



Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs

APAY eNews

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UPCOMING EVENTS

29Apr - 3May: Disaster Preparedness Workshop (Yangon, Myanmar)

5May: School of Peace Festival (Bangalore, India)

5June: World Environmental Day

17Jul - 22Jul: YMCA Regional Youth Conference (Singapore)

ECM 2012 Highlights Key Events

The annual APAY Executive Committee Meeting (ECM) finally took place. It was diligently attended by around 100 frontline leaders coming from 20 national movements. This was held last 7-9 March 2012 in The Cityview YMCA.

As most of the attendees looked forward to, the election for the two (2) additional APAY Board Members took place. Having three (3) candidates, Mr. Ng Yee Khai (Malaysia) and Ms. Nilani Manthrinayake (Sri Lanka) were able elected as a result. Coincidentally, youth and gender committee members somehow celebrated as finally things were going on rightly as they have long envisioned.

As this was also the beginning of the new quadrennium, constitutionally, two (2) of the Standing Committees elected for their Chair and Vice Chair. For the Youth Participation and Leadership Development (YPLD) Committee, Mr. Alvin Kan (Hong Kong) and Mr. Philip Damion Arumagam (Sri Lanka) were elected for the posts, respectively. On the other hand, Gender Equity Committee correspondingly elected Dr. Ann Thomas (India) and Mr. Emmanuel Chan (Philippines) as their Chair and Vice-Chair.



Left: APAY frontline leaders from 20 different national movements convene during the Executive Committee Meeting at The Cityview Diamond hall. Right: Young leaders and youth-related working staff from different movements in one of the Standing Committee meetings during the expanse of the Executive Committee Meeting 2012.

Strategic Plans which particularly derived from the YA/GA Mandate, were presented before the ECM attendees and adopted fully and earned support as well as commendation from the leaders. From this, YMCAs in the Asia-Pacific, partly, will now take its point from there. Other ECM discussions also sparked up intensive deliberation, however, all boiled down to a consensus agreement by the body. Anyhow, the ECM wrapped up successfully and seen to be moving in accordance to its strategical direction.

Prior to the ECM, Leadership Summit Training was held together with the YMCA of Hong Kong. The meeting was well-received. A very inspiring Keynote Address was delivered by Mr. Bob Knowling, a renowned change-agent personality, over a sumptuous dinner. Maximizing the schedule, after

the ECM, training on Resource Mobilization was held. Mr. Manuel Camarenas (Mexico City YMCA) and Mr. Ron Coulombe (former Vice President, Edmonton YMCA Canada) were invited to be the Resource Speakers. The training was participated by around thirty 30 participants.

Overall, the whole week was filled with many learning experience as well as new agenda for the coming four (4) years. As believed, APAY and the rest of the YMCAs in the region will be at its best to accomplish what has been started from the initial ECM for the term 2012-2015.

We would like to acknowledge all the national movements who participated in the meetings. Also, we extend our sincere gratitude to both YMCAs in Hong Kong in helping us to successfully run this year's ECM.

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From the desk of the General Secretary...

APAY-Executive Committee Meeting 2012

Major Decisions and Directions Confirmed (A Report)

Thank you for attending the ECM 2012 for the APAY. We had over 100 participants from 20 movements this year. The ECM itself was little shortened but the workshops held before and after the ECM were very fruitful. I thank the YMCA of Hong Kong for conducting the Leadership Summit trainings last March 6-7 at the YMCA of Hong Kong. After the ECM, workshop on Resource Mobilization was held with 30 people from 15 movements. Resource Mobilization is one of the major focus areas of APAY thrusts for the coming four (4) years.

Briefly, I would like to mention the major decisions and directions discussed and confirmed during the ECM.

