemented for more than a decade; (3) adding the benefits of APQN members according to "APQN Procedure Manual" released in 2018; (4) some expressions that might cause confusion; and (5) a few more changes have been made to fine tune Constitution.

Below are the historical records of APQN Constitutions:

Date	Version	Brief Description of the Amendments
April, 2004	1 st version	Preliminary discussion, formulating draft
October, 2004	2 nd version	Fundamental contents
November, 2004	3 th version	Fundamental contents
January, 2005	4 th version	Fundamental contents
April, 2006	5 th version	Further improvement
February, 2007	6 th Version	Add a new member category: Institution Member
February, 2008	7 th version	Define the responsibilities of the Secretariat; modify the voting rights of co-elected Board directors
March, 2014	8 th version	Determine that immediate Past President is Board director (Ex Officio); modify the term of APQN Board
December, 2019	9 th version	(1) Adding the member category of “Individual Member”; (2) adding APQN mission, value, vision and goal which APQN has implemented for more than a decade; (3) adding the benefits of APQN members according to “APQN Procedure Manual” released in 2018; (4) some expressions that might cause confusion; and (5) a few more changes have been made to fine tune Constitution.

A constitution is not the mere papers on which fundamental principles and rights are listed. It is a living document which ensures that all the persons in APQN can exercise their powers on the members' behalf. It is the lighthouse flashing afar for the direction of APQN. The Sixth Board firmly believes, with the amendments of the Constitution, APQN can better maintain its sustainable development and efficiently realize its mission of “enhancing the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region through strengthening internal and external quality assurance in all kinds of organizations and extending the cooperation among them”.

(Written by Jianxin Zhang)

APQN Constitution (Version 9.0)

Amended by the sixth Board on September 15, 2019; Approved by the General Council on November 30, 2019

I. Name

1. An organization is established under the name of the Asia-Pacific Quality Network Inc. (APQN).

2. APQN intends to operate as a regional network in association with the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education Incorporated (INQAAHE).

3. APQN is a non-profit, non-government organization.

3.1. APQN's mission is to enhance the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region through strengthening internal and external quality assurance in all kinds of organizations and extending the cooperation among them;

3.2. APQN's value is committed to the quality of higher education and is supportive of both internal and external quality assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region;

3.3. APQN's vision is to promote quality culture; to be a self-sustaining non-government and non-profit organization; and to be the first point of reference, efficient in its operations and share information among members;

3.4. APQN has four principles: 1) procedure-based; 2) capacity building; 3) self-reliance and information-sharing; and 4) sustainable development for final goal;

3.5. The ultimate goal of APQN is "Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region".

II. Purpose

4. The purpose of APQN is:

4.1. to promote good practices in developing an effective and comprehensive quality culture of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region;

Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region

4.2. to foster research activities in quality assurance practices for rebuilding the employability oriented higher education in Asia Pacific Region;

4.3. to provide advice and expertise in order to assist in the development of new quality assurance organizations in the region;

4.4. to facilitate cooperation among Quality Assurance Agencies (QAAs) and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), and recognize each other's decisions and judgment;

4.5. to assist APQN members in determining the quality standards operating across national borders;

4.6. to ensure better-informed international recognition of qualifications throughout the region;

4.7. to assist in the development and application of credit transfer systems;

4.8. to enhance the mobility of students between institutions both within and across national borders;

4.9. to make the APQN members aware of and alert against the dubious accrediting practices and organizations;

4.10. to promote the interest of the Asia-Pacific Region by effective representation vis-à-vis interacting with other networks and international organizations.

III. Methods

5. APQN achieves its purpose through a range of methods, including:

5.1. dissemination of information through APQNews, documents, journals, anthologies and books, whether in paper-based or electronic form;

5.2. training and development through seminars, workshops, conferences and staff capacity building;

5.3. developing and using databases of experts and good practices both in EQAA and international networks such as INQAAHE, CHEA/CIQG and other appropriate organizations working on accreditation and quality assurance in education;

5.4. recognition and dissemination of good practices through Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR), Asia-Pacific Quality label (APQL) and APQN Quality

Awards (AQA) and so on;

5.5. other appropriate means as determined by the General Council or the Board.

IV. Finance

6. The APQN's financial year is from January 1 to December 31. The APQN Annual Financial Statement must be audited and published in the "APQN Annual Report".

7. Funding for APQN is derived from membership fees, grants, donations or other earnings and fees. APQN may seek donations and may derive income as determined by the General Council or Board for a period of 3 years.

8. APQN may set fees and levy charges for its products and services.

9. APQN owns intellectual property rights for the paid products or fully-supported projects that are under the APQN budget.

10. Membership fees are set as determined by the General Council.

11. The assets and income of APQN shall be applied solely in furtherance of its above-mentioned purpose, and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the organization except as bona fide compensation for services rendered, or expenses incurred on behalf of the organization.

V. Membership

12. APQN has five categories of membership: Full Member, Intermediate Member, Associate Member, Institutional Member and Individual Member.

12.1. Full Members are either organizations responsible for assuring the academic quality of post-secondary institutions or education programs other than their own, or organizations responsible for assuring the quality of external quality assurance agencies, which meet the conditions for membership as expressed in the membership criteria of APQN, as decided by the General Council.

12.2. Intermediate Members are either organizations responsible for assuring the academic quality of post-secondary institutions or education programs other than their own, or organizations responsible for assuring the quality of external quality assurance agencies, but which do not fully meet the conditions for membership as expressed in the membership criteria of APQN, as decided by the

General Council.

12.3. Associate Members are organizations with a major interest and active involvement in evaluation, accreditation and quality assurance in higher education, but without the responsibility for assuring the quality of institutions, education programs, or external quality assurance agencies as described in Section V. Clause 12.1.

12.4. Institutional Members are institutions of higher education in the region that are in good standing with the relevant quality assurance agency if one exists.

12.5. Individual Members are representatives of academic or the QA community with a major interest and active involvement in the development of quality and research in higher education and the purpose of APQN.

13. APQN grants Observer status to those who are interested in Outside the Asia-Pacific Region, including external QAAs; institutions with a major interest in evaluation, accreditation and quality assurance in higher education; other regional networks that have major interests and strong links with the region.

14. Those within the APQN region who satisfy the membership criteria referred to in Section V. Clauses 12.1-12.5, are accepted as members of APQN on completion of the online 'Membership Application' and payment of the initial joining fees and annual membership fee determined by the General Council.

15. The procedure for admission is as follows:

15.1. the Secretariat verifies that the request for membership complies with either of the conditions mentioned in Section V. Clauses 12.1-12.5 and makes a recommendation about the membership category; and

15.2. the Secretariat's recommendation is presented to the Board for approval.

16. Only Full and Intermediate Members are eligible to participate in the governance and administration of APQN.

17. Associate, Institutional and Individual Members may participate in the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and other meetings of the General Council, but without the right to vote.

18. All members may:

18.1. benefit from APQN's activities, collaborate in the attainment of

APQN's purposes; and exercise their rights according to this Constitution.

18.2. participate in APQN Academic Conferences (AAC) and AGMs, APQN online forums and other APQN meaningful events;

18.3 promote members' branding by using the APQN logo on their website or relative documents;

18.4 develop different kinds of collaborations among QAAs and HEIs through AACs;

18.5 co-organize international seminars, workshops or forums together with APQN in the local context;

18.6 apply for the annual APQN Award;

18.7 have access to the Consultant Data Base and get advice on general and specific QA matters;

18.8 receive APQNNews, the Annual Report, the APQN Brochure and other documents in e-form;

18.9 publish their qualified research papers in the APQN Anthology after AAC.

19. All members undertake to:

19.1. abide by this Constitution;

19.2. comply with APQN decisions and resolutions; and

19.3. pay, in due time, the fees or any other contributions determined in accordance with this Constitution.

20. The procedures for disciplining of members are as described in Section V. Clauses 21 .21.4 and 32.6, and in Section IX.

21. Membership is withdrawn if the member:

21.1. withdraws its membership in writing to the Secretary;

21.2. fails to maintain the conditions that allowed their initial admission, as set out in this Constitution;

21.3. does not fulfill the obligations set out in this Constitution; or

21.4. acts in APQN's name without authorization.

22. All members will be listed in the online register on the APQN website.

23. All members may, upon request, view any records and relevant documents of APQN if not available on the website provided that they peruse the documents in person and by appointment.

24. Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, no member organization shall be expected, by virtue of its membership of the Network, to do anything that contradicts the rules and requirements of that organization.

VI. Governing Bodies

25. The governing bodies and authorities of APQN are the General Council and the Board.

26. The General Council is comprised of Full Members, Intermediate Members, Associate Members, Institutional Members and Individual Members of APQN, each represented by one nominated person.

27. The General Council shall meet at least once every year and notice of the meeting shall be given via email at least 21 days in advance.

28. All APQN notices to APQN members shall be given via e-mail and published on the APQN website.

29. The Full and Intermediate Members present at an in-person meeting of the General Council constitute a quorum for the meeting; for an electronic meeting, 30% of the Full and Intermediate Members of APQN constitute a quorum.

30. Full and Intermediate Members are entitled to vote by proxy at the AGM using an appointment of proxy form available on request.

31. Elections for the Board of Directors will be held by electronic ballot, or other means, according to the procedures agreed by the General Council.

32. The responsibilities of the General Council are to:

32.1. elect the President, Vice-President and other four Directors of the Board;

32.2. consider the reports from the Board;

32.3. set the annual fees and any other contribution to be paid by members;

32.4. consider and approve APQN annual financial statements;

32.5. make decisions necessary for the satisfactory operation of APQN; and

32.6. exclude, on the recommendation of the Board, any member who disregards this Constitution.

33. Meetings of the General Council shall be conducted by the President (or in the absence of the President the Vice-President, or in the Vice-President's absence, by a Chair elected by the General Council for this purpose) and in accordance with accepted meeting procedures.

34. The decisions of the General Council shall be adopted by a simple majority of voting members.

35. Amendments to the APQN Constitution will require a three-quarters majority vote of the Full and Intermediate Members, and at least 21-day notice will be given of any resolution to alter the APQN Constitution.

VII. The Board

36. The Board of APQN consists of the President, immediate Past President, Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer(ex-officio), and four other elected directors, and other directors whom the Board may decide to co-opt, to a maximum of four co-opted directors on the Board, provided immediate past president can have only one term ex-officio, if he/she has already served 3 successive elected terms on the Board.

37. Each elected Board director is nominated from Full and Intermediate Member organizations.

38. No two elected Board directors should be from the same member organization.

39. The Board is elected by the General Council for a three-year period. Re-election to the Board or any position on the Board is permitted for a maximum of three successive terms, provided that re-elections can be sought by any member after a gap of at least one term.

40. The role of the Board is to:

40.1. actively promote the functions provided for in this Constitution; and

40.2. implement the decisions of the General Council.

41. In furtherance of this objective, the Board may establish committees, such as the Membership Committee, the Finance Committee, the Office Bearers, etc.

42. The Board will appoint Project Group Leaders who, if not already directors of the Board, may be co-opted as directors of the Board to a maximum of two co-opted Project Group Leaders as outlined in Section VII, Clause 36.

43. The Board shall appoint a Secretariat, which must be a Full of Intermediate Member and whose Chief Executive or nominee shall be the Secretary/Treasurer of APQN and a director of the Board ex-officio. No member of APQN is eligible to host the Secretariat for more than three successive terms, provided that re-hosting can be sought after the gap of at least one term.

44. The Board shall meet in person no less than once a year. Each meeting shall be conducted by the President (or in the President's absence the Vice-President, or in the Vice-President's absence, by a Chair elected by the Board for this purpose) and in accordance with the accepted meeting procedures. Fifty percent of the elected directors of the Board constitute a quorum.

45. The responsibilities of the President are to:

- 45.1. actively represent APQN in all relevant events;**
- 45.2. chair General Council meetings; and**
- 45.3. liaise on behalf of APQN with INQAAHE and other organizations.**

46. The responsibilities of the Vice-President are to:

- 46.1. serve as the President's backup where designated;**
- 46.2. monitor the activities of the Project Groups; and**
- 46.3. chair the Finance Committee.**

47. The responsibilities of the Secretary/Treasurer are to:

- 47.1. arrange for APQN's publications and website;**
- 47.2. prepare APQN Annual Reports;**
- 47.3. keep and maintain APQN's records (including the register of members);**
- 47.4. arrange and record the meetings of the General Council and Board;**
- 47.5. collect fees and subscriptions;**
- 47.6. maintain any necessary bank accounts and make payments as required;**

47.7. prepare APQN's financial statements for presentation at the AGM, and

47.8. carry out decisions of the Board and the General Council.

48. All cheques, drafts and bills must be authorized by the President, the Secretary/Treasurer or atleast2directors of the Board.

49. The directors of the Board will have custody of all relevant APQN documents. In the event of a Board director surrendering their position, all the documents will be handed over to acting directors of the Board.

50. Occasional vacancies can occur where a Full or Intermediate Member agency with which a Board director is associated

50.1. ceases to be a Full or Intermediate Member of the Network;

50.2. becomes insolvent; or

50.3. the Board director resigns from office by submitting a written notice to the Board thirty days in advance.

51. When an occasional vacancy occurs on the Board, the Board shall make an appointment to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the vacating Board director's term of office.

VIII. Dissolution

52. APQN may be dissolved by a three-quarter majority of voting members at an AGM.

53. Any assets of APQN at its dissolution shall be handed over to INQAAHE unless decided otherwise by the General Council.

IX. Dispute Resolution

54. Any disputes over the interpretation of this Constitution shall be resolved by simple majority vote at a meeting of the General Council.

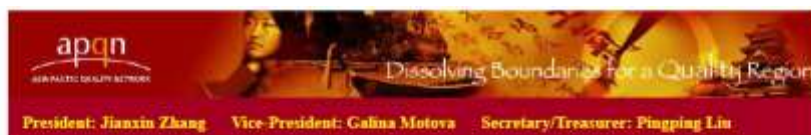
55. Any disputes arising between APQN and one of its members, or between the members, shall be submitted in written form and/or served on the member in question, and shall be presented to the Board for discussion within 14 days after the delivery of the written notice.

55.1. Failure of the parties to resolve the dispute will result in a mediation meeting with a mutually agreed independent mediator within a further period of

14 days, at the expense of the member organizations.

55.2. All parties must attempt to resolve the disputes at mediation.

55.3. Dispute resolution must allow for natural justice to be applied.



APQN Constitution

(Version 9.0, December 2019)

The Records of the Amendments of APQN Constitution

Date	Version	Brief Description of the Amendments
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The Board

The sixth Board Directors were elected at 2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM): Jianxin Zhang from China, Galina Motova from Russia, Deepthi Bandara from Sri Lanka, I-Jung Grace Lu from Chinese Taipei, Farida Nurmanbetova from Kazakhstan.

Ms. Pingping Liu from China, APQN Secretary/Treasurer is an ex officio director, and Mr. Le Fang is the administrator. The fourth host of the Secretariat is Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute (SEEI) from China, whom took office in August, 2019 after the third host of the Higher Education Evaluation Center (HEEC) of the Ministry of Education in China.

Dr. Jagannath Patil, the Immediate Past President, specially appointed professor of NIAD-QE at Tokyo in Japan, adviser of NAAC at Bengaluru in India, is a director coopted as APQR Chairperson.

APQN President
Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang
(Elected)



CHINA

APQN Vice President
Prof. Dr. Galina Motova
(Elected)



RUSSIA

APQN Secretary/Treasurer
Ms. Liu Pingping
(Ex-Officio)



CHINA

Immediate Past President
Dr. Jagannath Patil
(Coopted)



INDIA

APQN Board Member
Ms I-Jung Grace Lu
(Elected)



Chinese Taipei

APQN Board Member
Ms. Farida Nurmanbetova
(Elected)



Kazakhstan

APQN Board Member
Prof Deepthi C. Bandara
(Elected)



Sri Lanka

APQN Administrator
Mr Le Fang
(Appointed)

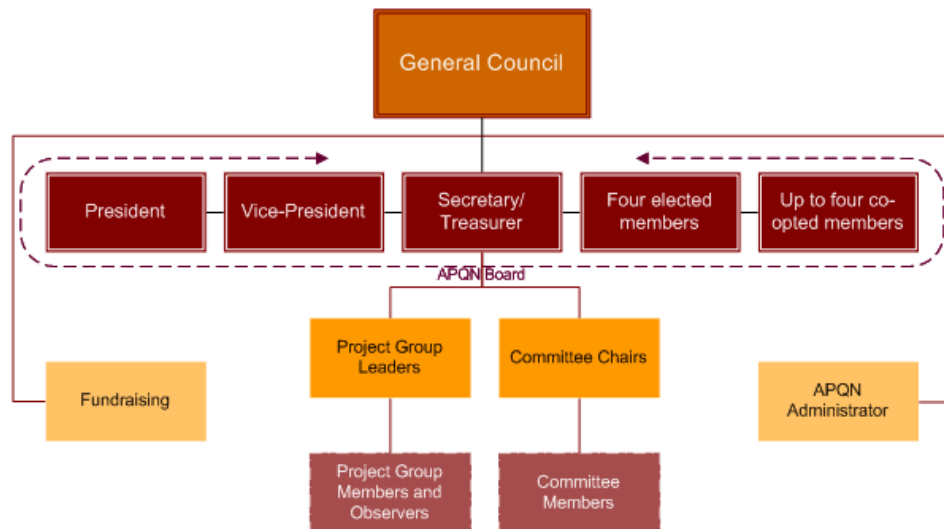


China

Organizational Structure

The governing bodies and authorities of APQN are the General Council and the Board.

