

Confederation of Medical Associations in Asia and Oceania (CMAAO) Minutes of the 30th General Assembly & 51st Council Meeting

September 23-25, 2015; Chatrium Hotel, Yangon

Hosted by the Myanmar Medical Association

Day 1: Wednesday, September 23, 2015

Committee meetings were held from 12:30 to 13:30.

Opening/Inauguration Ceremony & the 51st CMAAO Council Meeting

Opening Ceremony and Installation of the New President of CMAAO

1.0 Opening

The meeting was opened by Chair of CMAAO Council, Dr. Dong Chun Shin

2.0 Roll Call

The Roll Call was done by Secretary-General, Dr. Masami Ishii.

Members present (in alphabetical order):

Australia, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand

Members absent (in alphabetical order):

Cambodia, Macau, New Zealand, Sri Lanka

3.0 Welcome and Opening Addresses

3.1 President of MMA, Prof. Rai Mra

On behalf of the Myanmar Medical Association Prof Rai Mra welcomed all the delegates to Yangon and to the 30th CMAAO General Assembly and 51st Council Meeting. He explained that Myanmar Medical association was founded in 1949 and it was a member since CMAAO was founded and attended the first CMAAO meeting in Tokyo along with 10 other countries. Due to circumstances Myanmar was not able to participate in CMAAO for many years but now that Myanmar is again an active member of CMAAO we are very pleased to welcome all the members of CMAAO and very honored to host the 30th CMAAO General Assembly and 51st Council Meeting in Yangon. Myanmar Medical association is also a member of MASEAN and WMA and its specialty societies are members of respective international medical societies. He also expressed his appreciation for the presence of WMA Chair of the Council, Dr. Ardis Hoven and WMA Secretary General, Dr. Otmar Kloiber in this meeting.

Prof. Rai Mra mentioned that in this CMAAO meeting food safety had been adopted as a theme and he highlighted that it was an important topic especially in this region and it was the high time to discuss. Throughout the world a lot of mortality and morbidity has resulted because there has been no food safety. The President pointed out that when talking about food safety most of the people tend to think about bacterial contamination of food, but nowadays food adulterated with dangerous chemicals and food contaminated with pesticides are also posing a

lot of problems to the health of the people. He expressed that delegates will be interested in learning from other countries in the region the magnitude of the problem and how this is being dealt with.

He explained about severe flood disaster effected 7 out of 11 regions in Myanmar and efforts of Myanmar Medical Association in flood relief activities. He expected that many fruitful outcomes will be achieved from this meeting and delegates will enjoyed their stay in Yangon.

3.2 President of CMAAO, Dr. Jose Asa Sabili

The President expressed his sincere thanks to all the delegates attending this meeting. He also expressed his sincere gratitude to Chair of Council Dr. Dong Chun Shin for his guidance, CMAAO Secretary-General Dr. Masami Ishii and officials of JMA for their kind assistance and leaders of all NMAs for their co-operation during his tenure as President of CMAAO for last one year. He also expressed his appreciation and congratulations to the Myanmar Medical Association for their outstanding efforts in organizing the conference. He welcomed the incoming President of CMAAO, Prof Rai Mra. He expressed his sympathy to the victims of Nepal earthquake and recent flood disaster in Myanmar. He mentioned about the mission of CMAAO for the better care of patients in this region and his expectations of fruitful outcomes from this year's theme of "Food Safety".

4.0 Inspirational Address by Chair of Council of the WMA, Dr. Ardis Hoven

Dr. Hoven expressed that she was very delighted to be in Yangon after a long travel to attend this important meeting which she wished to be a wonderful and productive one. She also congratulated Myanmar Medical Association for their hospitality and wonderful arrangement for the meeting. She congratulated the past, present and future leaders of CMAAO and their co-operation with the WMA. On behalf of the WMA she urged all the members of WMA from different continents to unite and work together for the fellow physicians and our patients. She welcomed CMAAO delegates to the coming WMA General Assembly in Moscow this year.

5.0 Congratulatory Remarks by Secretary General of the WMA, Dr. Otmar Kloiber

He expressed his sincere thanks to Chair of the Council Dr. Shin, General Secretary Dr. Ishii, President Dr. Sabili and President Prof Mra of Myanmar. He was pleased to be in Yangon as a delegate of WMA and welcomed the positive changes in Myanmar. He congratulated on the 30Th General Assembly and 51st Council meeting and appreciated Myanmar Medical Association in selecting "Food Safety" as a main topic to discuss which is of global importance. He invited delegates of CMAAO to attend the coming WMA General Assembly in Moscow and to bring and share fruitful outputs of this meeting to global community.