1. Election of Board Members: We had three (3) candidates for the board election. The result of voting, Mr. Ng Yee Khai (Malaysia, Youth Committee member) and Ms. Nilani Manthrinayake (Sri Lanka, Gender Committee member) were elected as new board members. Congratulations.
2. Youth Committee (YPLD): Alvin Kan (HK, Chair), Philip Damion Arumugam (Sri Lanka, Vice Chair). They met on March 6 and 7 for getting to know each other more. Their major activities for 2012 would be:
 - A. Requesting all the member movements to select two Youth Representatives (one volunteer and one staff, if possible) who can lead youth activities in their own movements.
 - B. Conducting the first Youth Regional conference for youth groups (Uni- Y, College Y, Youth groups, etc...) for further strengthening the youth activities. This will be done in July 17-22, 2012 in Singapore in conjunction with the 110th anniversary of the YMCA of Singapore.
 - C. Youth Representatives will be asked to gather from August 6 to 13th in Sri Lanka for Global Citizenship Education Training of Trainers. One of the Youth Representatives' roles will be to promote and lead Global Citizenship Education and youth-led activities in their own movements.
 - D. Sometimes in October 2012, the first International Workcamp will be conducted based on the Global Citizenship concept. The venue has not been decided yet.
3. YMCA Fellow for Youth Campaign: This is the second year for the campaign. All movements were requested to respond positively to raise funds for the above youth activities. In 2011: 57,000 USD was raised; this 2012, the goal is 100,000 USD. Pledges were accepted during ECM, and reached 26,000 USD.
4. Mission and Responses Committee (MRC): Dr. Song Indong (Korea, Chair), Felician Francis (SL, Vice Chair). The MRC are to review our activities in view of YMCA missions. Concretely, they discussed how to respond to the issues of Ecological crisis, Social Economy (Economic injustice) and creating educational Tours through the YMCA Global Network (Alternative Tourism). Three Task forces were formed and will plan the activities for 2012.
 - A. Green Ambassadors Training will be held from May 21-25 in Chiang Mai. All movements are encouraged to send one or two staff/volunteers who would lead the Green projects and education in the national movements. The trainings will be done twice for basic training in 2012 and advanced training in 2013. Task Force for Green Team (Patcharin, Colin, amber, Lister, Stephen and a few more)
 - B. Alternative Tourism programs are collected from 10-15 local movements. After screening the model programs (Alternative Tours), the APAY will appeal and market those to YMCA network through the specialized web site. Task Force for GATN (Dr. Park, Chularat, Bacani, Sian, Linda, Andrew Leo, Ceaser and Solomon)
 - C. Social Economy is the new area of concern for APAY. The workshop will be planned in Dec 2012 or Jan 2013. Task Force for Social Economy (Dr Song, Max Ediger, Kim, Wu Tao Chang, plus a few members)
5. Gender Equity Committee: Dr. Ann Thomas (India, Chair), Emmanuel Chan (Philippines, Vice Chair). They formed a task force (Dr. Ann, Dr. Pat, Emmanuel, Nilani, Thelma and Elsie) and plan Gender Training of Trainers (TOT) in fall 2012. They will also make Gender Policy for APAY as well as plan to provide e-learning and develop media usage.
6. Constitution Committee: Peter Malone (Australia, Chair), Joseph John (India, Vice Chair). Formed a task team for collecting constitution from all the member movements

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From the desk of the General Secretary... (Continued on page 2)

(English) (Task Force: Peter, Ray and Lakshan). Through this, they plan to make a model constitution, especially focusing on good governance models. The actual constitution and by-laws of APAY will also be checked by the Task Force and will be proposed at the ECM 2013.

7. Finance Committee: Wichian Boonmapajorn (Thailand, Chair), Stephen Lo (Singapore, Vice Chair). The Fair Share is the core budget of the APAY and that amount has not been changed in the last 10 years while the inflation in Hong Kong is nearly 3-5% in last several years. The proposal of raising the Fair Share by 5% was discussed. As a result of the long discussion, we decided to raise 5% for all movement. But if there is any difficulty in doing so, a minimum of 3% would be allowed. The final decision was to raise in average of 4%. Each movement decides the amount for 2012 Fair share.

8. GATF Committee: Dr Philip Kwok (Hong Kong, Chair), Chim Hou Yan (Singapore, Vice Chair). Due to the HK Government policy, the lost amount in investment in 2008-9 by Lehman Brother's Bond was recovered up to 98%. Therefore, the GATF total amount went over 1.05 million USD as of Dec 2011. The Committee agreed to support the APAY Strategic Plan, (especially for Gender Training and Green Ambassador Training), with a total of 30,500 USD in 2012.

9. Movement Strengthening: The Committee of MS was not formed and rather the movement information was discussed openly in the general session of ECM.

A. PSG East Timor: Orasio made a report. Korea, Japan and Australia are the members of PSG. In order to make the movement sustainable, we need to develop income sources (Coffee project and Alternative Tours). Another point was to invite more South-South cooperation in PSG efforts in the coming three years. There will be PSG meeting on May 26-27.

B. PSG Cambodia: Bunthok made a progress report on Cambodia YMCA in board governance, membership campaign, income generating program, and Street Children project. Again, South-South relationship can be developed to advise in the income generating programs and concrete trainings. Next PSG meeting will be in October, in time of AGM.