The General Council is comprised of Full Members, Intermediate Members, Associate Members, Institutional Members and Individual Members of APQN, each represented by one nominated person.



The General Council: 240 Members

At present, APQN owes 240 members from 41 countries/territories in the globe, which are made up of with four categories: Full Member, Intermediate Member, Associate Member and Institutional Member. From this year, APQN will begin to accept Individual Member. Below is the list of APQN 240 members.

No	Country /Territory	Agency	Membership
1	Afghanistan	Quality Assurance and Accreditation Department of Ministry of Higher Education of Afghanistan	Intermediate
2	Afghanistan	Kandahar University	Institutional
3	Afghanistan	Herat University	Institutional
4	Afghanistan	Balkh University	Institutional
5	Afghanistan	Kardan University	Institutional
6	Afghanistan	American University of Afghanistan	Institutional
7	Afghanistan	Shaheed Prof. Rabani Education University	Institutional
8	Australia	The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)	Full
9	Australia	The Office of the Australian Qualifications Framework Council (AQFC)	Associate
10	Australia	The International Centre of Excellence in Tourism and Hospitality Education	Full
11	Bangladesh	International Culture University	Institutional
12	Bangladesh	American International University	Institutional
13	Bangladesh	Southern University Bangladesh	Associate
14	Bangladesh	International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT)	Institutional
15	Bangladesh	University Grants Commission	Associate
16	Bangladesh	University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh	Institutional
17	Bangladesh	BSB Cambrian Education Group	Institutional
18	Bangladesh	School of Business, Independent University	Institutional
19	Bhutan	Quality Assurance & Accreditation Division, Department of Adult & Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Bhutan	Intermediate
20	Brunei Darussalam	Brunei Darussalam National Accreditation Council (BDNAC)	Intermediate
21	Cambodia	Accreditation Committee of Cambodia	Full
22	Cambodia	International University	Institutional
23	Cambodia	Phnom Penh International University (PPIU), Cambodia	Institutional
24	Cambodia	Build Bright University	Institutional

25	China	China Academic Degrees and Graduate Education Development Center	Full
26	China	Higher Education Evaluation Center of the Ministry of Education, P. R. China (HEEC)	Full
27	China	Beijing Education Evaluation Institute	Full
28	China	Evaluation Center of Chinese Education Quality (ECCEQ)	Full
29	China	Yunnan Higher Education Evaluation Center	Full
30	China	Shanghai Educational Evaluation Institute	Full
31	China	Shanghai University of International Business and Economics, China	Institutional
32	China	Kunming Medical University	Institutional
33	China	Dianchi College of Yunnan University	Institutional
34	China	Tongji University	Institutional
35	China	Chinese Academy of Science and Education Evaluation	Full
36	China	Wuhan Golden Apple Technology Development Service Limited (Golden Apple Ranking)	Full
37	Chinese Taipei	Fu Jen Catholic University	Institutional
38	Chinese Taipei	Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan	Full
39	Chinese Taipei	Taiwan Assessment and Evaluation Association	Full
40	Croatia	Agency for Science and Higher Education	Observer
41	Fiji	Fiji National University	Institutional
42	Fiji	Higher Education Commission	Full
43	Fiji	Secretariat for the Pacific Community	Intermediate
44	Fiji	University of the South Pacific	Institutional
45	Germany	ASIIN e.V.	Observer
46	Germany	Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation (FIBAA)	Observer
47	Hong Kong, China	Vocational Training Council	Associate
48	Hong Kong, China	Federation for Self-financing Tertiary Education	Associate
49	Hong Kong, China	Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications	Full
50	Hong Kong, China	Joint Quality Review Committee Limited	Full
51	Hong Kong, China	University Grants Committee	Full
52*	Hong Kong, China	Hong Kong Police College	Institutional
53	India	Arts, Science and Commerce College	Institutional
54	India	Camp Education Society Dry Arvind B Telang College of Arts, Science & Commerce	Institutional
55	India	Chettinad Academy of Research & Education	Institutional
56	India	Dhanwate National College	Institutional

57	India	Govt. College of Education, Srinagar, J&K	Institutional
58	India	School of Management, Sambhram Academy of Management Studies	Institutional
59	India	K.L.E. Society Basavaprabhu Kore Arts, Science and Commerce College, Chikodi	Institutional
60	India	Kamla Nehru Mahavidyalaya	Institutional
61	India	MIER College of Education	Institutional
62	India	National Assessment and Accreditation Council	Full
63	India	SSESA's Science College	Institutional
64	India	School of Management, Bennett University	Institutional
65	India	Dr. D. Y. Patil Arts, Commerce and Science College	Institutional
66	India	Standards for Educational Advancement & Accreditation (SEAA) Trust, New Delhi	Observer
67	India	Symbiosis International University	Institutional
68	India	K L University (Koneru Lakshmaiah Education Foundation)	Institutional
69	India	MBAtrek Private Limited	Observer
70	India	Shri. Govindrao Munghate Arts & Science College	Institutional
71	India	The Bhopal School of Social Sciences	Institutional
72	India	Goswami Ganesh Dutta Sanatan Dharma College	Institutional
73	India	Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Centenary College	Institutional
74	India	Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University	Institutional
75*	India	JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research	Institutional
76	Indonesia	National Accreditation Agency for Higher Education	Full
77	Indonesia	Indonesian Accreditation Agency For Higher Education In Health (IAAHEH/ LAM-PTKes)	Full
78	Iran	The University of Tehran	Institutional
79	Iraq	Al Mustaqbal University College	Institutional
80	Japan	Japan Institution for Higher Education Evaluation	Full
81	Japan	Japan University Accreditation Association	Full
82	Japan	National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation	Full
83	Japan	National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education (NIAD-QE)	Full
84	Kazakhstan	JSC "Republican Scientific and Methodological Center of Technical and Vocational Education Development and Qualification Assignment"	Associate
85	Kazakhstan	Independent Kazakhstan Quality Assurance Agency in Education	Full
86	Kazakhstan	Independent Kazakhstan Center of Accreditation" (IKCA)	Full
87	Kazakhstan	Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR)	Intermediate
88	Kazakhstan	The Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health care (ECAQA)	Full

89	Korea, South	Korean Council For University College Education(KCCE)	Full
90	Korea, South	Korean Council for University Education	Full
91*	Korea, South	Korean Accreditation Board of Nursing Education	Full
92	Kuwait	Private Universities Council	Observer
93	Kyrgyzstan	International School of Medicine	Institutional
94*	Kyrgyzstan	Agency for the Accreditation Educational Programs and Organizations	Intermediate
95	Laos	Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education Lao PDR	Associate
96	Macao, China	Macao Polytechnic Institute	Institutional
97	Macao, China	Macau University of Science and Technology	Institutional
98	Macao, China	Tertiary Education Services Office	Associate
99	Malaysia	Finance Accreditation Agency	Intermediate
100	Malaysia	Malaysian Qualifications Agency	Full
101	Malaysia	Asian Institute of Finance	Institutional
102	Maldives	Institute for Academic Development, Villa College	Institutional
103	Maldives	Maldives Qualifications Authority	Intermediate
104	Mexico	The Accreditation Council for Administrative, Accounting and Related Sciences (CACECA)	Observer
105	Mongolia	Health Sciences University of Mongolia	Institutional
106	Mongolia	Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation	Full
107	Mongolia	Ikh Zasag International University	Institutional
108	Mongolia	University of the Humanities	Institutional
109	Mongolia	GAZARCHIN Institute	Institutional
110	Nepal	University Grants Commission of Nepal	Intermediate
111	New Zealand	Academic Quality Agency for New Zealand Universities	Full
112	New Zealand	New Zealand Qualifications Authority	Full
113	New Zealand	Cornell Institute of Business and Technology	Observer
114	Pakistan	Sarhad university of Science & information Technology	Institutional
115	Pakistan	University of the Punjab, Lahore	Institutional
116	Pakistan	National Accreditation Council for Teacher Education	Intermediate
117	Pakistan	Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan	Institutional
118	Pakistan	Islamia College Peshawar (Chartered University)	Institutional
119	Pakistan	Air University Islamabad Pakistan	Institutional
120	Pakistan	SBK Women University Quetta Pakistan	Institutional
121	Pakistan	Allama Iqbal Open University	Institutional
122	Pakistan	Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science & Technology	Institutional
123	Pakistan	Government College University Faisalabad	Institutional
124	Pakistan	Sardar Bahadur Khan Women's University	Institutional

		Balochistan	
125	Pakistan	Balochistan University of Engineering & Technology, Khuzdar	Institutional
126	Pakistan	Beaconhouse National University	Institutional
127	Pakistan	Abasyn University	Institutional
128	Pakistan	University of Lahore	Institutional
129	Pakistan	Fatima Jinnah Women University	Institutional
130	Pakistan	University of Science & Technology, Bannu	Institutional
131	Pakistan	University of Peshawar	Institutional
132	Pakistan	Higher Education Commission	Intermediate
133	Pakistan	Indus University	Institutional
134	Pakistan	Institute of Buisness & Technology-Biztek Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC)	Institutional
135	Pakistan	Institute of Business Management	Institutional
136	Pakistan	Institute of Management Sciences	Institutional
137	Pakistan	Institute of Space Technology	Institutional
138	Pakistan	Iqra University	Institutional
139	Pakistan	University of Management and Technology (UMT)	Institutional
140	Pakistan	COMSATS Institute of Information Technology (CIIT)	Institutional
141	Pakistan	King Edward Medical University, Lahore-Pakistan	Institutional
142	Pakistan	Khadim Ali Shah Institute of Technology (Pvt) Ltd	Institutional
143	Pakistan	Lahore College for Women University, Pakistan	Institutional
144	Pakistan	Lahore School of Economic	Institutional
145	Pakistan	Mehran University of Engineering & Technology	Institutional
146	Pakistan	National Agriculture Education Accreditation Council	Intermediate
147	Pakistan	National Business Education Accreditation Council	Intermediate
148	Pakistan	National Testing Service-Pakistan (NTS)	Associate
149	Pakistan	National Textile University	Institutional
150	Pakistan	National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST)	Institutional
151	Pakistan	New Ports Institute of Communication and Economics(NICE)	Institutional
152	Pakistan	Preston University	Institutional
153	Pakistan	Bahria University	Institutional
154	Pakistan	National University of Modern Languages	Institutional
155	Pakistan	Riphah International University	Institutional
156	Pakistan	Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar	Institutional
157	Pakistan	Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science & Technology (SZABIST)	Institutional
158	Pakistan	Kohat University of Science & Technology	Institutional
159	Pakistan	Sindh Madressatul Islam University (SMI University)	Institutional
160	Pakistan	University of Central Punjab	Institutional
161	Pakistan	University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir	Institutional

162	Pakistan	Sukkur Institute of Business Administration	Institutional
163	Pakistan	Greenwich University Karachi	Institutional
164	Pakistan	NED University of Engineering & Technology	Institutional
165	Pakistan	The University of Agriculture, Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Institutional
166	Pakistan	The University of Branch Faisalabad	Institutional
167	Pakistan	Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University	Institutional
168	Pakistan	University of Balochistan	Institutional
169	Pakistan	University of Engineering & Technology, Taxila	Institutional
170	Pakistan	University of Karachi	Institutional
171	Pakistan	Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University	Institutional
172	Pakistan	Ziauddin University	Institutional
173	Pakistan	Quality Enhancement Cell, University of Haripur	Institutional
174	Pakistan	National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences (FAST National University)	Institutional
175	Pakistan	National Defence University	Institutional
176	Pakistan	Mohammad Ali Jinnah University	Institutional
177	Pakistan	Khushal Khan Khattak University, Karak	Institutional
178	Pakistan	The University of Sindh	Institutional
179	Pakistan	The Superior College, Lahore	Institutional
180	Pakistan	University of Wah	Associate
181	Pakistan	Pakistan Institute of Development Economics	Institutional
182	Pakistan	Dawood University of Engineering and Technology	Institutional
183	Pakistan	Khyber Medical University	Intermediate
184	Pakistan	CECOS University of IT & Emerging Sciences Peshawar	Institutional
185	Pakistan	Government College Women University, Sialkot	Institutional
186	Pakistan	Capital University of Science and Technology	Institutional
187	Pakistan	International Islamic University Islamabad	Institutional
188	Pakistan	Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences	Institutional
189	Pakistan	Jinnah Sindh Medical University	Institutional
190	Pakistan	Pakistan Institute of Fashion and Design	Institutional
191	Pakistan	University of Gujrat	Institutional
192	Pakistan	Women University Mardan	Institutional
193*	Pakistan	Hazara University	Institutional
194*	Pakistan	Institute of Business Administration, Karachi	Institutional
195	Pakistan	University of Education, Lahore	Institutional
196	Papua New Guinea	Divine Word University	Institutional
197	Papua New Guinea	National Training Council Secretariat	Intermediate
198	Papua New Guinea	Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology	Associate
199	Papua New Guinea	Pacific Adventist University	Institutional
200	Papua New Guinea	Papua New Guinea University of Natural Resources	Institutional

	Guinea	and Environment	
201	Philippines	Asia Theological Association	Intermediate
202	Philippines	International Distance Education Accreditation League, Inc.	Associate
203	Philippines	Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities	Full
204	Philippines	Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities Commission on Accreditation	Full
205	Philippines	Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines Inc.	Full
206	Russia	Kazan Federal University	Institutional
207	Russia	The Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance and Career Development	Full
208	Russia	Altai State University	Institutional
209	Russia	National Center of Public Accreditation (NCPA)	Full
210	Russia	Association for Engineering Education of Russia	Full
211	Russia	The National Accreditation Agency of the Russian Federation	Full
212	Russia	Certification Association "Russian Register"	Full
213	Russia	The Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Career Development (AKKORK)	Full
214*	Russia	Minin Nizhny Novgorod State Pedagogical University	Institutional
215	Samoa	Samoa Qualifications Authority	Full
216	Saudi Arabia	Jazan University	Observer
217	Singapore	EduValue Pte. Ltd.	Associate
218	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology	Institutional
219	Sri Lanka	Horizon College of Business & Technology	Institutional
220	Sri Lanka	Quality Assurance and Accreditation Council of Sri Lanka	Intermediate
221	Sri Lanka	South Asian Institute of Technology and Medicine (Pvt) Ltd.	Institutional
222	Sri Lanka	National School of Business Management (NSBM)	Institutional
223*	Sri Lanka	Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka	Institutional
224	Thailand	ASEAN University Network	Observer
225	Thailand	Office of the Higher Education Commission	Associate
226	Thailand	Asian Forum on Business Education	Observer
227	Thailand	Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment	Full
228	Timor Leste	National Agency for Academic Assessment and Accreditation (NAAAA)	Intermediate
229	Tonga	Tonga National Qualifications and Accreditation Board	Intermediate
230*	Turkey	Higher Education Quality Council of Turkey	Full
231	United Kingdom	UK NARIC	Observer
232	United Kingdom	The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education	Observer

233	United Kingdom	British Accreditation Council	Observer
234	Vanuatu	Vanuatu Training Council	Intermediate
235	Vietnam	Center for Educational Testing and Quality Assessment, Vietnam National University - Ho Chi Minh City	Institutional
236	Vietnam	Center for Quality Assurance, Foreign Trade University	Institutional
237	Vietnam	General Department of Education Testing and Accreditation	Full
238	Vietnam	Institute for Education Quality Assurance of Vietnam National University, Hanoi	Institutional
239	Vietnam	Hanoi National University of Education (HNUE)	Institutional
240	Vietnam	Vietnam Vocational Training Accreditation (VVTAA)	Intermediate

NOTE: The organizations with “*” are APQN new members in 2018.