6.0 Installation of the 33rd President of CMAAO 2015-2016 (Prof. Rai Mra)

Prof. Rai Mra of the Myanmar Medical Association was installed as the 33rd President of CMAAO and received a Presidential medal from his predecessor, Dr. Jose Asa Sabili of the Philippine Medical Association.

7.0 Inaugural Address by New President, Prof. Rai Mra

First of all, please let me express my deep appreciation and immense pride to be elected as President of CMAAO, which is a highly esteemed organization. Myanmar Medical Association is very fortunate to be part of this confederation of medical associations. Myanmar Medical Association finds that many objectives and aspirations are those for CMAAO. This is our great benefit and we look forward to our future collaboration.

As the new President of CMAAO, I can assure you that I will be committed to uphold the dignity of our organization, and do my utmost to fulfill its mission and objectives. I shall, of course, be looking for advice and assistance from all the member medical associations, as I am sure they will be most willing to oblige. And I will continue to seek the help from the Secretariat, which has been hosted by the Japan Medical Association, a hard work they have done, has been most commendable. I would especially like to express our gratitude to Secretary General Dr. Masami Ishii and his team for advising and helping us throughout these months so that we can most efficiently hold this congress today. Also to Council Chair, Professor Dr. Dong Chun Shin, Treasurer, Dr. Alvin Chan, and my predecessor, Dr. Jose Asa Sabili, for providing a very good leadership, and of course to Chair of the Council of WMA, Dr. Ardis Hoven, for allowing us with her existence and for her continuous support. Last but not least, to the Executive Committee of Myanmar Medical Association, and to Secretary General, Dr. Saw Win and the organizing committee, who have worked tirelessly so that we could hold this meeting. I should not fail to mention the past President of Myanmar Medical Association, Professor Kyaw Myint Naing, who led the ground work for what we are able to do today. Gratitude also be given to him.

8.0 Presidential Award to the Outgoing President (Dr. Jose Asa Sabili)

A plaque of Appreciation was given to Dr. Sabilli in recognition of his effort as President of CMAAO for 2014-2015. The Plaque was presented to him by Prof Rai Mra, President of CMAAO for 2015-2016 and President of Myanmar Medical Association.

9.0 Group Photo

All delegates of all NMAs had participated in the group photo.

10.0 Adjournment of the Opening Ceremony

The 51st Council Meeting

1. Roll Call by CMAAO Secretary-General, Dr. Masami Ishii

The Roll Call was taken by the Secretary-General, Dr. Masami Ishii.

Members present (in alphabetical order):

Australia, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand

Members absent (in alphabetical order):

Cambodia, Macau, New Zealand, Sri Lanka

2. Opening Remarks by Chair of the CMAAO Council, Dr. Dong Chun Shin

Dr. Shin expressed his special thanks to Dr. Ardis Hover and Dr. Otmar Kloiber of WMA, Presidents and Delegates of NMAs for attending this meeting and Presidents and teams of Myanmar Medical Association for arrangement of this meeting. He also acknowledged the Japan Medical association for running the secretariat of CMAAO and for investing in management of the office.

He mentioned the important resolution came out as a result of CMAAO assemblies in previous years. "Child Abuse " two years ago and " Health Database in an Information Technology Society " last year. He acknowledged the NMAs and Secretariat who had supported him during his tenure as Council Chair.

3. Elections (Chair and Vice-chair) for the term of 2015-2017

Dr. Dong Chun Shin (Korean Medical Association) was re-elected as the Chair and Dr. Chong Yeh Woei (Singapore Medical Association) was re-elected as Vice Chair of the Council.

4. Report of Secretary-General

Dr Masami Ishii presented his report to the council members. The highlights of his report were
4.1 Appreciate the hospitality and arrangement of the meeting by members of Myanmar Medical Association

4.2 WMA General Assembly, Durban, South Africa, October 8th to 10th, 2014

Resolutions concerning Ebola Viral Disease

- urges all NMAs and governments to make utmost effort to prevent this disease
- Sufficient training of health care personals for infection prevention

Resolution concerning unproven interventions in clinical practice

- call all the physicians to observe the Item 37 of the Declaration of Helsinki

The most important issue discussed in this meeting was development of health databases and bio-banks. This theme was also discussed last year in Manila and "CMAAO Resolutions on Ethical Frameworks for Health Databases and Human Genetic Databases" was adopted and submitted to WMA Council. "Proposed WMA Declaration on ethical considerations regarding health databases and Bio-banks" was to be discussed in WMA GA in Moscow.

