

WESTERN PACIFIC PHARMACEUTICAL FORUM

of the International Pharmaceutical Federation

Advancing pharmacy in the Western Pacific Region

Report to member organisations July 2015



The **Western Pacific Pharmaceutical Forum** [WPPF] is the regional Forum of the International Pharmaceutical Federation based on WHO's Western Pacific Region which includes 37 countries that are home to approximately one-fourth of the world's population,

Executive Committee:

Position	Name	Country
President	Mr John Jackson	Australia
Vice President	Dr Tony Tarn	China Taiwan
Member	Prof Wai Keung Chui	Singapore
Member	Ms Leonie Ocampo	Philippines
Member & FIP Liaison	Mr Nobuo Yamamoto	Japan
Member	Mrs Kyung-Shin Baek	Korea
Translator	Dr Sanh Hoon Joo	Korea
General Secretary	Mr Reynaldo Umali	Philippines
Executive Secretary	Dr Suzanne Caliph	Australia

Secretariat:

Position:	President	General Secretary
Name:	John Jackson	Mr Reynaldo Umali
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Organisations:

	Name of Organisation	Country
1	Japan Pharmaceutical Association	Japan
2	Korean Pharmaceutical Association	Korea
3	Pharmaceutical Society of China Taiwan	China Taiwan
4	Philippines Pharmacists Association	Philippines
5	Pharmaceutical Society of Singapore	Singapore
6	Pharmaceutical Society of Australia	Australia
7	Pharmacy Guild of Australia	Australia
8	Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand	New Zealand
9	Pharmaceutical Society of Fiji	Fiji
10	Vietnam Pharmacists Association	Vietnam
11	Malaysian Pharmaceutical Association	Malaysia
12	Pharmaceutical Society of Papua New Guinea	PNG

Recent activities of the Forum:

Mrs Nariel Bennets-Ware

Mrs Bennets-Ware resigned as Executive Secretary of the WPPF in April 2015, after more than ten years in the role. Nariel provided exceptional service over this period and in moving a vote of thanks at its recent meeting the Executive recognised the dedication of her service, the contribution she has made to the operation of WPPF and her willingness to assist pharmacists and pharmacy organisation in the Region.

The WPPF has been fortunate to appoint Dr Suzanne Caliph as the new Executive Secretary.

Meetings of the WPPF Executive

The WPPF Executive met on two occasions during 2014 and has met on two occasions to date in 2015.

Executive meeting March 2014

The Executive met on Friday 7th and Saturday 8th March in Manila, Philippines. Dr Klara Tisocki Team Leader, Essential Medicines & Health Technologies attended along with WHO Intern Ms Anne Rongen. Dr Tisocki provided a briefing on current WHO programs in the Region relevant to pharmacists including programs responding to the emergence of non-communicable diseases in developing countries, managing communicable diseases including malaria and HIV-AIDS, responding to health emergencies, developing health system capacity and implementation of universal health coverage. She also stated that the small Pacific Island nations are a particular focus of the WHO which aligns with the WPPF Executive's interest in implementing projects to support pharmacists in these countries.

Dr Tisocki sought advice from the Executive in relation to a WHO project to study the understanding of pharmacists of the region of antimicrobial resistance. WPPF has subsequently provided assistance in the design and content of a questionnaire to study pharmacists' understanding of this topic.

Executive meeting August 2014

This meeting was held on Friday 29th August in Bangkok, Thailand during the FIP Congress. Matters addressed in this meeting included possible review of the WPPF statutes, AGM and executive membership election procedures, development of a new WPPF logo plus research proposals and work undertaken jointly with the WHO in areas of health practitioner regulation and specifically the regulation of pharmacists' education and practice.

Executive meeting February 2015

WPPF AGM

The WPPF AGM was conducted at the FIP Congress in Bangkok to enable the maximum attendance by representatives of member associations. A total of 29 people from 11 countries attended. An election was conducted for positions on the Executive and the current members were re-elected.