Welcome to Join APQN

We warmly welcome all QAAs, HEIs and those who have interest in QA to join APQN!

Membership of APQN is valuable for quality managers/officers, who would join a community of colleagues working with quality assurance of higher education.



As an APQN member you can embrace what is being offered in the region, and share in the delights of learning and expanding your own knowledge base. Specifically, full members (there might some differences for other 3 categories) will be able to:

- Participate in APQN Academic Conference (AAC) and AGM as well as APQN on-line forum;
- Gain your branding through using APQN logo in your website or relative documents;
- Develop different kinds of collaborations across the distinguished network of QAAs and HEIs through AACs;
- Co-organize international seminars, workshops or forums together with APQN in your local context;
- Have the right to apply for APQN Award which occurs once every year;
- Have access to over 180 consultants in Consultant Data Base and get advice on different and specific QA matters;
- Receive the electronic APQNews twice every year and Annual Report;
- Publish your qualified research paper on APQN Academic in Proceedings during AAC every year;
- Have the right to apply for Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR) for QAAs; and
- Have the right to apply for the accreditation of APQN Quality Label for HEIs.

The Following steps for you to join APQN big family

1) Application Process for APQN Members:

<http://www.apqn.org/members/application-process-for-members>

2) Choose the right membership category for your agency.

<http://www.apqn.org/members/membership-criteria> for universities, it is “institutional member”.

3) Fill in application forms with all the required information.

<http://www.apqn.org/members/directory/entry/add>

4) Inquiring. If there is no feedback from APQN Secretariat after you submit your application for one month, please contact Administrator at APQN Secretariat (apqnsecretariat@163.com) for questions.

APQN 1st Board Meeting Held in Colombo of Sri Lanka

At 17:00-19:00 on March 28, 2019, APQN 1st Board Meeting in 2019 was held at Hybrid of BMICH, Colombo, Sri Lanka. The topic is “2018 Annual Report and Preparation of 2019 AAC & AGM”. It was chaired by APQN fifth President, Jianxin Zhang.

A total of 12 attendees included Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang (APQN President), Prof. Angela Hou Yung-chi (Vice President), Ms Pingping Liu and Mr. Aijun Zhou (Secretary/Treasurer); Board Directors: Prof. Galina Motova, Dr. Jagannath Patil, Prof. Deepthi C. Bandara, Dr. Manuel T. Corpus; Administrators: Lingfei Zhang and Shuo Wang. Special guests from the host of 2020 AAC: Aw Yong Jun Barry, Chief Executive of EDUVAUE, Singapore, together with his assistant.

The meeting discussed 5 items, including the following: 1) brief report from the local organizer of 2019 AAC and AGM; 2) brief report from the chair of Programme Committee; 3) brief introduction of the host of 2020 AAC (EDUVAUE from Singapore); 4) discussion on APQN Website; and 5) brief report from the 5th Board Directors (2016-2019).

The Board discussed about 2020 AAC and AGM. It is decided that 2020 AAC will be held at Singapore Management University on April 24-28 (Wednesday-Saturday), 2020. The Board also decided that Jagannath Patil continued to be leader of APQN Website to deal with the relative things with Kramah Software India Pvt. Ltd. At the end the President; Vice-president and Secretary/Treasurer gave a very brief report on what they have done in 2018. More information can be read in APQN Annual Report.



(Written by Jianxin Zhang)

2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Colombo

The 2019 APQN Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held immediately after the closing ceremony of APQN Annual Academic Conference (AAC) in Orchid of Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall in Colombo, Sri Lanka on March 28, 2019. More than 40 Participants of 37 members from more than 30 countries and territories attended the AGM. The meeting was chaired by the 5th APQN President, Prof. Jianxin Zhang, re-elected for a second term.



The AGM started with a welcome to new members which join APQN in 2018 by awarding membership certificates and giving short introduction by outgoing APQN Secretariat. According to Ms. Pingping Liu, a total of 14 new institutions applied and successfully joined APQN in 2018. The new members are as follows: (1) Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Centenary College, India; (2) Chinese Academy of Science and Education Evaluation, China; (3) University of Education, Lahore, Pakistan; (4) Capital University of Science and Technology, Pakistan; (5) Kandahar University, Afghanistan; (6) Herat University, Afghanistan; (7) Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation (FIBAA), Germany; (8) Balkh University, Afghanistan; (9) Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health Care (ECAQA), Kazakhstan; (10) International Islamic University, Islamabad, Pakistan; (11) Kardan University, Afghanistan; (12) American University of Afghanistan, Afghanistan; (13) Shaheed Prof. Rabani Education University, Afghanistan; (14) Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Pakistan.

Conventionally, the President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer gave reports one by one on behalf of the 5th APQN board. As the opening words,

President Jianxin Zhang mentioned the Brochure of APQN 15th Anniversary and the 222 members of APQN General Council as milestones of APQN development. In the President Annual Report, President Jianxin Zhang first looked back the important things through the year, such as 2018 APQN AAC and AGM in Nagpur, India, the Brochure of APQN 15-year Anniversary (2003-2018), the 3rd “Global Summit” co-held by APQN and BAN-PT in Bali, Indonesia, the MPI-APQN tenth International Conference held at Macao Polytechnic Institute (MPI) in Macao, China, the new host of APQN Secretariat – Higher Education Evaluation Center (HEEC), China as well as the publication of APQNews Issue 17 & 18, etc. President Zhang also introduced APQN’s goals and tasks in 2019. As the end of the report, President Zhang expressed appreciation to 222 members, to APQN former presidents and pioneers, and to all the international organizations and quality assurance networks helpful and friendly to APQN, such as UNESCO, CHEA/CIQG, INQAAHE.

In Vice President Report, Prof. Angela Yung Chi Hou focused on four programs she lead or participated in 2018, including APQN staff exchange program, the 7th APQN on-line forum, editorship of the journal Higher Education Evaluation and Development (HEED), and giving keynote speech at the 2018 APQN Global Summit. She ended the report with a hope that the new board will bring APQN into a brighter future under the leadership of President Jianxin Zhang.

In Secretary/Treasurer Report, Ms. Pingping Liu, retrospected the work of the outgoing secretariat in 2018, comprising major events and projects and routine work. Her report ended up with the financial statement, the most important issue for APQN.

Dr. Jagannath Patil gave a report on APQR. Four quality assurance agencies (QAAs), including Fiji Higher Education Commission (FHEC), Russian Register (RR), National Center for Public Accreditation (NCPA) and Indonesian Accreditation Agency for Higher Education in Health (IAAHEH), are registered on APQN. Another 4 QAAs, including Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA), Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR), Finance Accreditation Agency (FAA), Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health Care (ECAQA), are in various stages of application/review.

In order to express appreciation to the 5th APQN Board, the 5th board directors present at AGM were invited onto the stage. The meeting place burst into warm applaud to thank the 5th board directors’ tireless volunteer work. Later on,

an independent committee, comprising Dr. Jagannath Patil, Prof. Angela Yung Chi Houi, Ms. Pingping Liu and Colin N. Peiris, introduced the 6th APQN president, Prof. Jianxin Zhang, and board directors (Prof. Galina Motova, Mr. Aijun Zhou, Dr. Jagannath Patil, Prof. Deepthi C. Bandara, Dr. Grace L-Jung, Mr. David Lambuckly, and Prof. Farida Nurmanbetova), and gave certificates for the new directors. The incoming and outgoing secretariats also completed the official hand-over after 6-month transitional period.

The inaugural speech of the 6th president, Prof. Jianxin Zhang, brought the AGM to a climax. The address was composed of three key words: Thanks, Legacy and Commitment. Prof. Jianxin Zhang thanked APQN members for their trust on herself and the 6th Board of Directors. The legacy stood for spiritual legacy of APQN, that is, the spirit of dedication, sharing, serving, innovation, and sustainable development. When talking about commitment, Prof. Jianxin Zhang, on behalf of the board of directors, solemnly pledged to be devoted to APQN, to reach the goal of “Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region”.



(Written by Dr. Wang Shuo, APQN Administrator)

Inaugural Address at 2019 AGM in Colombo

Dear APQN members, dear brothers and sisters in APQN big family, Good afternoon!

Today is a special day for me, special for the new Board of Directors (2019-2022) and special for 222 APQN members.

It is special because APQN just celebrated its 15th Anniversary. Founded in 2003, under the leadership of the founders, pioneers and 5 Presidents - Mr. Peter Cheung, Ms. Concepcion Pijano, Dr. Antony Stella, Dr. Jagannath Patil and Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang, APQN has made remarkable achievements. The 15-year efforts gave APQN the vitality of sustainable development and left us the spiritual legacy.



It is special because with the effort of the Voting Independent Committee as well as all the relative candidates within 5 months, new Board of Directors of the 6th Board have been elected. The Directors are Jianxin Zhang from China, Galina Motova from Russia, Deepthi Bandara from Sri Lanka, I-Jung Grace Lu from Chinese Taipei, David Lambuckly from Vanuatu, Farida Nurmanbetova from Kazakhstan.

It is special because we embrace the new Secretariat: the Higher Education Evaluation Center (HEEC) of Chinese Ministry of Education. At the 3rd Board Meeting in Bali Island in Indonesia, after the bidding procedure, HEEC successfully won the bidding and was chosen to be the host of APQN Secretariat. Mr. Aijun Zhou, HEEC deputy general director, is the Secretary as well as Treasurer, Dr. Shuo Wang is the Administrator.

It is special because we, the sixth Board of Directors, solemnly pledge to carry on APQN spiritual legacy forward.

I still remember, 3 years ago, on the sunny day of May in 2016, at the inaugural address of the 5th Board in “Paradise” of Fiji Island, I made the speech on 3 aspects: “Thanks, Pressure and Hope”. Today, I’d like to add 2 points “Legacy and Commitment”.

First of all, I’d like to say “Thanks”.

Thank you very much for your trust on me to be re-elected as APQN President!
Thank you very much for your trust on the Board of Directors of the 6th Board!

Thank you for your great support and love! It is our great honor and privilege to be trusted by all of you. Your support is our biggest motivation. Thank you!

Second, I'd like to say "Legacy".

On a sunny day 16 years ago (2003) in Hong Kong, China, a small core group of QA professionals by doing pro bono service with a common wish for excellence in quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region had a meeting... and APQN came into being! After 16 years, their efforts gave APQN the vitality of sustainable development and left us the following spiritual legacy.

1. The Spirit of Dedication. Dedication is the passion and love for the cause of education quality bonded by the affection and friendship among our members. In the call of this spirit, the Board of Directors fulfill their duties in their respective positions in their home countries while completing APQN work as a dedicated cause without compensation.

2. The Spirit of Sharing. Sharing means selflessness, generosity and a global perspective that reflects the conduct and morality of APQN. APQN is an organization of shared information, experiences, theories, and practices in quality assurance. The current and the previous APQN Boards have been working hard to create an atmosphere of mutual trust, win-win cooperation and sharing culture.

3. The Spirit of Serving. Serving means that the Board of Directors should satisfy the requirements of higher education in the changing Information Age, answer the calls for excellent quality by the stakeholders, EQAAs, HEIs and the whole society, meet their needs and fulfill the duties entrusted. Being a Board director is not a privilege, but an increased responsibility for service. To serve the members whole-heartedly, satisfy their needs and help APQN going forward.

4. The Spirit of Innovation. It is to improve and create new methods and new paths based on the needs of APQN members and the limited financial and human resources. The Board of Directors should consider APQN as their own careers, do everything possible to contribute in their areas of expertise, and constantly improve creative function of APQN.

5. The Spirit of Sustainable Development. Sustainable development is to meet the present needs of the members without compromising future needs. It contains three key concepts: 1) diversity – to understand and accept the distinctiveness of all countries/regions of the Asia-Pacific Region; 2) equality – to make sure all members enjoy the same rights as prescribed in "APQN Constitution"; and 3)

harmony – to promote harmonious relationship among APQN members, other international organizations and stakeholders in the QA field.

The new Board of Directors, especially I myself, together with 222 members in the APQN big family, pledge to inherit and carry on APQN's spiritual legacy: Dedication, Sharing, Serving, Innovation and Sustainable development.

Third, I'd like to say "Commitment".

Thank you again for your trust to elect us. We, especially me, are aware of the importance of the position of APQN President and Board Directors. All we can repay you is our commitment, our hard work, our enthusiasm and our continuous love for APQN, for its prosperity and its sustainable development..

Today is a big day, it is our new starting point, a new challenge, a new opportunity. I feel, we, the new Board of Directors, are just like pupils sitting in the classroom facing the examination paper with many questions to be answered: 1) How to make APQN, this non-profit QA organization survive with limited finance? 2) How to make APQN, this non-government organization functions? 3) How does APQN, this regional QA network, can promote excellent quality both in external and internal QA? 4) How can APQN move forward with sustainable development...

Today, we, the Board of Directors, solemnly pledge to be devoted to APQN, to reach the goal of *"Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region"*, we will try our best to do things for APQN, *"to be committed to the quality of higher education, to be supportive of both internal and external QA in the Asia-Pacific Region."* Let's join hands together, to walk shoulder to shoulder on the way to the bright future.

Me myself, I'd like to repeat my promise during this term as APQN President: "Do not ask what APQN can do for me, but ask what I can do for APQN." I'd like to quote Peticlair: *"If I have a strong commitment to my goals and dreams, if I wake up every day with a passion to do my job, everything is possible!"* If we, all APQN members, have strong commitments to our goals and dreams, if we wake up every day with passions to do our jobs, everything is possible! Thank you!

The 6th President: Jianxin Zhang



The 6th Board Director: Jianxin Zhang, Galina Motova, Aijun

Zhou,

Jagannath Patil, Deepthi Bandara, I-Jung Grace Lu, David Lambuckly, Farida

Nurmanbetova

APQN 2nd Board Meeting Held in Colombo

At 17:00-18:50, March 30, 2019, APQN 2nd Board Meeting in 2019 was held at Hybrid of BMICH, Colombo, Sri Lanka, The topic is “The Sustainable Development of APQN”. It was chaired by APQN sixth President, Jianxin Zhang.



A total of 10 attendees included Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang (APQN President), Aijun Zhou (Secretary/Treasurer), as well as Board Directors: Prof. Galina Motova, Dr. Jagannath Patil, Prof. Deepthi C. Bandara, Dr. I-Jung Grace Lu, Dr. Farida Nurmanbetova and Shuo Wang (Administrator). Special guests from the host of 2020 AAC: Aw Yong Jun Barry, Chief Executive of EDUVAUE, Singapore, together with his assistant.

The meeting discussed 10 items: 1) 2020 APQN Academic Conference (AAC); 2) finance principles; 3) discussion on the process of APQN membership; 4) discussion on APQN-RR Joint Project on APQN Quality Label with “Russian Register”; 5) discussion on collecting data of Quality Information Portal; 6) discussion on Vice President, co-opted Board Directors; 7) discussion on APQN-HEED MoU; 8) discussion on MOU INQAAHE strategic partners; 9) PC Members’ assignment as well as proposed initiatives and job allocated; 10) reviewing 2019-2020 APQN Calendar.

The Board decided to accept the Finance Principles which have been passed by the fifth Board on March 20, 2019. APQN finance has a veto over APQN leadership of the Board if the annual finance appears “deficit”. Some measures must be taken to collect membership fee Membership. It is expected that the new account will be open within 3 months (before July).

In order to realize APQN vision of “*being a self-sustaining Network*” and its sustainable development, at the second Meeting, the board decided to stop the MoU without any payment. The Board also suggested that HEED can use the logo and brand name for distribution of the journal without APQN financial payment, then the new MoU can be signed in order to realize our common and shared value of “*being committed to the quality of higher education in the region*”. The Board meeting ended with the decision of making “APQN Strategic Plan (2019-2022)” for sustainable development of APQN.

(Written by Jianxn Zhang)

APQR Council Meeting in 2019 was Held in Sri Lanka

The 3rd APQR Council Meeting was held on March 28, 2019 at 19:00 (Thursday) at Hybrid in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on eve of APQN Annual Conference (AAC) and Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2019.