4.3 50th Anniversary of Declaration of Helsinki

4.4 WMA Health Summit

4.5 WMA Council Session, Oslo, Norway

Dr. Masami Ishii was elected as Treasurer of WMA.

4.6 Nepal Earthquake on 25th April 2015

Expressed deep condolence for the victims

JMA donated 272.000 USD through the activities of the AMDA (Asian Medical Doctors Association)

4.7 WVA/WMA Global Conference in one health, Madrid, Spain, May 21st-22nd

4.8 Annual Meeting of American Medical Association, Chicago

4.9 Signing of agreement between JMA and Taiwan Medical Association "Mutual Consent on Dispatching Physicians and Assistance Systems for Medical Relief Assistance in

Disaster Situations."

4.10 Visited to Leyte to see "Leyte Medical Association" building reconstructed with financial support of JMA which was destroyed by typhoon "Yolanda".

The chair of the sessions congratulated JMA and TMA for their mutual agreement and urge other NMAs to consider similar mutual agreements to develop.

5. Approval of Minutes of the 50th CMAAO Midterm Council Meeting 2014 held in Manila

The minutes was approved after brief presentation by chair.

6. Report of the Treasurer Dr. Chan Yee Shing

Financial report was presented by Treasurer Dr. Shing and it was approved.

(Financial statement by Li, Tang, Chen & Co for the year ended 31st December was attached in the folder.)

7. Venue and Dates of the 31st CMAAO General Assembly and 52nd Council Meeting 2016

The 31st CMAAO General Assembly and the 52nd Council Meeting will be held in Kanjanaburi, Thailand hosted by the Medical Association of Thailand, tentatively scheduled on September 14th to 16th, 2016.

8. Venue and Dates of the 32nd CMAAO General Assembly and 53rd Council Meeting 2017

The meeting approved the proposal of JMA to host on 2017 in Tokyo and By Malaysia Medical Association to host in 2018 in Malaysia.

9. Membership Applications (if any)

There was no new application to consider in this meeting, Delegates discussed a plan to expand the membership and to invite countries in the region like China, Laos, Brunei, Fiji and Central Pacific Island states.

10. Report of the Committees (by the committee chairs)

Finance Committee reported that some NMA had failed to submit subscription fees to CMAAO and encouraged them to solve this matter.

Membership Committee discussed ways to attract NMAs in the region to be the members of CMAAO.

11. Other Business: Health Care in Danger in Asia (by the delegation from ICRC in Yangon)

ICRC intervention on "Health Care in Danger"

Modern international humanitarian law (IHL) originated from the idea that enhancing the protection of the medical mission was an essential step to better assist and protect victims of armed conflict. This idea was at the core of the international consensus, which led to the first Geneva Convention of 1864. Today, this consensus seems to be becoming more elusive by the day. During armed conflict and other emergencies, assaults on health facilities, health workers,

and the patients they serve, are all too common.

The respect for health care and health personnel who carry out their mission in difficult circumstances is at the core of the principle of humanity. In 2011, the ICRC and partners began the *Health Care in Danger* project. The latest report on violent incidents against health care analyzed 2,398 incidents collected in 11 countries from January 2012 to December 2014. The report concludes that over 50% of the attacks took place against, inside or nearby health care facilities; at least 598 health care personnel lost their lives or were wounded during an attack; and over 700 medical transports were directly or indirectly affected. As a consequence, health care facilities were forced to suspend operations.

In a ground-breaking move in June 2015, under the auspices of the ICRC, the World Medical Association (WMA), the International Committee of Military Medicine (ICMM), the International Council of Nurses (ICN) and the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) launched the "*Ethical principles of health care in times of armed conflict and other emergencies*". For the first time, our global associations have a common and concise set of shared principles. They will apply to more than 30 million professionals, civilian and military, who may face ethical dilemmas in times of armed conflict and other emergencies. We expect states and international organizations to offer political support and to use all means available to facilitate their implementation.

12. Adjournment of the Council Session

Day 2: Thursday, September 24

The 30th CMAAO General Assembly

The 13th Taro Takemi Memorial Oration

Orator - Professor Pe Thet Khin, MBBS, MMedSc (Paeds), MRCP (UK), MRCPCH, DipMedEd, FRCP (London), FRCP (Edinburgh)

1. Introduction of the Orator

Dr. Masami Ishii, Secretary General introduced the orator, Prof. Pe Thet Khin, Consultant Pediatrician and Adviser to the President's Office.

