

WESTERN PACIFIC PHARMACEUTICAL FORUM

of the International Pharmaceutical Federation

2018 Annual Report of the Regional Pharmaceutical Forums to the FIP Council for the period June 2017 and May 2018

The **Western Pacific Pharmaceutical Forum** [WPPF] is based on WHO's Western Pacific Region which stretches from Mongolia in the northwest, to New Zealand in the south, and Fiji in the east. Home to approximately one-quarter of the world's population, the Region is very diverse in pharmacy practice. It has some of the world's least developed and most isolated countries plus rapidly growing and highly developed economies. Of 37 countries and territories in the Region, 16 have pharmacy schools and associations.

Executive committee members:

Position	Name	Country
President	Mr John Jackson	Australia
Vice President	Prof Wai Keung Chui	Singapore
Member	Dr Nobuo Yamamoto	Japan
Member	Ms Leonie Ocampo	Philippines
Member	Prof Jih-Heng Li	China Taiwan
Member	Dr Sang Hoon Joo	Korea
General Secretary	Mr Reynaldo Umali	Philippines
Executive Secretary	Dr Suzanne Caliph	Australia

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	Current Member Organisations	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	Pharmaceutical Society of Papua New Guinea	PNG
12	Association of Pharmacy Professional Mongolia	Mongolia

Main activities and collaborations of the Forum

The WPPF Regional Leaders Summit (Manila, 2016) identified **the major issue common to the countries of the Region is the need for competency standards and professional development frameworks**. As a result, in 2017 WPPF conducted a survey of countries in the Region to **determine the existence and perceived benefits of competency statements**. Singapore and Australia have established advanced competency guidelines and a number of other countries such as the Philippines have entry level statements, however **most countries reported a need for assistance in this area**.

The results of the survey were presented in a **SIGN session at the 2017 FIP Congress in Seoul** and have also been presented at the **2018 Congress of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia**. This work has led WPPF to undertake a **comparative analysis of the FIP Global Competency Framework and frameworks from the Region**. Following discussions with **IPSF and FIP YPG**, WPPF **established an intern position** for this project, which is being undertaken under a **MoU with Inje Uni of Korea**.

In March, WPPF presented a **joint workshop with the Kaohsiung Medical University, China Taiwan**, on Competency for Pharmacists and Pharmaceutical Scientists. Speakers included representatives from Taiwan FDA, the Pharmaceutical Society Taiwan, Japan, Philippines, Singapore and Australia.

A pharmacist from Fiji was awarded a WPPF **scholarship to attend the FIP Congress in Seoul**. This was in addition to the FIP Foundation supported Travel Scholarships provided to pharmacists from Malaysia and China.

WPPF conducted a forum and AGM for delegates from the Region attending the 2017 FIP Congress. The forum addressed the second Regional issue arising from the Leaders' Summit, namely how to **deliver effective medication therapy management**.

The WPPF President gave the key note presentation at the **Conference of Pharmaceutical Society of Papua New Guinea** and at the **International Conference on Trends and Prospects of Community Pharmacy**, in Taiwan spoke on 'How health policy and funding have affected the evolution of pharmacists' practice'.

WPPF attended the **WHO Western Pacific Region Meeting** in Brisbane and presented a statement regarding the development of the pharmacist workforce. At the meeting, WPPF was invited to participate in the launch of the **WHO Patient Safety Challenge** and is currently seeking to establish a Regional inter-professional group to address this challenge. WPPF continues to **engage with WHO Western Pacific Regional Office** through Dr Escalante, Senior Technical Officer, Essential Medicines & Technologies.

The **main challenges for WPPF** are to create a more sound structure by establishing the Forum as a registered association and engaging with all aspects of the profession, namely pharmacy practice, pharmaceutical sciences and education across the Region.