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Jagannath Patil, Chairperson, APQR and Co-chaired by Prof. Angela Yung Chi Hou, APQN Vice-President. Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang, APQN President and other APQR Council members also participated. APQN Board Members Ms. Liu Pingping, APQN Secretary/Treasurer and Mr. Zhang Lingfei, APQN Administrator attended as special invitees.

Dr. Jagannath Patil (Adviser, NAAC & Chairperson, APQRC) welcomed all participants and gave brief report on APQR activities in last year including APQR review process of “Indonesian Accreditation Agency for Higher Education in Health” (IAAHEH) based in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Later Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang, APQN President, and Prof. Angela Yung Chi Hou, APQN Vice-President, spoke about the promotion of APQR together with Board members. Dr. Jagannath Patil Informed about possible following Quality Assurance Agencies (QAAs) would likely to inclusion on APQR review process: 1) Finance Accreditation Agency (FAA), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; 2) Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR), Kazakhstan; 3) Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA), Mongolia; and 4) Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health Care (ECAQA), Kazakhstan.

During the meeting, following issues are discussed and agreed as follows: 1) an amount of about 4000 USD earmarked towards expenses of APQR Secretariat; 2) APQR may be registered as legal entity at a suitable location / country.



(Written by Dr. Jagannath Patil)

APQN Strategic Plan (2019-2022)

In order to realize the final goal of “Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region”, the Sixth Board of APQN made the APQN Strategic Plan (2019-2022) .It got approved on May 30, 2019.

The sixth Board began its term on March 30, 2019 in the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Colombo, Sri Lanka. To realize the mission of *“being a self-sustaining Network, the first point of reference for advice or support, efficient in its operations and open in its information sharing”*, this Strategic Plan is made as the guidance for the new general council in the next three years (2019-2022)¹.

The sixth Board will take on the persistent mission with new attitude and new perspectives. The five principles of the sixth Board are: 1) target-orientated principle; 2) project-orientated principle; 3) SMART Project principle (specific, meaningful, agreed-upon, results-oriented and tractable); 4) Win-Win Principle; and 5) principle of sustainable development. The five key words are “procedure-base, capacity-building, self-reliance, information-sharing and sustainable development”. APQN Strategic Plan (2019-2022) will complete the following seven goals and actions along with ten targets in the next three years.

APQN Strategic Plan (2019-2022)	
1. Vision and Mission	<p>1.1 Vision: to be a self-sustaining Network, the first point of reference for advice or support, efficient in its operations and open in its information sharing.</p> <p>1.2 Mission: to enhance the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region through strengthening quality assurance work of both internal and external organizations and extending the cooperation among them.</p> <p>1.3 Value: to be committed to the quality of higher education; to be supportive of both internal and external quality assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region.</p>
2. Strategic Objectives	<p>2.1 To promote good practice in the maintenance and improvement of quality in higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region.</p> <p>2.2 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.</p> <p>2.3 To provide advice and expertise to assist in the development of new quality assurance organizations in the region.</p> <p>2.4 To facilitate links between quality assurance organizations and acceptance of each other's decisions and judgments.</p> <p>2.5 To assist APQN members in determining standards of institutions operating across national borders.</p> <p>2.6 To permit better-informed international recognition of qualifications</p>

¹ Based in “APQN Strategic Plan (2012-2015) and Strategic Plan (2016-2019), this new Strategic Plan (2019-2022) was made by the sixth President, Pro/Jianxin Zhang in May 2019. It has been greatly improved and approved by the Board Directors in June, 2019.

	<p>throughout the region.</p> <p>2.7 To accredit external QAAs and HEIs to guarantee the good quality of them; To enhance the mobility of students among HEIs both within and across national borders.</p> <p>2.8 To establish effective working relationships with relevant international and sector groups who can contribute to the work of APQN, includes INQAAHE, (International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education) UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), World Bank, APEC(Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation), ASEAN(Association of Southeast Asian Nations),,, AQAN (ASEAN Quality Assurance Network),,, ANQAHE (Arab Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education), ECA (Economic Commission for Africa), AUN(ASEAN University Network), ENQA (European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education), CHEA(Council of Higher Education Accreditation)and others.</p>	
3. Principles	<p>3.1 Target-Orientated Principle: 2019-2020 will be the year of administration building, 2020-2021 is the year of capacity building and 2021-2022 is the year of sustainable development.</p> <p>3.2 Project-Orientated Principle: all the activities are acted by way of project. All the projects under APQN budget (such as APQN website, publication of Anthology and others) can get financial support from APQN. The payment can only happen after the project completed and the report has been submitted and the payment should be based on the ToR/Agreement/Contract signed by two parties. APQN owns intellectual property rights for the paid products or fully-supported projects.</p> <p>3.3 SMART Project Principle: all APQN activities should meet the requirements of being “Specific, Meaningful, Agreed-upon, Results-oriented and Tractable”. Five components of a project should be included: 1) initiation; 2) planning and design; 3) execution and construction; 4) monitoring and controlling systems; and 5) completion and reaching the goal.</p> <p>3.4 Win-Win Principle: APQN members are encouraged to conduct self-fundraising projects, review, publish, research, survey, have seminars/workshops/ conferences, by using APQN logo, brand and fame in order to enhance the capacity-building and promote the sustainability.</p> <p>3.5 Principle of sustainable development: APQN development must meet the present needs of its members without compromising the needs of the members in the future. It contains three key concepts: diversity, equality and harmony.</p>	
4. Goals and Actions	Goal	Key Actions
	4.1 Establish ongoing financial viability and stability	<p>4.1.1 Explore the ideal belief of an “APQN fraternity” whereby any person with a special connection to APQN can be called forth to provide advisory, training or other consultancy services on a pro bono basis.</p> <p>4.1.2 As all of the non-profit networks, the main income is membership fee. For the sustainable development of APQN, all members must pay annual membership fee to be involved in all kinds of APQN activities, as well as receive the electrical version of APQN’s Annual Report, APQNews, AAC anthologies and other information.</p> <p>4.1.3 Explore additional funding sources externally which can include donation, in-kind contributions, commissioned work, sponsorship of events or publications, with all kinds of philanthropists and stakeholders, just as “Guidelines for APQN Project by Self-fundraising”.</p> <p>4.1.4 Explore additional funding sources internally which can include APQR, APQL, training workshops on a user pay principle, sponsorship of events or publications by all the members.</p> <p>4.1.5 Increase income and reduce expenditure, e.g. to establish</p>

		the reporting and reviewing system on the current cycle of conferences, workshops and projects before giving all the financial support.
	4.2 Develop the website to provide a platform for the communication for all members	<p>4.2.1 Identify options for QA services, and encourage the staff capacity building program by providing support to accepting hosts.</p> <p>4.2.2 Design, develop and facilitate the web-based discussion forum for the members.</p> <p>4.2.3 Expand the possibility of adding new category of APQN membership – individual status. APQN accepts individual members of external quality assurance agencies (EQAAs), higher education institutions (HEIs) as well as other fields with the interest in contributing towards the development of quality assurance, accreditation and evaluation in higher education, from within and outside the Asia-Pacific region.</p> <p>4.4.4 Ensure as much as possible wide regional participation and membership category on the Board through co-option.</p>
	4.3 Populate and maintain the consultant database and make information accessible to all	<p>4.3.1 Upgrade existing database to maintain relevance and up-dated, especially Virtual Library, Database of Consultants and others.</p> <p>4.3.2 Promote the Quality Information Portal (QIP) in the 2021 Online Forum and make QIP sustainable and keep functioning.</p> <p>4.3.2 Canvass its members to identify relevant requirements for quality assurance, e.g. APQR for the QAAs and APQN Label for the HEIs.</p> <p>4.3.3 Establish the transparency and responsibility for ensuring currency of information, such as APQNews, APQN awards, APQN anthologies, APQN publications and others.</p>
	4.4 Ensure APQN annual conference efficiently and effectively	<p>4.4.1 Actively promote APQN academic conference (AAC) and annual general meeting (AGM), such as the conference theme, the venue and the sponsorship.</p> <p>4.4.2 Review the submitted papers, and arrange the AAC presentations in 2 categories (plenary session, parallel session) to those have been accepted.</p> <p>4.4.3 Publish the series of AAC anthologies.</p>
	4.5 Complete the research projects facilitate the requests, support and advice for training or others	<p>4.5.1 Develop the project procedure to encourage all new researches and action plans, e.g. “Welcome Your Idea for APQN Collaborative Research”.</p> <p>4.5.2 Establish the process to obtain and build new physical and online opportunities for delivering training provision, editing and storing existing training material available across the network.</p> <p>4.5.3 Identify and develop more opportunities for institution members which cover half of the total members, e.g. co-organizing QA conferences with Macao Polytechnic Institute (MPI).</p> <p>4.5.4 Identify and develop opportunities for non-member use that provides a monetary return to APQN.</p>
	4.6 Strengthen relations with other international, regional and national networks/organizations within	<p>4.6.1 Promote the communication with more international, regional and national quality assurance and networks/organizations, such as INQAHE, ENQA ANQAHE, AQAN, CHEA and others.</p> <p>4.6.2 Expand the exchange of Newsletter, Database of Consultants, Journals, Anthologies and other information with more international, regional and national quality assurance and networks/organizations.</p>

	and outside the Region	
	4.7 Broaden the base of services to its members to ensure visibility and sustainability of network activities	<p>4.7.1 Strengthen ongoing initiatives such as Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR), Asia-Pacific Quality Label (APQL), Quality Information Portal, Consultant Database and so on.</p> <p>4.7.2 Contribute to capacity building in terms of National Qualifications Framework (NQF) and promote interoperability of NQFs within region.</p> <p>4.7.3 Explore other value-added services to its members and stakeholders which can generate revenue for network as well as serve the needs of its members.</p>
5. Targets	<p>5.1 Raise more funds by seeking sponsorship, support and in-kind contributions from all kinds of relative stakeholders.</p> <p>5.2 Ensure all countries/territories in the region have access to an accreditation agency – national or regional, establish Qualification Framework.</p> <p>5.3 Conduct capacity building workshops on evaluators on a user pay principle.</p> <p>5.4 Asia-Pacific Quality Register(APQR) to be implemented in 2019 -2020.</p> <p>5.5 APQN Quality Label (APQL) to be implemented in 2019 -2022.</p> <p>5.6 Continue to publish the series of AAC anthologies, APQN Annual Report and APQNews.</p> <p>5.7 Continue to establish QA Consultant Database.</p> <p>5.8 Continue to establish Quality Information Portal along with on-line forum.</p> <p>5.9 Continue to establish mutual relationship with other international, regional and national QA networks/organizations.</p>	

APQN sixth Board: Jianxin Zhang, Galina Motova, Aijun Zhou, Jagannath Patil, Deepthi Bandara, Grace I-Jung Lu, Farida Nurmanbetova

May 30, 2019



Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region: APQN Strategic Plan (2019-2022)

The Sixth Board of APQN

May 30, 2019

ACTIVITIES & PROJECTS

New Year Greeting from APQN

December 24, 2019

Dear APQN members, dear colleagues and friends: HAPPY NEW YEAR!

On the occasion of New Year, we, APQN Board Directors, are extending our festival greetings and best wishes to 241 members from 42 countries/territories, extending our sincere appreciation and deep respect to those who care and support the sustainable development of APQN! We'd like to thank you for your continual support of our goal of *"Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region"* and our enhancement of *"Quality Culture"*.

Bells are ringing. New Year is the cause for celebration and reflection. In the passing year, many things are worth mentioning:

One of the most important things is the 2019 APQN Academic Conference (AAC) and Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Colombo, Sri Lanka. In March, 151 participants from 30 countries/territories attended over 20 sessions to discuss the theme of *"Quality Assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region: Insight into the Future"*, we enjoyed Quality Award Ceremony, Cultural Show and Excursion Tour to Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage....

One of the most memorable things is to release *"Brochure of APQN 15-year Anniversary (2003-2018)"* at 2019 AAC in Sri Lanka. Since its inception in 2003, APQN has been continuously fighting for its ultimate goal and mission for Quality Culture. To mark the important milestone, APQN united the founding fathers, pioneers and active members at this special occasion.

One of the most remarkable things is the Amendments of APQN Constitution (version 9.0). The main amendments include: 1) adding the member category of *"Individual Member"*; 2) adding APQN mission, value, vision and goal implemented for more than a decade; 3) adding the benefits of APQN members according to *"APQN Procedure Manual"*, etc.

One of the most crucial things is to elect the 6th Board Directors and have the 4th host of APQN Secretariat. Jianxin Zhang from China, Galina Motova from Russia, Deepthi Bandara from Sri Lanka, I-Jung Grace Lu from Chinese Taipei, Farida Nurmanbetova from Kazakhstan are the Board Directors. Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute (SEEI) in China was the 4th host after HEEC of the Ministry of Education in China. We believe the new Directors and SEEI will give their dedication

and commitment for APQN sustainable development.

The impressive things are APQN published “Anthology of 2018 AAC: Capacity Building for Next Generation Quality Assurance in Higher Education”, “APQN Strategic Plan (2019-2022)”, “APQNews (Issue 19)” and “APQNews (Issue 20)”; Asia-Pacific Quality Register(APQR) Review to MNCEA in Mongolia, ECAQA and IAAR in Kazakhstan, Asia-Pacific Quality Label (APQL) Review to Symbiosis International University on Internationalization in India...

Dear all, the past 16 years was full of difficulties and challenges but APQN has achieved the vision of “being a self-sustaining Network”. The future is a new path for APQN to enhance “Quality Culture”. We believe, if we have a strong commitment to our goals and dreams, if we wake up every day with a passion to do our job, everything is possible!

On the New Year’s Day, we sincerely wish all members “Happy New Year”, 12 months of happiness and good health, 52 weeks of love and prosperity, 365 days of non-stopping health and fun. A new year brings new beginnings. See you in 2020 APQN Annual Conference in Singapore on April 16-19, 2020!

Sincerely yours:



APQN Board Directors: Jianxin Zhang, Galina Motova, Pingping Liu, Jagannath Patil, Deepthi C. Bandara, I-Jung Grace Lu, Farida Nurmanbetova



2019 AAC Held in Colombo, Sri Lanka

1. Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony was held in the morning of 29th March 2019 from 9.00 am o 10.30 am. The chief guest at this ceremony was the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka Hon. Ranil Wickramasinghe.



2. Recipients of Memorable Certificates of Appreciation

The following persons were awarded certificates of appreciation for their commitment and outstanding contribution towards the quality assurance community of the Asia Pacific region.

Prof Jianxin Zhang – China; Dr. Jagannath Patil – India; Prof Deepthi Bandara – Sri Lanka Dr. Galina Motova – Russia; Dr Manuel Corpus – Philippines; Dr. Angela Yung Chi Houi – Chinese Taipei; Ms Malini Nair – Prasad – Fiji (In absentia)

3. Group Photograph

A group photograph was taken of all participants at the entrance steps of the BMICH after the opening ceremony.



4. Keynote Speeches

There were two keynote speeches in the AAC 2019. The date and time, topic, speaker and his designation, chair and commentator of the sessions were as follows.

1st Keynote Speech- On 29th March 2019 from 11.20 am to 12.20 pm
Topic: Cultural Diversity and its Implications for the Quality of Cross Border Higher Education
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Jamil Salmi, Global Tertiary Education Expert, former World Bank tertiary education coordinator, Morocco
Chair and Commentator: Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang, APQN President

2nd Keynote Speech - On 30th March 2019 from 9.00am – 10.00 am
Topic: Institutional Quality Begins at Home: Building Inclusive Internal Culture(S) of Enhancement
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Peter J Wells, Chief of Higher Education, UNESCO
Chair and Commentator: Prof Deepthi C. Bandara, University Grants Commission (UGC), Sri Lanka



5. Plenary Sessions

There were 4 plenary sessions in AAC 2019. The date and time, topic of session, chair and commentator of the session, panel speakers' names, their affiliation and title of their presentation were as follows.