2. Memorial Oration

"Safer Food for a Safer World" by Professor Pe Thet Khin

3. Presentation of a Plaque of Appreciation to the Orator by Japan Medical Association

4. Adjournment of the Oration

Symposium: Ensuring Food Safety: An important challenge today

1. Presentations

"Ensuring Food Safety : An Important Challenge Today"

Dr. Jamal Uddin Chowdhury, Bangladesh Medical Association

"Ensuring Food Safety : An Important Challenge Today"

Dr. Alvin Chan, Hong Kong Medical Association

"Food Safety - A global public health concern"

Prof. Dr. A Marthanda Pillai, Indian Medical Association

"Ensuring food safety throughout the life-course in Indonesia"

Dr. Rina Agustina, Endang Achadi, Elvina Karyadi and Tirta Prawita Sari, Indonesian Medical Association

"Food Safety Efforts in Japan"

Dr. Hideo Kasai, Japan Medical Association

"Chemical Food Safety"

Dong Chun Shin, Korean Medical Association

"Food Safety - The Malaysian Experience"

Dr. Ashok Philip, Malaysian Medical Association

"Ensuring Food Safety : An Important Challenge Today"

Maj. Gen. Assist. Prof. Dr. Kidaphol Wadhanakul, Medical Association of Thailand

"Food Safety in Myanmar"

Dr. Tun Zaw, Myanmar Medical Association

"Food Safety In Nepal"

Dr. Prakash Budhathoky, Dr. Mukti Ram Shrestha, Nepal Medical Association

"Mother Nature and Food Safety: The 21st Century Health Agenda

Dr. Maria Minerva P. Calimag, Philippine Medical Association

"Ensuring Food Safety : An Important Challenge Today"

Dr. Tammy Chan, Singapore Medical Association

"Ensuring Food Safety : An Important Challenge Today, Food Safety Management in Taiwan"

Ching-Chuan SU, Jerry-Y.H. CHU, Taiwan Medical Association

2. Round-table Discussion on Ensuring Food Safety: An important challenge today

Country Reports

Country reports were presented by Bangladesh Medical Association, Hong Kong Medical Association, Indian Medical Association, Indonesian Medical Association, Japan Medical Association, Korean Medical Association, Malaysian Medical Association, Medical Association of Thailand, Myanmar Medical Association, Nepal Medical Association, Philippine Medical Association, Singapore Medical Association and Taiwan Medical Association.

Day 3: Friday, September 25

The 30th CMAAO General Assembly (continued)

Plenary Session Chaired by the CMAAO President, Prof. Rai Mra

Prof. Rai Mra, the new president of CMAAO opened the session.

1. Approval of minutes of the 29th CMAAO General Assembly held in Manila, Philippine

It was approved by the assembly.

2. Report of the Council Meeting by Chair of the CMAAO Council, Dr. Dong Chun Shin

It was approved by the assembly.

3. Approval of the Report of the Treasurer

It was approved by the assembly.

4. Discussion and adoption of the proposed CMAAO resolution on Ensuring Food Safety: An important challenge today

A delegate from Korean Medical Association (KMA) presented the draft of the CMAAO Resolution on Food Safety.

A delegate from **Malaysia** suggested to include connection between environmental sanction to global food chain and food safety in recommendation rather than in preamble. She also suggested to include the aspect of educational program starting from elementary school level to higher education in recommendation to NMAs.

The resolution was approved by the assembly.

5. Approval of the Report of the Committees

Membership Committee

It discussed future recruitment of new members from China, Laos, Brunei, Fiji and Central Pacific Island states, Central Asia and Middle East. The committee will report the progress to the next CMAAO General Assembly.

Financial Committee

The Treasurer reported that with the decision of emergency meeting of the Council, CMAAO had donated 10000 USD to Nepal earthquake victims. This financial item will be stated in the next year financial report. He requested the GA to approve this.

The treasurer also discussed the travel grant for NMAs with financial difficulties to attend the CMAAO meetings. He explained the existing rule that the ceiling for the travel grant for an NMA is 1000 USD / year. He also recognized the generosity of Myanmar Medical Association to waived the registration fees of Nepal and Bangladesh Medical Associations.