FIP / WPPF scholarships to attend the FIP Congress

These scholarships are open to pharmacists from developing countries of the Region.

As per previous years, the FIP Foundation provided support for two scholarships in 2014 and they were awarded to:

- Dr Vanny You, Cambodia
- Ms Ram Arnold Abhishek, Fiji

An exceptionally large number of applications were received for the FIP / WPPF scholarships in 2015. We are grateful to have received sponsorship from Ego Pharmaceuticals which has enabled a third scholarship to be awarded this year. The three scholarship winners for 2015 are:

- Ms
- Dr
- Mr

Good Pharmacy Practice Symposium

This major workshop was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia over three days in late May 2014. It was organized by WPPF in response to a request from representatives of the Cambodian Ministry of Health and was conducted in association with the Ministry, the Pharmacy Council and the Pharmacist Association of Cambodia. It was supported by both the WHO WPR office and FIP and the WHO Technical Officer, Essential Medicines and Pharmaceutical Policies in Cambodia, Ms Lkhagvadorj Vanchinsuren provided invaluable assistance in coordinating the Cambodian agencies involved with the workshop.

The objective of the workshop was to provide education and training on Good Pharmacy Practice [GPP] thereby improving the quality, safety and efficacy of medicines delivered to patients in Cambodia. The program was able to use as a reference the Good Pharmacy Practice Guide which had recently been prepared by the Cambodian Ministry of Health. Day one consisted of lectures on the principles and practice of GPP including an introduction to GPP, the incorporation of GPP into undergraduate and on-going professional education for pharmacists and the role of support staff in GPP. Case studies were also presented on how a number of countries of the Region had introduced GPP.

Days two and three of the workshop consisted of a train-the-trainer program covering the management, practice and ethics of pharmacy and post-marketing surveillance. This training was conducted in the Khmer language and was aimed at developing the capacity of the attendees to spread knowledge and skills on GPP throughout Cambodia.

Presentations were made by WPPF Executive members Mrs Leonila Ocampo, Prof Wai Chui and Mr John Jackson, Cambodian Health Department representatives Dr Heng Dun Kiet, Mr Eav Dararat and Mr Kleang Sameth plus regional experts including Mr Richard Lim, a Cambodian now practicing as a

pharmacist in Australia who has received national recognition for the quality of the service provided by his pharmacy.

The sixty attendees included pharmacy regulators and academics but also a significant number of government pharmacists with responsibility for monitoring and developing pharmacists' services, both in cities such as Phnom Penh and in the provinces. The combination of the GPP education, the trainer training and their particular responsibilities mean they are ideally placed to share the benefits of the workshop with pharmacists from throughout the whole country.

While in Phnom Penh, the WPPF President Mr Jackson took the opportunity to meet with the WHO Representative Dr Dong-il Ahn and Team Leader Dr Rasul Baghirov, the newly elected President of the Pharmacists Association of Cambodia, Dr Kruey Sun Lay and academics at a number of the local pharmacy schools.

Highlights of events in the region where the Forum has been involved:

74th FIP International Congress, Bangkok, Thailand

The full WPPF Executive including the General Secretary and the Executive Secretary attended the FIP Congress in Bangkok from 30th August to 4th September 2014.

Mr John Jackson made the following presentations at the Congress:

- 1. Global Pharmaceutical Policies – Impact on Medicine Price and Responsible use.*
- 2. Approaches to professional recognition, advancement and development of expertise: The Western Pacific Region.*

Ms Leonie Ocampo made the following presentation at the Congress:

- 1. Payment schemes (health insurance impact on affordability of medicines or universal coverage).*
- 2. Ensuring access to medicines: A regulatory perspective*

5th FIP Pharmaceutical Sciences World Congress

Melbourne, Australia 13-16 April 2014

Prof Chui and Mr John Jackson attended the Congress. Prof Chui led a delegation presenting on pharmaceutical research in Singapore.

In the lead up to the Congress, Mr Jackson participated in the one-day FIPeD Education Initiative held at Monash University.

65th Session of the WHO WPR meeting.