Plenary Session 1 on 29th March 2019 from 13.30 to 14.30 pm
Topic: Academic Quality and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Chair and Commentator: Dr. Manuel Corpus (Board Director) from Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACUP), Philippines
Panel Speakers:

1. **Reconsidering Evidence in Academic Quality** by Sheelagh Matear from Academic Quality Agency (AQA) for New Zealand Universities, New Zealand
2. **Updating our Conceptions of “Quality” in Higher Education: The Case of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)** by Jeanette Baird from the LH Martin Institute at the University of Melbourne, Australia – this paper was read by another person since the author could not be present at the conference, by Dr. Shuo Wang from HEEC, China

Plenary Session 2 on 29th March 2019 from 14.30 to 15.30 pm

Topic: World-Class Quality and Standards

Chair and Commentator: Dr. Galina Motova (Board Director) from the National Centre for Public Accreditation (NCPA), Russia

Panel Speakers:

1. **World-Class Disciplines Evaluation in Mainland China: Case Study of Chinese Postgraduate Education and Discipline Evaluation** by Junping Qiu, Rui Zhang and Jing Tian from Chinese Academy of Science and Education Evaluation of Hangzhou Dianzi University, China
2. **Good Practices and Bench Marking Approach to Quality Improvement Based on International Good Practices Project** by Jagannath Patil from National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), India

Presentation on APQN Terminological Alignment Project by Syun Tutiya from National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education (NIAD-QE), Japan

Plenary Session 3 on 30th March 2019 from 10.00 am to 11.30 am

Topic: Launching of the “South Asia: Challenges and Benefits of Research Collaboration in a Diverse Region” World Bank-Elsevier Report

Chair and Commentator: Dr. Cristian Aedo, Education Practice Manager for South Asia, The World Bank. Washington, DC, USA

Presenters:

1. **Research collaboration in South Asia: key findings from the World Bank-Elsevier Report** by Maria de Kleijn-Lloyd. Senior Vice President of Analytical Services. Elsevier. Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
2. **Research collaboration in SAR: Pointers for Action** by Francisco Marmolejo. Lead Higher Education Specialist for India and South Asia. The World Bank. New Delhi, India.
3. **Discussion panel on Policy and Programmatic Implications** moderated by Prof. P.S.M. Gunaratne, Vice Chairman of the University Grants Commission, Sri Lanka.

Plenary Session 4 on 30th March 2019 from 13.30 pm to 14.30 pm

Topic: Quality Assurance of Transnational Education (TNE)

Chair and Commentator: Dr. Aijun Zhou (Board Director) from HEEC, China

Panel Speakers:

1. **China Higher Education Quality Assurance and International Cross-Border Education Quality Assurance Cooperation** by Qiao Wenjun from China Academic Degrees and Graduate Education Development Center (CDGDC), China
2. **Collaborative Cross-border Joint Quality Assurance: Good Practices and Challenges** by Fabrizio Trifiro from UK’s Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) and Clara Chong from Hong Kong Council for the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), China



6. Parallel Sessions

There were 6 parallel sessions in AAC 2019. Altogether there were 21 presentations scheduled to be presented in 5 parallel sessions while one parallel session was a workshop. The date and time, sub theme of session, chair and commentator of the session, panel speakers' names, their affiliation and title of their presentation were as follows.

<p>Parallel Session 1 on 29th March 2019 from 16.00 -17.00 pm Sub-theme 1: Innovative Approaches to IQA Development Chair: Dr. Farida Nurmanbetova from ECAQA, Kazakhstan Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improvement of Medical Teaching Quality Supervision on Regular and Self-organizing Basis and its Practice: Taking Kunming Medical University as an Example by Jianyun Yu, Lin Zhao, Ying Liu, Ying Ma, Xiaocha Liang, Zhenghui Tang, Zhongji Zhang, Song Li from Kunming Medical University, China 2. Measuring Service Quality in Higher Education: A Case Study from Pakistan by Reema Zahid from Quality Enhancement Cell / Management of KASBIT, Pakistan 3. Comparisons of QA systems, Review standards and Procedures, and Transparency in Taiwan and Indonesia: Capacity Building for Transnational Education by Pin-Chuan Hsu from Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT), Chinese Taipei 4. Higher Education Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Nepal: Status and Issues by Deepak Kumar Khadka from University Grants Commission, Nepal
<p>Parallel Session 2 on 29th March 2019 from 16.00 -17.00 pm Sub-theme 2: Application of New Technologies in QA Chair: Dr. L-Jung Grace, Research fellow of HEECT, Chinese Taipei Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Improvement and Changes of Peer Review Mechanism in New Cycle of Program Accreditation in Taiwan by Chun-chi Chih from Higher Education Evaluation & Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT), Chinese Taipei 2. Innovative Technologies for Establishing an Institutional System for Quality Assurance and its Independent Assessment by Arkady Vladimirtsev, Aleksandra Zvezdova & Vera Sleeve from Certification Association "Russian Register", Russia 3. Introduction of an Online Review Tracker in managing applications for Review, Registration Accreditation and Recognition for higher and technical education in PNG by Wilma Sharon Paka from Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology, Papua New Guinea



Parallel Session 3 on 29th March 2019 from 17.05 – 18.30 pm
Sub-theme 3: Cultural Diversity for the quality of Cross Border Higher Education
Chair: Aw Yong Jun Barry from EDUVAUE, Singapore

Speakers:

1. External and Internal Quality Assurance Systems in Higher Education: A Comparative Study between NIAD-QE in Japan and KUAI in Korea by Kim, Sounghee & Cho, Shinichi from NIAD-QE, Japan, Oh Yejin from KUAI, Korea
2. Standardization in quality assurance standards framework -International comparison and inspiration to China by Xilu Donga, Bjørn Stensaker & Junping Qiu from Institute of Education Sciences, Wuhan University, China; University of Oslo, Norway
3. Campus Management System (CMS): a tool to ease Continual Quality Improvement (CQI) implementation process in Outcome Based Education (OBE) Approach by Arisha Maham, Sheema Haider & Sameer Virani, QEC of Indus University, Pakistan
4. Role of Assessment of Students' Satisfaction and Loyalty in Establishing Trust-based Quality Culture at Higher Education Institutions in Pakistan by Ainee Jamal & Riaz Ahmad from Quality Enhancement Cell, Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi, Pakistan
5. Fostering Internal Quality Assurance: Nurturing Quality Research Culture in Higher Education Institutions by Abdul Saboor Zahid from National Defence University, Pakistan

Parallel Session 4 on 29th March 2019 from 17.05 – 18.30 pm

Sub theme 4: Quality in Higher Education in Sri Lanka

Chair: Jackson Chun- Chi Chih; from HEEACT, Chinese Taipei

Speakers:

1. Reflections on the Quality Assurance Process in Higher Education in Sri Lanka by Dayalatha Lekamge, Faculty of Education, Open University of Sri Lanka
2. An Approach to Recognize Non-State Higher Education Service Providers in Sri Lanka by Colin N. Peiris, Windhya Rankothge and Anuradha Karunasena from Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology, Sri Lanka
3. Compliance towards Quality Assurance System (QAS) in Higher Education (HE): A Systematic Literature Review by Chani Vasana Imbulgoda, University of the Visual and Performing Arts, Sri Lanka
4. Staff Reward and Recognition Scheme to Motivate Academic Staff in Higher Education: Case Study in SLIIT, Sri Lanka by Anuradha Karunasena, Windhya Rankothge, Colin N. Peiris from Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT), Sri Lanka
5. Faculty Initiatives for Enhancement and Assurance of Quality in Teaching & Learning at SLIIT by Anuradha Karunasena, Windhya Rankothge & Colin N. Peiris from Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology, Sri Lanka

Parallel Session 5 on 30th March 2019 from 11.50 am to 12.50 pm

Sub-theme 1: Innovative Approaches to IQA Development

Chair: Dr. Angela Yung Chi Houi from HEEACT, Chinese Taipei

Speakers:

1. Development of Internal Quality Assurance and its Challenges in Taiwan Higher Education from University and Students' Perspectives by Angela Yung Chi Hou; Jackson Chun- Chi Chih; Shao Ren Lin; Ying Champing Chuan Hsu, Wenhsing

<p>Kuo, Chia Yi Lin, Liao, Yu-Rong from Higher Education Evaluation & Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT), Chinese Taipei</p> <p>2. Manage Reform in Undergraduate Stage of Medical Elite Education under the Background of Mass Higher Education by Sun Wen, Dong Jian, the Third Affiliated Hospital of Kunming Medical University, China</p> <p>3. Quality Assurance in Higher Education, Analysing Issues for Way Forward by Atif Shahab from Quality Enhancement Cell of Institute of Business Management, Karachi, Pakistan</p> <p>4. Research on construction of Teaching staff based on Capacity Outcome in accordance with the need of local Industry -A way of development of applied technology-based universities by Zhang Lingfei from Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute, China</p>
<p>Parallel Session 6 on 30th March 2019 from 11.50 am to 12.50 pm</p> <p>Workshop: APQN Quality Label (APQL) for the HEIs</p> <p>Chair: Prof Jianxin Zhang, Dr. Jagannath Patil and Dr. Galina Motova from APQN Board</p>

7. Cultural Show, Gala Dinner and Quality Awards Ceremony

These were held at the “On Golden Pond” Auditorium of the Hotel Taj Samudra, Colombo from 19.30 to 22.00 pm on 29th March 2019.

Cultural Show- The Cultural show which comprised 4 traditional dance items and 2 song items were performed by students of the University of Visual and Performing Arts, Sri Lanka.



Quality Awards Ceremony- The Awards Ceremony was compered by Dr. Jagannath Patil.

The participants at the awards ceremony were All APQN members, all registrants, and all local participants. The agenda, awards and recipients were as follows:

- Address by APQN President
- Announcement of Award Category 1: Host of APQN Secretariat for 9 Years (2009-2018)- Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute (SEEI), China
- Announcement of Award Category 2: APQN Award of Staff Capacity Building - Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT), Chinese Taipei
- Announcement of Award Category 3: APQN's Best/Model Internal QA Award-Internal Quality Assurance Unit (IQA) of the Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT), Sri Lanka
- Announcement of Award Category 4: APQN Quality Champions Award-Dr. Manuel T. Corpus, AACCUP President, Philippines
- Announcement of Award Category 5: Best Consultant - Engr Salim Ahmed Khan, Pakistan

- **Announcement of Acceptance to APQR: The Indonesian Accreditation Agency for Higher Education in Health (IAAHEH, LAM-PTKes)**
- **Announcement of Award Category 6: Successful Hosting APQN Academic Conference- The University Grants Commission (UGC), Sri Lanka**
- **Group photos were taken of all the Winners**

8. Conference Closing

This was held on 30th March 2019 from 14.30 to 15.30 pm. The chair is Dr. Jagannath Patil (Former APQN President). The agenda of the session was as follows.



- **Announcement of the next host of 2020 AAC by APQN President and Presentation by the local Host: EDUVALUE, Singapore (15 min)**
- **Announcement of the next host of 2019 APQN Global Summit and Presentation by the local Host: AACCUP (10 min)**
- **APQN-HEEC Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Hosting Secretariat, APQN-EDUVAUE Hosting Agreement, APQN- AACCUP Hosting Agreement, HEEACT-JIHEE MoU and other signings (10 min)**
- **Closing Remarks by the Chair of the Programme Committee (PC), APQN President, Jianxin Zhang (5 min)**
- **Closing Remarks by the Chair of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) Prof Deepthi Bandara from UGC, Sri Lanka (5 min)**
- **Comments, feedback, acknowledgements from the participants (10 min)**
- **Conference Closing**



(Written by Prof Deepthi C. Bandara, Chairperson/Local Organizing Committee, Consultant/Quality Assurance Council, University Grants Commission, Sri Lanka)

Global Yoga Accreditation Summit Held in New York

On April 26-27th 2019, Global Yoga Accreditation Summit was held at United Nations Headquarters, New York. It is jointly organized by NAAC, PMI-UN & APQN. H. E. K. Nagaraj Naidu, Indian Ambassador to UN, Dr. H. R. Nagendra, Hon'ble Chancellor of S-VYASA, Bengaluru, Dr. Geetha Krishnan Gopalakrishna Pillai, World Health Organization, Geneva, Prof. Jianxing Zhang, President of APQN, China & Dr. Jagannath Patil, Adviser of NAAC & Convener were present.



April 26th 2019: In a historical move by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), the Global Yoga Accreditation Summit: Beginning of a Conversation towards a Global Ecosystem in Yoga Higher Education through Accreditation (GYAS) was organized at the UN Hall, UN Headquarters, New York, USA.

In close collaboration with the Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) and the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations, GYAS was represented by over 40 key stakeholders best comprising international and national inter and intra governmental policy makers, key leaders of accreditation bodies and networks, quality assurance agencies, representatives of prominent yoga higher education providers, yoga experts, fraternity from the medical and psychology fields etc.

The inaugural was marked with the presence of dignitaries on the dais - H.E.K. Nagaraj Naidu, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative at India's Permanent Mission to UN; Padmashri H. R. Nagendra, Hon'ble Chancellor of S-VYASA; Dr. Geetha Krishnan Gopalakrishna Pillai, World Health Organization, Geneva; Prof. Jianxing Zhang, President of APQN, China and Dr. Jagannath Patil, Adviser of NAAC & Convener - GYAS.

GYAS was firming on a recent desk-top study in progress (2019), undertaken by NAAC, an Autonomous Institution of University Grants Commission of India

revealed that nearly 60 University departments and a large number of other Higher Education Institutions such as colleges and stand alone yoga institutions etc., within the country are offering various levels of yoga programmes – which add up to almost 200 in number. Further, the study revealed that though there are thousands of Yoga sets ups both in the West and other parts of the world offering a multitude of trainings however, main stream programmes offered under the higher education ambit is almost negligent – not exceeding ten in numbers.

In order to create the pertinent space for authentic yoga into the mainstream education and make it as a career choice, NAAC has taken the historic initiative on coming out with the First Draft of The Yoga Accreditation Manual, finalized on the 6th March 2019 at Bengaluru for all Yoga programs within a HEI in the country. This also implied that Yoga programs offered are well contained within a homogeneous international standard quality framework.

Pinning the origins of Yoga to the Indus Valley and furthering the scope of accreditation outside the Indian territory, the GYAS was set on the vision to enable co-ordination and co-operation amongst various bodies dealing with recognition /accreditation bodies in Yoga worldwide through mutual dialogue and processes towards creating a global ecosystem in mainstreaming Yoga Programs and its accreditation within the higher education ambit amalgamating a harmonization between the traditional philosophy and modern practices.

The delegates appreciated the visionary effort by NAAC under patronage of Shri. R. Subrahmanyam, IAS, MHRD Secretary, Prof. D.P. Singh, UGC Chairman, Dr. Virander S. Chauhan, Chairman, Executive Committee (EC) of NAAC and Prof. S.C. Sharma, Director, NAAC

Shri Prem Bhandari, Chairman Jaipur Foot, USA and officials at permanent mission of India to UN extended valuable support to organize event at UN headquarters at New York, USA.



(Written by Dr.Jagannath Patil, Advisor of NAAC, India, Convener of GYAS)

The APQL Review at SIU, India

The expert review panel of the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) comprising of Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang (leader), Ms. Stamenka Uvalic-Trumbic, Dr. Mark Frederik and Dr. Jagannath Patil, visited Symbiosis International (Deemed University), (SIU), India from April 4-9, 2019. This is the first ever review of the internationalization processes of an Indian University, conducted by APQN.



“Symbiosis International Cultural Centre” was established by Prof. S. B. Mujumdar, in the year 1971 for the welfare of the foreign students who came to the city of Pune to pursue their education. The guiding principle behind the establishment of Symbiosis was “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakkam” meaning “the world is one family”. The objective of the institution was to bring international students closer to the Indian students, help them overcome the numerous problems they were facing as foreigners, and ensure that not only would they receive good education but also become goodwill ambassadors after returning to their own countries. The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, conferred “Deemed to be University” on Symbiosis International University in 2002. The vision of SIU is “promoting international understanding through quality education”.

The three-day review assessed the internationalization processes and impact on different stakeholders. This included an assessment of a conducive environment which encompasses state of the art infrastructure through site visits to Hostels, Recreation & Wellness Centre(RWC), Symbiosis Centre of Health Care (SCHC), Grounds, Mess (Dining), Aqua Point, Symbiosis Studios, Symbiosis Centre for Behavioral Studies (SCBS), Multi-Faith Room, Cafeteria, Library, Symbiosis School of Culinary Arts and Biological Labs. The review panel also got the opportunity to visit Symbiosis’s Afro- Asian Museum and Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Museum and Memorial.

The days then progressed with presentations on SIU’s vision, mission,

governance, international linkages, extensive scholarships offered to foreign students and Indian students for global immersion experiences, policies, procedures, foreign language programmes, support for students & faculty, research capital, quality assurance systems, and infrastructural wealth. This was validated through meetings with influential stakeholders in the Indian Higher Education policy circle at the conference, mentors and representatives from collaborating partner institutions. Focus group discussions took place with international students, Indian students studying abroad, current and past international student council members, skype interactions with graduates, observation of global classroom engagement and a detailed perusal of relevant documents.