He also mentioned that Myanmar Medical Association will have negative balance for hosting this conference. Indian delegates mentioned that the India Medical Association had donated 50.000 USD worth of medicines and medical equipment to Nepal and it should be considered as an activity under CMAAO. A Malaysian delegate also mentioned that Malaysian Medical

Association donated 20,000 Ringgits to Nepal for help of earthquake victims. The treasurer suggested to donate 5000 USD to Myanmar Medical Association for relief activities of severe flood disaster which occurred during the months of July and August 2015 and additional donation of 5000 USD to Nepal Medical Association for earthquake victims. Former President of CMAAO added the decision that the emergency donation was made with the information and agreement of him after he was informed from secretariat of CMAAO. The Honorary Treasurer also requested the respective NMAs to report back to CMAAO in next meetings. The Assembly approved the decision to donate Myanmar and additional donation to Nepal Medical Association unanimously.

Professor Rai Mra acknowledged the Assembly agreement to donate to Myanmar flood victims. He also mentioned that Myanmar Medical Association had collected 5000 USD for earthquake victims of Nepal, but in the process of transferring this donation, unfortunately, flood disaster occurred and Myanmar Medical Association was busy with relief activities including weekly mobile teams to disaster affected areas.

Constitution and By-laws Committee

Chair of the committee suggested that a clause about how to manage emergency situation should be added to the by-laws of CMAAO. Council Chair supported this idea and suggested to formulate a new project on emergency disaster measures by CMAAO.

A delegate from India suggested all the NMAs to form Disaster Management Teams so as to respond to disasters as quickly and effectively as possible. He also suggested that a focus should be more on human resource mobilization including allied professionals as paramedics and nurses. A delegate from Malaysia suggested that a certain percentage of budget for emergency disaster relief activities should be earmarked.

Dr. Ishii shared the Japanese experience of disaster relief and presented an example to form mutual co-operation mechanisms.

A delegate from **Nepal** discussed the importance of donation and psychological support regardless of the amount. The inter-NMAs support is different from inter-governments support in terms of many impacts both psychologically and physically.

Dr. Shin concluded the session suggesting future consideration to form an emergency disaster relief team of CMAAO.

6. Appointment of the CMAAO officers for 2015 - 2016

6.1 President-elect	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Prasert Sarnvivad
6.2 Two Vice-Presidents	
1 st Vice-president from the host NMA in 2017	Dr. Yoshitake Yokokura
2 nd Vice-president, optional	
6.3 Treasurer for 2015 – 2017	Dr. Yee Shing Chan

7. Appointment of Standing Committees 2015 - 2017

7.1 Articles and By-Laws	Singapore, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand
7.2 Nomination (Ad-hoc)	Japan, Hong Kong, Korea, Thailand
7.3 Resolution	India, Australia, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, New Zealand,

	Philippines, Taiwan
7.4 Finance	Hong Kong, India, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Taiwan
7.5 Membership	Thailand, Australia, Japan, Macau, Nepal, Myanmar, Sri Lanka

8. Venue and dates of the 31st CMAAO General Assembly and 52nd Council Meeting (2016)

The 31st CMAAO General Assembly and the 52nd Council Meeting will be held in Kanjanaburi, Thailand hosted by the Medical Association of Thailand, tentatively scheduled on September 14th to 16th, 2016

9. Venue and dates of the 32nd CMAAO General Assembly and 53rd Council Meeting (2017)

The GA accepted the offer of JMA to host the meeting in Japan in 2017.

The GA also accepted the offer of Malaysia Medical Association to host the meeting in Malaysia in 2018.

10. Membership applications

There is no new membership application for this year. The delegates discussed the boundary of CMAAO, how far to expand and to concentrate on nearby 5 countries. President Rai Mra suggested to invite member NMAs which are absent from this meeting to the next year's meeting.

11. Theme of the symposium for the CMAAO General Assembly in 2016 and others

Theme of the symposium will be "Medical Journals".

12. Other Business

Discussed the duration on the meeting. Some delegates thought that the 5 minutes allocation for country report is not long enough.

Discussed the issue of Dr. Ketan Desai, who was elected as President of WMA in 2009, New Delhi Assembly. But he was not able to take over the Presidency, which was to be started at October 2010 as he was facing some legal problems in India at that time. Dr. Desai, an Indian delegate and Dr. Ishii discussed on the eligibility of taking Presidency which will be decided in the WMA General Assembly in Moscow.

13. Closing Remarks

Prof Rai Mra made a closing speech, in which he thanked all the delegate to come here and actively participate in this meeting, with many fruitful discussions on important issues. He urged the members to continue and maintain the friendship and unity of CMAAO. He wished all of them for safe journey home and welcome to meet in the coming October at WMA Assembly in Moscow.

Adjournment