Ms Leonie Ocampo and Mr Reynaldo Umali represented FIP / WPPF at this meeting of health ministers from the region from 13th – 17th October 2014 in Manila, Philippines and presented a written statement aligned with one of the main topics of the meeting, *The role that pharmacists can play in mental Health.*

Philippine Pharmaceutical Association 2014 Congress

This Congress was held from Friday 25th April to Sunday 27th April in Davao City, Philippines. Mr John Jackson was invited to speak at this Congress on *The role of pharmacy support workforce in improving access to pharmacists and pharmacy services*.

Taiwan community based Good Pharmacy Practice Symposium

This symposium was organised on 28th & 29th October in Taipei, Taiwan by WPPF Executive member Dr Tony Tarn and was attended by Prof Wai Keung Chui and Mr John Jackson. Mr Jackson presented on *Services provided by community pharmacy in Australia and compliance to practice standards*.

Prof Chui presented on *Education to support implementation of GPP*.

While in Taiwan, Mr Jackson was invited to speak to representatives of the Taiwan pharmacist organisations and he reported on current global pharmacy issues incorporating a report on major outcomes from the 2014 FIP Congress.

Fiji Pharmaceutical Society Annual Conference.

John Jackson was the keynote speaker at this conference on Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd November in Nadi, Fiji and gave presentations on the three following topics:

1. *Global Pharmaceutical Policies and their impact on pharmacists' practice*
2. *Current Global Pharmacy Issues: How are these issues relevant to pharmacist in Fiji?*
3. *A workshop on medication safety.*

Federation of Asian Pharmaceutical Associations Congress

Thursday 9th to Sunday 12th October 2014 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia

Mr John Jackson and Ms Leonie Ocampo attended this Congress.

Ms Ocampo spoke on *Changes in the pattern of community pharmacy services in the Philippines for sustainable health*.

Mr Jackson spoke on *The policy framework that supports community pharmacists' practice*.

Key collaboration with other stakeholders of the region (including the WHO Regional Office and other organisations)

Expert Consultation on Health Workforce Regulation in the Western Pacific Region

This symposium was conducted jointly by the WHO WPR and the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency [AHPA]. John Jackson was invited to attend the two day meeting on 29th and 30th September in Melbourne, Australia and gave a presentation on *The regulation of pharmacists' education and practice in the Western Pacific Region*.

In advance of the symposium John Jackson provided assistance in the form of advice relating to pharmacists' education, regulation and practice to Ms Belinda Wraight, the Consultant engaged to undertake a study of workforce regulation in the WPR.

Subsequent to the symposium John Jackson has reviewed the draft report “Strengthening Health Workforce Regulation in the Western Pacific Region” prepared for WHO / AHPRA.

Survey of regulation of pharmacists’ education and practice in the Western Pacific Region.

WPPF undertook a survey of the regulation of pharmacists’ education and practice in every country of the Western Pacific Region which has a university based pharmacy education program. The data assembled was used for the presentations at the FIP Congress in Bangkok and the WHO WPR / AHPRA symposium.

Regional collaboration

WPPF seeks to engage with other regional Pharmacy organisations and has been providing leadership on behalf of the six FIP regional pharmaceutical forums in relation to representation of the forums within and on behalf of FIP. The WPPF has also engaged with the Federation of Asian Pharmaceutical Associations with Executive members Mr John Jackson and Ms Leonie Ocampo contributing to the FAPA Congress in Sabah Malaysia and being elected to chair sections within the Federation.

Current projects:

WPPF assisted the WHO WPR office to develop and disseminate to pharmacist associations in Asia and the Western Pacific, a survey of the pharmacy workforce. The WHO has now requested WPPF to analyse and report on the data collected from a survey.

The WPPF will have been in existence for 15 years next year and work has commenced on organising a major regional conference to mark the occasion.

Main challenges:

The developing countries of the Region stand to benefit the most from the activities of the WPPF however they frequently do not have the local resources to participate in regional activities.

Compiled by: John Jackson

End of report