SIU is one of the few exceptional universities that has embarked on this international journey for the heartfelt cause of



enabling and empowering international students in India. The panel was very impressed with the genesis and the progress SIU has made in this direction by not only strengthening its processes and governance but leaving a footprint on society through its visible impact. APQN President Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang declared that the panel will recommend APQL Council to grant the APQN Quality Label to SIU. This label is International Accreditation of Internationalization initiative to support, develop, improve and enhance international excellence in HEIs and programs in Asia Pacific region. SIU is the first university in India to be conferred this prestigious label and this is fitting as they are the pioneers in the field of internationalization for higher education.



(Written by Prof. Nidhi Piplani Kapur from Symbiosis International University)

Release of the Brochure of “APQN 15th Anniversary”

At the Inaugural Ceremony on March 29, 2019, after the address by Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, APQN 15th Anniversary Brochure was released by APQN President, Jianxin Zhang. 151 participants from 42 countries/territories witnessed it.



Founded in 2003, under the leadership of APQN founders, pioneers and 5 Presidents, APQN has made remarkable achievements. The 15-year efforts gave APQN the vitality of sustainable development and left the spiritual legacy: 1) the Spirit of Dedication; 2) the Spirit of Sharing; 3) the Spirit of Serving; 4) the Spirit of Innovation; and 5) the Spirit of Sustainable Development.

The brochure was made up of with the following 7 parts: 1) APQN at a Glance; 2) Presidency in the Past 15 years; 3) 15-Year Development and Projects; 4) Reflections of the Old Good Days; 5) Witnessing APQN Development; 6) APQN Milestones in the 15th Anniversary; and President’s Message for APQN 15th Anniversary, a total of 55 pages. It is compiled and edited by Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang; the editorial committee members are the fifth Board Directors.

APQN is particularly gratified to celebrate this anniversary as the future for the great cause of quality assurance is so bright. Demand for good quality of teaching and learning, sustainable and life-long student development, excellent services from HEIs in this quality era continues to grow, and APQN is at the forefront building new, dynamic QA systems for the Asia-Pacific Region. A long, long way to go, to realize the dream of Excellent Quality in HE !



Release of the Anthology of 2018 APQN Academic Conference



On March 28 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, APQN released the Anthology of 2018 APQN Academic Conference. The theme is “Capacity Building for Next Generation Quality Assurance in Higher Education”

This publication includes 18 research papers from 13 countries with representation from various regions. The conference theme was categorized into 3 main sub themes: Excellence in Quality Assurance, Internal Quality Assurance in HEIs, and New Assessment Methodologies in Higher Education.

The varieties of issues discussed in the papers indicate that research in external quality assurance is now gaining high attention by quality professionals. We hope that new dimensions and practices shared in this publication will be useful to all stakeholders.

The Anthology of the conference papers has been published by the Russian Guild of Experts in Higher Education and can be found on the Guild’s web-site.

The Anthology is included into the national Russian Data Base of publications and citations – eLibrary.ru, which is the biggest electronic library of scientific articles, journals, books, references and materials. At the moment eLibrary contains abstracts and full-texts of over 26-million articles, publications and journals. 1.7-million individual researchers from 125 countries are registered in this resource. The authors can get a full text of each article as well as the whole collection of Proceedings through the link. Direct access link: <https://elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=37049355>



(Written by Galina N. Motova and Jagannath Patil)

APQR Review to MNCEA in Mongolia

APQR is register of external quality assurance agencies that demonstrate certain thresholds of maturity launched by APQN as stakeholder initiative in Asia–Pacific region. The independent external review by peers is the backbone of the Register. While the primary purpose of the Register is to acknowledge well developed quality assurance agencies. So far 5 Quality Assurance Agencies (QAAs) in Asia Pacific region have successfully completed review process to be included on APQR. Another 4 QAAs are at various stages of review process.

Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA) expressed its interest to the Asia-Pacific Quality Register Council (APQRC) to be considered for inclusion on the Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR).

Accordingly, MNCEA submitted a Self-Evaluation Report (SER) and supporting documents to APQRC. The SAR provides overview of functions of MNCEA, taking account of all its QA activities carried out during the period 2015 to 2018 and touching on some other functions of MNCEA, as per relevant rules and laws of Mongolia.

Based on SER & other supporting documents of MNCEA, APQRC had conducted the on-site visit for Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA) on June 02 - 04, 2019 at the office of MNCEA in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The review conducted against criteria of APQR based on the APQN's membership criteria and the Chiba Principles.

APQRC constituted a review panel to MNCEA comprising following: Prof. Angela Hou Yung-chi (Chair): Executive Director, Higher Education Evaluation & Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT), Chinese Taipei. Dr. Jagannath Patil (Member & Facilitator):, Adviser, National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), India, Immediate Past President of Asia Pacific Quality Network [APQN], India. Dr. Diana Hallerud (Member): Associate Director of Accreditation, Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), United States.

Commendations and recommendations to MNCEA on each criterion are precise,

evidence based and self – explanatory statements by APQR review panel.

Finally the Panel’s assessment on MNCEA is “substantially compliant” based on each criterion of APQR.



The APQR Council and the review Panel express their sincere thanks and appreciation to MNCEA for its meticulous organization of the site visit process and for its consistent support during the review process. In particular, the Panel members are grateful to Dr. Ariunbold Jaaljav, Director of MNCEA and Dr. Batsuuri, Senior Specialist for their assistance and their management of the entire process.

(Written by Dr. Jagannath Patil)



MONGOLIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL
FOR EDUCATION ACCREDITATION
SINCE 1998

/a brief introduction/

Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA)



MNCEA was established in
1998 by the Government
Resolution.

MNCEA is currently under quality
assurance review by APQR (on
site visit June 3-5)

APQR Review to ECAQA in Kazakhstan

The Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health Care (ECAQA) as a quality assurance agency that recognized by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan has expressed its interest to the Asia-Pacific Quality Register Council (APQRC) to be considered for inclusion on the Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR).

ECAQA is a specialized/professional accreditation agency in medicine, biomedicine and health sciences that included in Directory of Organizations that Recognize/Accredit Medical Schools (DORA) of the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER), USA and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation International Quality Group (CHEA/CIQG) International Directory, USA.

The APQR Review Panel to ECAQA included the international experts: Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang (Chair and Facilitator) from China, Vd. Jayant Deopujari (Co-chair) from India and Prof. Rie Mori from Japan.

The panel visited ECAQA on November 1-2, 2019 and the external evaluation was based on the interviews with ECAQA's staff members, ECAQA's Board members, the external assessors (reviewers), representatives from Kazakhstan Ministry of Health, Members of the ECAQA's Accreditation Council and Chair Dr. Alma Syzdykova, Director of Department for Science and Education, University Medical Centre Corporate Fund Nazarbayev University and Prof. Salomuddin Yusufi, the WHO Executive Board Member (elected), Vice-Rector for Science and Research of Avicenna Tajik State Medical University, Medical students' association and with a range of other relevant stakeholders, review of agency's quality assurance programme and documents as well as the validation of statements in the "ECAQA's Self-Evaluation Report" with relevant details in the attachments.

During the onsite visit, the APQR Review Panel has found convincing evidence for the ECAQA's external and internal quality assurance and its operation, including the presentations of developments in Quality Improvement in Basic and Postgraduate Medical Education, CPD and Nursing Education in the Republic of Kazakhstan and interviews with the Director General of ECAQA Prof. Saule Sarsenbayeva, Adviser Dr. Farida Nurmanbetova, Chair of the ECAQA's Experts Board Associate Prof. Almagul Kuzgibekova, Chair of Expert Committees Dr.

Sholpan Kaliyeva, Dr. Gulmira Ibrayeva, Dr. Zaure Baygozhina.



The APQR Review Panel has met with a representative of the Association “Kazakhstan Medical Council” and visited the Museum of History of Kazakhstan Medicine and Healthcare at the Asfendiyarov Kazakh National Medical University. Also the Panel has visited the Kazakh Medical University of Continuing Education and the Kazakh-Russian Medical University that accredited by the ECAQA.



ECAQA ensures and improves academic quality, training of healthcare professionals, contributes to introduction of the quality culture within higher education institutions as well as promoting the establishment and development of transparent national quality assurance system on health professions education.

ECAQA actively collaborate with broad range of partner organizations through international organizations and with quality assurance agencies across national borders. The ECAQA confirmed and demonstrated that its operation was based on the fundamental principles of the WHO and WFME Guidelines for accreditation of medical education as well as the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG 2015). With the development tendency of internationalization, ECAQA stands out as a leading QAA in health care to unite all profession in medicine and health sciences.

Based on the onsite-visit at the ECAQA and its external evaluation, the APQR Review Panel finds that ECAQA is in either “fully” or “substantial” compliance with the APQR Criteria. The Panel recommends and agrees that ECAQA has been accepted onto APQR.

(Written by ECAQA Team)

APQR Review to IAAR in Kazakhstan

The Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR) in the Republic of Kazakhstan expressed its interest to the Asia-Pacific Quality Register Council (APQRC) to be considered for inclusion on the Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR).

In the beginning of 2017 IAAR had registered at the EQAR (the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education). Based on “The Inclusion of Other Quality Assurance Organizations’ Review onto the Asia-Pacific Quality Register” approved in 2016 by the APQR Council, acceptance onto the Register is based on an external quality assurance agency (EQAA) being found to be “substantially compliance” against 11 APQR criteria, incorporating the Chiba Principles. The APQR Council decided to adopt desk review (instead of site visit) to IAAR.

On Nov. 20-Dec.20, 2019, a review panel of three experts, Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang (Chair and Facilitator) from China, Dr. Maiki Udam (panellist) from Estonia, Oksana MATVEEVA from Russia conducted desk review to the Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR) in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The SER of IAAR and “Final Report of ENQA Review” are viewed. The SER is a thorough and critical examination of IAAR, taking account of all its QA functions and activities carried out during its 8-year development (2011 - 2019) and touching on some other functions of IAAR. The hyperlinks and appendices to the SER included the following documents referred to by the review panel: 1) National reports and documents, such as Law of RK "On Education"; 2) IAAR regulations and internal documents, such as IAAR organizational structure, IAAR Strategic Plan for 2016-2020; 3) Final Report of ENQA Agency Reviews to IAAR in 2016, and ESG 2015.

The Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR) is a non-profit accreditation agency established in 2011 with the aim of improving the national system for quality assurance in education - one of the leading international accreditation agencies in the accreditation of higher, technical, and additional education.

Based on its review of documents in the “IAAR's Self-Evaluation Report”, the review panel finds IAAR is either “fully” or “substantial” compliance with the APQR criteria. The Panel therefore recommends to the APQR Council that IAAR be accepted onto the Register on Dec.20.

Reports by the Board

President Annual Report by Jianxin Zhang

In 2019, APQN entered its sixteenth anniversary, the sixth Board and the fourth Secretariat, showing its vibrant, vigorous tendency of sustainable development.

With the great contribution and support of all APQN members, APQN has made obvious achievements. Out of a busy schedule packed with both internal and external events, I have the honor to present 2019 President Annual Report to share with 240 members of APQN General Council, the encouraging endeavors and advancements of APQN. I'd like to thank all for your continual support of our goal of *"Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region"* and our enhancement of "Quality Culture".

APQN President
Prof Dr. Jianxin Zhang
(Elected)



CHINA

I. All in a Year's Work

Looking back in the year of 2019, we are very proud.

One of the most important things is the 2019 APQN Academic Conference (AAC) and Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Colombo, Sri Lanka. In March, 151 participants from 30 countries/territories attended over 20 sessions to discuss the theme of *"Quality Assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region: Insight into the Future"*, we enjoyed Quality Award Ceremony, Cultural Show and Excursion Tour to Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage....

One of the most memorable things is to release *"Brochure of APQN 15-year Anniversary (2003-2018)"* at 2019 AAC in Sri Lanka. Since its inception in 2003, APQN has been continuously fighting for its ultimate goal and mission for Quality Culture. To mark the important milestone, APQN united the founding fathers, pioneers and active members at this special occasion.

One of the most remarkable things is the Amendments of APQN Constitution (version 9.0). The main amendments include: 1) adding the member category of “Individual Member”; 2) adding APQN mission, value, vision and goal implemented for more than a decade; 3) adding the benefits of APQN members according to “APQN Procedure Manual”, etc.

One of the most crucial things is to elect the 6th Board Directors and have the 4th host of APQN Secretariat. Jianxin Zhang from China, Galina Motova from Russia, Deepthi Bandara from Sri Lanka, I-Jung Grace Lu from Chinese Taipei, Farida Nurmanbetova from Kazakhstan are the Board Directors. Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute (SEEI) in China was the 4th host after HEEC of the Ministry of Education in China. We believe the new Directors and SEEI will give their dedication and commitment for APQN sustainable development.

The impressive things are APQN published “Anthology of 2018 AAC: Capacity Building for Next Generation Quality Assurance in Higher Education”, “APQN Strategic Plan (2019-2022)”, “APQNews (Issue 19)” and “APQNews (Issue 20)”; Asia-Pacific Quality Register(APQR) Review to MNCEA in Mongolia, ECAQA and IAAR in Kazakhstan, Asia-Pacific Quality Label (APQL) Review to Symbiosis International University on Internationalization in India...

In 2019, APQN has been involved in nearly 100 tasks. Table 1 shows the list of APQN activities carried out in year 2019:

Table 1: List of APQN Activities Carried out in Year 2019

Month	Activity	Status
Before January 30	1. Completing the reviewing of 2019 submitted papers	Completed
	2. Completing the reviewing of 2019 Staff Capacity Building	Completed
	3. Completing the reviewing of Nominations for 2019 APQN Awards	Completed
	4. Completing the reviewing of 2019 Applications for Sponsorship	Completed
	5. APQN-EDUVAUE Hosting Agreement of 2020 AAC and AGM (Draft)	Completed
	6. APQN-AACCUP Hosting Agreement of the fourth APQN Global Summit(Draft)	Completed
	7.The first draft of 2019 AAC Programme	Completed
Before February 28	1. Completing “ 2018 APQN Annual Report”(draft)	Completed
	2. Completing “Brochure of APQN 15-Year Anniversary”	Completed
	3. Announcement of the voting result to candidates and current Board Directors	Completed
	4. Completing the editing of Participants Information to print “Booklet”	Completed
	5. Completing the voting of APQN Board Directors (2019-2022)	Completed
Before March 31	1. The Finance Meeting at 16:00-17:00 on March 28	Completed
	2. The 1 st Board Meeting at 17:00-19:00 on March 28	Completed
	3. APQN Annual Conference(AAC) from March 29-30	Completed

	4. APQN Annual Award Ceremony at 19:30 – 21:00 on March 29	Completed
	5. Annual General Meeting(AGM) in the afternoon on March 30, including to announce 2019-2022 Board Directors& the host of Secretariat	Completed
	6.The 2 nd Board Meeting at 16:30-18:00 on March 30	Completed
	7. City tour in the morning of March 31	Completed
	8. Workshop on APQN Quality Label (APQL)	Completed
	9. Announcing the host of 2020 AAC and AGM	Completed
	10.Announcing the 6 th Board Directors	Completed
	11. Announcing the Host 2019-2022 APQN Secretariat	Completed
	12. Revising 2019-2020 APQN Calendar	Completed
	13. Announcing the Sponsorship for 2019 AAC in Sri Lanka	Completed
	14. APQN-HEEC Agreement of the Secretariat Hosting	Completed
	15. APQN-EDUVAUE Hosting Agreement,	Completed
	16.APQN- AACCUP Hosting Agreement	Completed
Before April 30	1. Service Contract for Publication of 2019 Anthology	Completed
	2. 2019 Service Contract of APQN website	Completed
	3. The 3rd International Conference on Internationalization of Higher Education titled “Building Strategic Partnerships towards Collaborative International Learning” in April, 2019 at Symbiosis International (Deemed University)	Completed
	4. APQL Site Review to Symbiosis International University on April 7-9	Completed
	5.Completing the 3000-word report of 2019 AAC with 20 photos; 500-word evaluation survey report;	Completed
	6. Completing the 800-word report of 2019 AGM(Annual General Meeting) with 2 photos	Completed
	7.Completing the 2 Minutes on the first and second Board Meeting, as well as 300-word articles	Completed
	8. Global Yoga Accreditation Summit held in Washington on April 25-27, and 300-word article	Completed
	9.Completing the minutes of APQR Council Meeting	Completed
	10. Completing the 500-word article with 2 photos on Releasing “APQN 15th Anniversary”	Completed
	11. Completing the 500-word article with 2 photos on Releasing 2018 AAC Anthology	Completed
	12. The template for APQN Anthology Publication	Completed
	13. Uploading 3 categories of 2019 AAC to website: 1) All the Programmes; 2) Photos of the Conferences; 3) PPTs of the presenters;	Completed
	14. Call for the Host of APQN Secretariat within one month (April 29 to May 29)	Completed
	15. Ending the cooperation between HEED and APQN	Completed
Before May 30	1. Deciding the theme, sub-themes, the venues, the dates and others of 2020 AAC	Completed
	2. Your Opinion for New Category of APQN Membership – Individual Status on May 31,2019	Completed
	3. Three-year Strategic Plan for APQN Sustainable Development(2019-2022)	Completed
	4.On-Line Survey of APQN-NIAD-QE project of an internet survey (Glossary of Quality Assurance in Japanese Higher Education)	Completed
	5. Deadline of Call for the Host of APQN Secretariat within one month (April 29 to May 29)	Completed
	6. Vote on New Category of APQN Membership – Individual Status(May 9-June 9)	Completed

Before June 30	1. Complete and submit APQN Bidding Proposal to UNESCO Bangkok before June 7	Completed
	2. Release of "APQNews (Issue 19, 2019)"	Completed
	3. APQR Review to Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA) on June 03 - 05, 2019 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	Completed
	4. Deadline of Vote on New Category of APQN Membership – Individual Status (May 31-June 30) and the result	Completed
	5. Announcement of the winner of the fourth host of APQN Secretariat: SEEI	Completed
	6. Complete 26 applications of APQN members	Completed
	7. Release Three-year Strategic Plan for APQN Sustainable Development (2019-2022)	Completed
	8. Updating the APQN members' contact information	Completed
	9. MPI-APQN Agreement to co-host Higher Education International Conference on "Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance in International Contexts"	Completed
	10. HED-APQN Agreement on Webinar of "International Accreditation. Getting Acquainted with Education Quality Assurance Agencies"	Completed
Before July 30	1. Webinar of "International Accreditation. Getting Acquainted with Education Quality Assurance Agencies" on July 2-3, 2019	Completed
	2. Announcement to all members the host of APQN fourth host: SEEL, Shanghai, China	Completed
	3. Call for Paper of 2020 APQN Annual Conference (AAC) and annual general meeting (AGM)	Completed
	4. Up-load the bio and photo of the sixth Board Directors to APQN website	Completed
Before August 30	1. Online Registration is open	Preparing
	3. Result Report of vote of Individual Membership	Completed
	6. Call for 2020 Applications for Sponsorship by APQN-EDUVALE	Completed
	7. Call for EoI to Host 2021 APQN Annual Conference (AAC) and annual general meeting (AGM)	Completed
	8. Call for Nominations for 2020 APQN Awards	Completed
Before September 30	9. Updating the APQN members' contact information	Completed
	1. New York - Bengaluru Vision Statement 2019 towards Yoga Higher Education Accreditation Released by Hon'ble Minister of HRD and Minister of AYUSH in India	Completed
Before October 30	2. On-line registration is Open (https://www.eduvalueglobal.com/apqn)	Completed
	1. Release of NAAC-APQN Good Practice of QAAs	Completed
	2. Seminar on Internal-External Quality Assurance (SEIQA) 2019 on 21-22 October 2019 in Kuala Lumpur by Malaysian Quality Assurance Network (MyQAN).	Completed
	3. Preparation of ECAQA APQR Review in Kazakhstan	Completed
Before November 30	4. The forth Global Summit has been cancelled by AACCUP	Cancelled by AACCUP
	1. ECAQA APQR Review in October in Kazakhstan	Completed
	2. Extending the Deadline for 2020 Call for Paper to December 30, 2019	Completed
	3. Extending Nominations for 2020 APQN Awards to December 30, 2019	Completed
	4. Extending 2020 applications for Sponsorship to December 30, 2019	Completed

	5. Extending for the Host of the Applications for Hosting 2020 AAC and AGM to December 30, 2019	Completed
	6. MPI-APQN Higher Education International Conference on Nov. 19-21, 2019	Completed
	7. Change the legal person to Pingping Liu, register APQN in Shanghai, China and open APQN account using the original account name and number	Account active
	8. The Secretariat got 3000 USD for APQR review to ECAQA in Kazakhstan	Completed
	9. The report of Amendment of APQN Constitution (v. 9)	Completed
Before December 30	1. Deadline for 2020 Call for Paper of 2020 APQN Academic Conference (AAC) and Report	Completed
	2. Deadline for Nominations for 2020 APQN Awards and Report	Completed
	3. Deadline for the Host of the Applications for Hosting 2021 AAC and AGM and Report	3 Eols
	4. Deadline of 2020 applications for Sponsorship and Report	Completed
	5. The APQR Desk Review to IAAR, Kazakhstan.	Completed
	6. Release of "APQN New Year Greeting"	Completed
	7. Release of "APQNews (Issue 20, 2019)"	Completed
	8. Revising 2020-2021 APQN Calendar	Completed
	9. The Secretariat is collecting 2017-2019 membership fee	Completed
	10. The Secretariat pay the sponsorship of the fifth Board Directors to attend 2019 AAC (8000 USD)	Completed
	11. The Secretariat pay 2500 USD for the publication of 2016 Anthology completed by Jagannath Patil	Completed
	12. The Secretariat made good communication or agreement with Kramah Software India Pvt.Ltd who is responsible for APQN Website.	Completed
	13. Change the legal person to Pingping Liu, register APQN in Shanghai, China and open APQN account using the original account name and number	Completed

Overall APQN has completed the tasks in 2019, except the fourth Global Summit. However, consideration needs to be given to the long-term sustainability of the outcomes and impacts of APQN activities. This will require a proactive stance and continuity of the APQN heritage.

II. APQN's Goal and Tasks in 2020

In 2019, the sixth Board and the fourth Secretariat took the office, and we have successfully completed most of the activities. The new board made "APQN Strategic Plan (2019-2022)", 2019 is the year of the transitional stage between the old and new Board. The sixth Board has spent 6 months to amend APQN Constitution (version 9.0), and tried the best to realize APQN's mission, value and goal. In 2020, Based on "APQN Constitution(version 9.0)" and "APQN Strategic Plan (2019-2022)", APQN will focus on the following "1-2-3-4-5 Plan", i.e. 1 Mission, 2 Values, 3 Visions, 4 Principles and 5 Tasks:

1. One Mission

To enhance the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region through

strengthening internal and external quality assurance in all kinds of organizations and extending the cooperation among them.

2. Two Values

- 1) To be committed to the quality of higher education;**
- 2) To be supportive of both internal and external quality assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region.**

3. Three Visions

- 1) To promote quality culture;**
- 2) To be a self-sustaining non-government and non-profit organization;**
- 3) To be the first point of reference, efficient in its operations and share information among members.**

4. Four Principles

- 1) Procedure-based;**
- 2) Capacity building;**
- 3) Self-reliance and information-sharing;**
- 4) Sustainable development for final goal.**

5. Five Tasks

1) To establish ongoing financial viability and stability, such as exploring additional funding sources externally which can include donation, commissioned work, and sponsorship of events or publications by governments, agencies/organizations, philanthropists and other relative stakeholders;

2) To populate and maintain the website database and make information accessible to all, such as canvassing its members to identify relevant requirements for quality assurance, e.g. APQN Quality Register(APQR) and APQN Quality Label(APQL);

3) To well organize APQN Academic Conferences (AAC) just as 2019 in Sri Lanka, at the same time to facilitate APQN Global Summit such as what NAAC, HEEACT and BAN-PT did in 2016, 2017 and 2018, to co-host Quality Assurance Forum just like that in Macao Polytechnic Institute (MPI), to launch research projects just as Self-funding project of “APQN Sustainable Development, to co-train external assessors just like that of NAEAC in Pakistan;

4) To strengthen relations with other international, regional and national networks/organizations within and outside the Region, such as promoting the communication with more international, regional and national quality assurance and networks/organizations, such as INQAAHE, ENQA ANQAHE, AQAN, CHEA and others; and

5) To broaden the base of services to its members to ensure visibility and

sustainability of network activities, such as strengthening ongoing initiatives of APQR, APQN Anthology of APQN Academic Conferences and so on.

By completing the activities mentioned above, APQN can achieve the following 10 purposes specified in “APQN Constitution”: 1) to promote good practices in developing an effective and comprehensive quality culture of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region; 2) to foster research activities in quality assurance practices for rebuilding the employability oriented higher education in Asia Pacific Region; 3) to provide advice and expertise in order to assist in the development of new quality assurance organizations in the region; 4) to facilitate cooperation among Quality Assurance Agencies (QAAs) and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), and recognize each other’s decisions and judgment; 5) to assist APQN members in determining the quality standards operating across national borders; 6) to ensure better-informed international recognition of qualifications throughout the region; 7) to assist in the development and application of credit transfer systems; 8) to enhance the mobility of students between institutions both within and across national borders; 9) to make the APQN members aware of and alert against the dubious accrediting practices and organizations; and 10) to promote the interest of the Asia-Pacific Region by effective representation vis-à-vis interacting with other networks and international organizations.

The past 16 years has been a long road of challenges on which APQN achieves the vision of “to be a self-sustaining non-government and non-profit organization”. The future year is a new path of “Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region”, a non-profit QA organization that restlessly enhancing HE quality in the Asia-Pacific Region.

III. Offering Thanks

As the two terms (2016-2019; 2029-2022) consecutive APQN president of my service, I have many persons to thank.

First of all, I must thank 240 members of APQN General Council who trusted me as the 6th President, all the members of APQN Board (Vice President: Galina Motova; APQN Secretary/Treasurer: Pingping Liu; Immediate Past President: Jagannath Patil; Board Directors: Deepthi C. Bandara, I-Jung Grace Lu, Farida Nurmanbetova; Administrator: Le Fang and Yingjie Xu), who have entrusted me with administrative responsibility and supported me greatly.

Second, I must express appreciation to APQN former Presidents as well as the pioneers! Together with all the Board Directors, 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 16-year effort, they have left APQN spiritual legacy to us: 1) the Spirit of Dedication; 2) the Spirit of Sharing; 3) the Spirit of Serving; 4) the Spirit of Innovation; 5) the Spirit of Sustainable Development. We have and will

heritage the legacy and make APQN greater and more sustainable!

Third, I am also most grateful to all the quality assurance networks/organizations that have remained exceptionally helpful and friendly to APQN, such as UNESCO, CHEA/CIQG, INQAHHE and many others. That relationship has made APQN become one good example of mutually beneficial and friendly cooperated international QA networks.

IV. Conclusion

I have to say, in 2019 APQN has gone through one of the most difficult years, running up against the issues such as the hand-over of the Secretariat, the frozen accounts, the legal status and others. Luckily, we have survived all of those.

No doubt, in the upcoming New Year - 2020, APQN will still face new challenges, but will also face new opportunities. No doubt, the sixth Board with fresh human resources and manpower will provide APQN with new energy and new enthusiasm. Strength and weakness co-exist; opportunity and threat go hand in hand. Based on the solid foundation of APQN's 16-year development, together with all members, APQN will work harder for our mission. APQN is sure to realize the dream of sustainable development.

I firmly believe, through the joint-efforts of 240 members in APQN big harmonious family, with APQN spiritual legacy - Dedication, Sharing, Serving, Innovation and Sustainable Development - APQN is bound to achieve the ultimate goal of "*dissolving boundaries for a quality region*". With the pioneering spirits and unremitting efforts of all APQN persons, 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 2019, and with renewed appreciation for the passion and devotion so many of you have for this remarkable QA non-profit and non-government organization!



APQN sixth President (2019-2022): Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang
Chief Expert of Yunnan Higher Education Evaluation Center
Professor of Yunnan University, China

Vice President Annual Report by Galina Motova

2019 presented a challenge for the stability of APQN's work due to the re-election of the Secretariat. Thanks to the titanic effort by President Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang, Immediate Past President Dr. Jagannath Patil and the new Secretariat (Ms. Liu Pingping), we managed to overcome the crisis and stabilize our work.

As APQN Vice President and the Chair of the Review Committee I took the responsibility over some functions of the Secretariat:

First, it was necessary to obtain more accurate contact information about all APQN members. The contact information placed on the website was outdated as this information is entered when an organization is granted APQN membership and it is not reviewed unless there is a special request from the member. This situation hinders the communication between the Secretariat and the APQN members. I sent out requests and received feedback about the changes in the contact information. All the changes have been introduced on the APQN site and in the mailing list.

Second, APQN applicants have been having certain difficulties when filling in the on-line application form, which slowed down the review process. For the sustainable development of the organization it is very important to have an influx of new members. At the same time, it is very important for new members to receive clear and user-friendly services, both during the application process and in receiving the feedback. I have collected all available information from the APQN site and the sites of the applicants. The review process by the Review Committee has been initiated and the feedback and the mailing of membership certificates have been set up.

Third, when the work of the Secretariat got stabilized I continued the review process of new members. Unfortunately, this work does not proceed as fast as we would like.

An important stage in the work of the APQN Board was the Amendment of APQN Constitution. The text of the Constitution has been reviewed and new amendments have been introduced in the 9th version of the document. I took an active part in discussing and reviewing the articles of the Constitution. And also I provided feedback to the "Three-year Strategic Plan for APQN Sustainable

APQN Vice President
Prof. Dr. Galina Motova
(Elected)



RUSSIA

Development (2019-2022)” and other documents regulating APQN activity.

The traditional stage in the preparation of the annual APQN conference is gathering and reviewing materials, which will be presented by the participants at the plenary and parallel sessions. This is an important stage, as it determines whether the presentations of the participants are going to be interesting and useful for the listeners and whether the conference itself is relevant for its permanent participants. Following on the results of the Conference the Anthology of materials is compiled. For the last four years I have taken part in the reviewing of the submitted articles. I consider this work very important both for the organization of the Conference and for me personally as it facilitates professional growth and better understanding of the quality assurance processes taking place in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Apart from this, in the preparation time for the Conference there is a lot of work to be done in order to review and assess incoming documents, such as nominations for APQN quality awards, bids for organizing following events, etc. I took an active part in discussing and reviewing such documents.

On my suggestion an initiative project involving a series of webinars was launched whose aim is to foster cooperation and internationalization of HEIs and quality assurance agencies. In 2019 three webinars were organized (July 2, October 10, and December 10). About 100 organizations (accreditation agencies and HEIs) took part in the webinars. The most active participants were organizations from Russia and Central Asia. The webinars were held under the auspices of APQN. The first webinar was opened by APQN President Jianxin Zhang. The webinars will continue their work in 2020 and will serve as a communication platform for the exchange of opinions and experience, finding new partners for cooperation. This communication mode could be also suggested for the on-line forums of APQN members.

APQN Vice President: Dr. Galina Motova

Deputy Director of the National Centre for Public Accreditation, Russia

Secretary/Treasurer Report by Pingping Liu

Thanks to the trust and support of Prof. Jianxin ZHANG and all the other Board Directors, it's been a great honor that Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute (SEEI) is approved to host the APQN Secretariat for another new term. To effectively conduct the Secretariat, a team of 4 experienced staff from SEEI has been assigned, with Ms. Pingping LIU as the Secretary/Treasurer, both Ms Yingjie XU and Mr. Le FANG as the Administrator and Ms Cunyao FAN as the accountant. The team has devoted plenty of time and energy to the operation of the Secretariat: (a) taking the initiative to complete the routine work of the Secretariat, such as collection of membership fees, daily maintenance of the website, and all-around support for the events, meetings and etc.; (b) conscientiously carrying out the tasks assigned by the Board, such as consultation for the members' opinion on the revision of the Constitution, the assistance for the review of new members' entry applications and the support for the work of APQR; and (c) communicating effectively and solving the daily queries from the members and interested parties, such as queries about the application of membership, queries about the academic conference and queries about APQN quality awards and so on. The main work is listed as follows.

APQN Secretary/Treasurer
Ms. Liu Pingping



CHINA

1. APQN Members and the Board. Under the guidance of President Jianxin ZHANG and all Board Directors, currently the number of APQN members of all types has successfully reached 240 from 42 countries/territories. We received 9 new entry applications which are being reviewed. Thanks for the Board's tremendous support to the new team members of the outgoing Secretariat, an effective communication channel between us has been well formed.

2. Events and Projects

The 2019 APQN Annual Conference (AAC) and Annual General Meeting (AGM) were held from March 22-25, 2019 in Sri Lanka, and 131 participants from 21 countries and regions attended the conference, representing QAAs, HEIs and educational authorities of different countries.

On September 16th, 2019, an email named "To Seek your Opinions on the Amendments of APQN" was sent to all members, after which the Secretariat has sorted and summarized their opinions.

In addition, the Secretariat also has supported the Board Directors to release 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 related to APQN objectives.

3. Routine Work. The Secretariat has concentrated fully on the management and supervision of the APQN routine work, including:

(a) “Call for Nominations for 2020 APQN Awards, Call for Expression of Interest to Host 2021 AAC and AGM, APQN-EDUVALE Call for 2020 Applications for Sponsorship, and publishing the 2018 Conference Proceedings, etc. The Secretariat has been engaged in planning the activities, preliminarily reviewing the applications, making recommendations to the Board, conducting coordination and supervision, providing technical support in the process and etc.

(b) When it comes to APQN members, the Secretariat has updated information for the existing members, and provided detailed and thoughtful consultations. Furthermore, the Secretariat is devoted to calling for new members, such as approaching potential members in the APQN database and non-member participants of APQN activities, answering queries in the process of application and giving timely feedback after pre-review of the application, providing support for the review of Membership Review Committee and undertaking follow-up work for the review of the Board.

(c) The Secretariat has also cooperated with the website server, Kramah Software in India to continue the website maintenance this year. APQN received 9 new members via the application system on the website, which has facilitated the development and growth of APQN.

4. The Financial Statement

On March 2020, the Secretariat organized the annual audit for the 2019 Finance Statement and the audit report has been provided by a Certificated Public Accountant, authorized by Shanghai Education Commission under the supervision of the government. In brief, the total income in 2019 counts for 40969.99 USD while the total expense is 29277.21 USD; Balance for 2019 is 11692.78 USD. The annual membership fees have been received from 65 members by Dec.31, 2019. The Secretariat is still working on receiving unpaid 2019 membership fees at present. The details can be seen in the APQN Finance Statement.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the APQN Board Directors, especially President Prof. Jianxin ZHANG and Vice President Prof. Galina MOTOVA. I would also say thanks to Mr. Aijun ZHOU, the former Secretary/Treasurer and Dr. Shuo WANG, the former Administrator for the support in the period of handover. Last but not least, I would highly appreciate the support of all APQN members, especially Dr. Hui FENG, President of Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute, the host of the Secretariat for the generous kind-contribution, and also those interested parties for APQN. I believe all of us would like to work together to bring a brighter APQN for the world.

APQN Secretary/Treasurer: Ms. Liu Pingping
Deputy Director of Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute

Report from Board Directors

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 Director and APQR Chairperson.

➤ **The APQN Annual Conference (AAC) 2019:**

The APQN Annual Conference (AAC) 2018 was held on 28th – 31st March 2019 at Colombo, Sri Lanka. The undersigned had participated in the various programmes as APQN Board member and Speaker in the Conference.

The highlights of my Participation in AAC, Colombo, Sri Lanka are given below:

- ✓ Participated as a member in the Finance Committee Meeting, 1st & 2nd Board Meeting and Chaired APQR Council Meeting.
- ✓ Attended Opening Ceremony of APQN Conference and Released the “Brochure of APQN 15th Anniversary” as a Board of Director in the Conference.
- ✓ During the Opening Ceremony, Released APQN Publication titled “Sustainable Development of Quality Assurance in Higher Education: A Anthology of selected papers presented at the APQN Conference 2016, Fiji Islands” edited by Dr. Jagannath Patil, *Adviser, NAAC, India & Former President of APQN* and Ms. Malini Nair, *APQN Board Member, Fiji Higher Education Commission (FHEC)*,
- ✓ Participated as a Speaker in the Plenary Session-2 on the topic “Good Practices and Benchmarking Approach to Quality Improvement Based on International Good Practices”.
- ✓ Chaired the APQN Quality Award Ceremony & various sessions.
- ✓ Chaired the Plenary Session-6 on “Workshop of APQN Quality label (APQL) for the Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)”
- ✓ Participated in the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and made a brief report on Asia Pacific Quality Register (APQR) activities.
- ✓ Chaired the APQN Conference closing session.

➤ **APQR Council Meeting held in Colombo, Sri Lanka on March 28, 2019**

Immediate Past President

Dr. Jagannath Patil
(Coopted)



INDIA

The 3rd APQR Council Meeting was held on March 28, 2019 at 19:00 (Thursday) at Hybrid in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on eve of APQN Annual Conference (AAC) and Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2019.

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Jagannath Patil, Chairperson, APQR and Co-chaired by Prof. Angela Yung Chi Hou, APQN Vice-President. Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang, APQN President and other APQR Council members also participated.

The key issues highlighted during the discussion in the meeting are listed below:

- ❖ Informed about possibilities of following Quality Assurance Agencies (QAAs) likely to inclusion on APQR review process during the year 2019.
 - ❖ An amount of about 4000 USD earmarked towards expenses of APQR Secretariat.
 - ❖ APQR may be registered as legal entity at a suitable location / country.
- NAAC-Global Yoga Accreditation Summit-2019
- I had privilege of making pioneering efforts as convener of “Global Yoga Accreditation Summit: *Beginning of a Conversation towards a Global Ecosystem in Yoga Higher Education through Accreditation (GYAS)*” jointly organized by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) and The Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations (PMI-UN) on 26th April 2019 at UN Hall, UN Headquarters, New York, USA, which resulted into historic “*New York - Bengaluru Vision Statement 2019 towards a Global Ecosystem in Yoga Higher Education through collaboration, mainstreaming and accreditation*”.
- New York - Bengaluru Vision Statement 2019 called upon Global quality assurance agencies, Yoga Higher Education Institutions and stakeholders of yoga higher education around the world to join hands and commit to work together to enhance quality in Yoga higher education in service of students and society.
- Launch of New York - Bengaluru Vision Statement 2019
- I had privilege of making pioneering efforts as the convener of release of “*New York - Bengaluru Vision Statement 2019 towards a Global Ecosystem in Yoga Higher Education through collaboration, mainstreaming and accreditation*”
- In a historical move by the NAAC, release of New York-Bengaluru Vision Statement was done at the hands of Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal ji, *Hon’ble Minister of HRD* on 25th September 2019 & Shri Shripad Yesso Naik ji, *Hon’ble Minister of AYUSH (IC)* on 24th September 2019 at new Delhi , India
- This worldwide release programme was represented by over 20 key persons including Eminent Yoga Stalwarts, Yoga Experts & Higher Education Academicians from India and around the world particularly United States, China, Canada and Italy joined the simultaneous release of document via video

conference mode on 24th September 2019.

➤ **NAAC Project Publication Release Ceremony at NAAC:**

The Publication titled “Good Practices of External Quality Assurance Agencies across the Globe” edited by Dr. Jagannath Patil, *Adviser, NAAC & Former President of Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN)*, Mrs. Savitha D.J, *Senior Research Fellow* and Mr. Umesh Kumar. R, *Junior Research Fellow, NAAC* was released by Prof. S. C. Sharma, *Director, NAAC*, which was held on 9th October 2019 at NAAC Conference Hall, Bengaluru. The Project Publication comprises of about 23 Good Practices (GPs) of 20 Quality Assurance Organizations (QAAs) from 20 Countries around the world particularly from Australia, China, Japan, Kingdom of Bahrain, New Zealand, Russia, Spain, UK, USA, etc. Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) will promote this publication internationally as a partner.

➤ **The APQR Review of QAA's:**

During 2019, APQR has undertaken review of 4 Quality Assurance Agencies (QAAs) to for the process of inclusion on APQR.

- Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA), Mongolia.
- Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR), Republic of Kazakhstan.
- Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health care (ECAQA), Republic of Kazakhstan.
- Finance Accreditation Agency (FAA), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

As of now following 8 QAAs are registered on APQR.

- I. “Fiji Higher Education Commission” (FHEC) based in Suva, Fiji.
- II. Certification Association “Russian Register” (RR) based in Saint Petersburg, Russia.
- III. “National Centre for Public Accreditation” (NCPA) based in Russia.
- IV. “Indonesian Accreditation Agency for Higher Education in Health” (IAAHEH) based in Jakarta, Indonesia.
- V. Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA), Mongolia.
- VI. Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR), Republic of Kazakhstan.
- VII. Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health care (ECAQA), Republic of Kazakhstan.
- VIII. Finance Accreditation Agency (FAA), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

➤ **One year foreign assignment at NIAD-QE, Japan**

I was appointed as Specially Appointed Professor at National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education (NIAD-QE), Tokyo, Japan for a period of one year from October 2019 to October 2020. NIAD-QE is a premier quality assurance agency of Japan under the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). NIAD-QE has been acting as one of the longest operating members of the Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) in Japan.

As endorsed by APQN Board and NIAD QE, I will continue on APQN Board as Director and Chair of APQR.

➤ 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, website and various other initiatives. I also played important role in finalizing new Secretariat of APQN as chair of Board appointed committee for selection process.

Overall it was a great experience of learning and sharing with APQN quality assurance family. We hope to continue the legacy of APQN as the torch bearer of higher education quality assurance networking in Asia-Pacific.

APQN Sixth Board Director: Dr. Jagannath Patil
Specially Appointed Professor, NIAD-QE, Tokyo, Japan
Adviser, NAAC, Bengaluru, India
Former President of Asia Pacific Quality Network [APQN]
Founder Chairperson, Asia Pacific Quality Register (APQR)
jp.naacindia@gmail.com, patil@niad.ac.jp

Deepthi Bandara

Year 2019 was a challenging year for me as an elected Board Director of APQN. The 15th Annual Academic Conference of APQN was hosted by the University Grants Commission(UGC) of Sri Lanka in March, and as the local coordinator of this prestigious event, I had to work very hard to stage a successful conference. Even though the whole process was truly exhilarating I am very happy it was such a profound success. The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka graced the opening ceremony which was an honor for the APQN community and evidence of Sri Lanka's commitment to quality assurance of higher education and the APQN.

APQN Board Member
Prof. Deepthi C. Bandara
(Elected)



Sri Lanka

Out of 151 total participants, there were 98 international and 53 local participants. I hope we were able to give our membership a taste of our beautiful island and its remarkable hospitality. I participated in the meeting of the Board Directors in Sri Lanka soon after the conference and contributed to the proposal and plans for upcoming APQN events of the year. At the conclusion of the conference, I also authored the 15th AAC report for APQN.

I was able to make my contribution to the amendment and editing of the "APQN Constitution" and "the Strategic Plan for APQN Sustainable Development (2019-2022)", which are positive features for the APQN. I also made contribution to the APQN bidding proposal for UNESCO. Input was also made by me for the 2020 AAC conference "Quality Assurance for Higher Education 4.0" to be held in Singapore.

I am contributing to the proposal review committee of the 2020 APQN conference. I communicated with presenters of the 2019 conference and currently I am working on the Anthology of the 15th AAC so we could publish and launch it at the 2020 AAC.

APQN 6th Board Director: Prof. Deepthi Bandara
University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

I-Jung Grace Lu

Since being elected as the board director, I helped contribute to chairing a session in the 2019 APQN international conference in Sri Lanka. I also joined the board meeting held in Sri Lanka after the conference in setting out the plans for the upcoming months.

After the international conference, I provided suggestions on various tasks and issues, such as the amendment of the previous version of the constitution, feedback on the newsletters, and also feedback on the monthly reports. I also provided my feedback and inputs on the “Three-year Strategic Plan for APQN Sustainable Development (2019-2022)”. I participated in several discussions on the topics for the 2020 AGM conference “Quality Assurance for Higher Education 4.0”, and helped set out some of the session topic, such as “The role of government in quality assurance for higher education: new challenges and prospects”. I am also part of the proposal review committee of the 2020 APQN conference and reviewed all the proposals in helping the decision making for the board directors.

Research wise, I also help to promote the NIAD-QE project of an internet survey and contributed in the research under the topic "Good Practices of External Quality Assurance Agencies across-the Globe" on the good practices of QA agencies in Taiwan. Besides, I also helped in the process of endorsing several great events and promotion, such as the new APQN constitution and the new categories of membership – the Individual Member. I also helped with the forms and documents for the application of the new membership.

I am also currently working on the plans and topic of our next APQN online forum, which may closely be linked to the current topic of “Quality Assurance for Higher Education 4.0”, and connection it closer to the concepts of student learning outcome, employability, student global mobilization, etc. the official plans for the online forum will be announced soon by the end of this year. I am looking forward to the participation of all members of APQN in the next online forum and hope to engage more inspiring discussions on good practices of higher education quality assurance through these online forums.

APQN Board Member
Ms I-Jung Grace Lu
(Elected)



Chinese Taipei

APQN 6th Board Director: Dr. I-Jung Grace Lu
Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT)

Farida Nurmanbetova

As a Board Director of APQN (elected) I have served and contributed to the followings:

1) chairing the session at the APQN2019 AAC in Sri Lanka;

2) participated at the meeting of 6th Board Director of APQN and discussion on upcoming 2020APQN AAC in Singapore, and shared responsibilities of the 6th Board Directors of APQN;

3) participated in discussions and submitted the comments on the topics for the 2020APQN AAC and AGM “Quality Assurance for Higher Education 4.0”;

4) submitted the feedback to the APQN Bidding Proposal for “Supporting the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Development Institutional Improvement Plan for the Quality Assurance and Accreditation Directorate (QAAD), Ministry of Higher Education, Afghanistan that was well structured and focused on the needs of QAAD as well as the UNESCO requirements and expected outcomes;

5) provided the feedback and inputs on the “Three-year Strategic Plan for APQN Sustainable Development (2019-2022)”;

6) participated on discussion and approval of the new categories of APQN Membership – the Individual Member;

7) sent the feedback and inputs to the new APQN Constitution;

8) analyzed the relevant information and documents for the application of the APQN’s new members (26+9);

9) provided the feedback to the APQN News (drafts) in 2019.

Currently I am working on development of the proposals for several international APQN events jointly with ECAQA in Kazakhstan in 2021-2022.

APQN Board Member
Ms. Farida Nurmanbetova
(Elected)



Kazakhstan

6th Board Director: Dr. Farida Nurmanbetova MD, DmedSc
Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher
Education and Health care (ECAQA), Kazakhstan

“I think that the APQN Annual Report includes a comprehensive review of APQN developments and international initiatives, this will be valuable for all APQN Members and Stakeholders.”

2019 Report on Finance

2019 APQN Statement of Income and Outcome(In USD)		
	Categories / Programs	Actual amount
S/N	Income	
1	Annual Membership Fees, including Initial Joining Fees	24,433.56
2	Review of Asia-Pacific Quality Register	12,330.00
3	Review of Asia-Pacific Quality Label	3,000.00
4	Interest received	629.50
5	Contribution from AAC and Other Events	3,576.93
Total income in 2019		43,969.99
	Expenses	
1	Audit Fees APQN Account and Relative Expenses to Open a new Account	787.85
2	Administrator's Salary & Administration of the Secretariat's Function	11,700.44
3	The Expenses for APQN Website in 2019	4,771.31
4	The Expenses for APQR Website in 2019	200.00
5	2019 APQN Staff Capacity Building	-
6	Contract Project Expenses of APQN Quality Label (signed in 2014)	-
7	2019 Sponsorship of AAC in Colombo in Sri Lanka	6,896.18
8	Honorarium for Reviewers of APQR	2,842.62
9	Anthology Publications for 2016 AAC in	2,471.36
10	Anthology Publications for 2019 AAC in Sri Lanka	-
11	New Secretariat Notoritation Fees	2,225.93
12	Sponsorship for Keynote Speakers of 2019 AAC in Sri Lanka	-
14	Unexpected Projects and new project	381.52
Total Expenses in 2019		32,277.21
Balance for 2019		11,692.78
Balance carried forward from 2019 and the previous years		189,641.63

Notice:

1. SEEI received Chinese members' membership fees USD 3299.56, so Administrator's salary & administration of the Secretariat's function decrease USD 3299.56.
2. For the Unexpected Projects and new project initiative, the USD 381.52 in fact is the bank fees, which includes USD 69.1 as cost for account maintenance and USD 312.42 as transfer fees.

2019 APQN Annual Report



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Editorial Committee: Jianxin Zhang, Galina Motova, Pingping Liu, Jagannath Patil, Deepthi Bandara,
I-Jung Grace Lu, Farida Nurmanbetova