C. PSG Indonesia: National Council and Surabaya YMCA both made a new Strategic Plan and started revival actions of the YMCA movements in Indonesia. There will be PSG meeting in September at the

time of National Assembly.

D. Pakistan and Vietnam YMCAs and their situation were shared. APAY will be following up on those movements in crisis.

E. Disaster Response Management Workshop will be held from April 30 to May 2 in Yangon, Myanmar. Asia and Pacific area has been the area of severe natural disasters every year. The proper and quick responses and effective interventions have been expected by the communities and should be developed by the YMCA. The workshop will be held jointly with Y Care International.

10. Resource Mobilization: The special workshop was held after the ECM and about 30 people from 15 movements participated. Overall RM goals of APAY.

A. 8-10 National movements develop their capacities in RM for their national/local movements during 2012-2015 (four years).

B. Those national/local movements conduct annual campaigns for their particular causes with board/staff/volunteer involvements. (Make a case, set a goal, recruit and train volunteers, identify and ask prospective donors, develop infrastructures and a plan for annual campaigns).

C. They share their experiences with the other local YMCAs as well as with the other movements in APAY.

The above points are the key information that all the National movements need to keep and follow upon. The APAY Strategic plan was approved and all the above has been identified as the agenda for 2012.

Last but not the least, I would like to extend my appreciation all the participants, officers and new board members, committee members and invitees for the wonderful participation and contribution to the common agenda of the YMCAs in Asia-Pacific. I thank both YMCA of Hong Kong and Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong for their support and for hosting wonderful dinners.

Reported by Kohei Yamada

**“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.”
Colossians 3:17**

Movements Updates: YMCA Indonesia

As a follow up to the on-going strengthening process in YMCA of Indonesia with focus local YMCA of Surabaya, and after series of visits, consultations, orientation and meetings among local, national board, APAY staff and Partners Support Group (PSG), the transition of leadership from National to local to operate and manage the YMCA of Surabaya have been completed on March 4, 2012.

Having formulated the strategic plan of both the focus local and national YMCAs, and having introduced the newly appointed Executive Director of the Surabaya YMCA to the Executive Committee Meetings for her to understand the thrust and direction of the regional Alliance in the next quadrennial, and share those learning to her local board, it is expected that the process can now be accelerated to regain the momentum at their respective local and national areas of responsibilities.

The local YMCA of Surabaya will be expected to achieve the following process and commitments: prepare for the closing of the schools; since this is already unsustainable, the YMCA leadership and management will prepare the scheme and process to implement this; promote the kindergarten for the next school year to develop the program; recruit two staff (General Secretary and Program staff) who will be prepared and trained for effective leadership and lead the strengthening of the local movement; start organizing program for youth and women to be a socially relevant YMCA and develop a new image in the community; fix the roofing of the school buildings and its facilities; plan, organize and conduct trainings for Board and Staff; and prepare feasibility studies on their proposed vocational schools and hostel construction/development as a long term plan.

On the other hand, the national office will hold consultation meetings to prepare for the legal status of the movement in Indonesia since the Act of 1949 original copy is not in the current leadership's possession; reflect on, review and amend the Constitution and By-

Laws and the mission statements of the movement; convene a National Annual Meeting to ratify the proposed amendments; elect new set of leaders and consult with one another on the new policies and sanctions to strengthen movements in Indonesia.

The APAY will closely work and collaborate with the National Council to mentor and guide the local and national staffs and ensure the realization of the strategic plans that have presented.

Meanwhile, the local and national YMCAs continue to work and coordinate closely to address many internal concerns including the assets/property issues and the legal status and documents of their respective movements. The ongoing negotiations to resolve the issue on how to settle pending financial obligations are tied up with the assets and property issue. Thus, the local and national leadership are expected to handle and manage the matter in consideration of options that will benefit both local and national YMCAs while leaving a good legacy and preserving the interest of the movement in that part of the world.

YMCA World Challenge 2012

OCTOBER 13th 2012



YMCA WILL MAKE HISTORY

The aim of YMCA World Challenge is to tell the YMCA story by mobilizing 5MILLION people on the same day. Start your YMCA World Challenge Plans now, and let the world know your activities. Together, let us make history this coming 2012. *Visit them on facebook ~ YMCA World Challenge 2012—Hoop Springs Eternal.*

YMCA Regional Youth Conference in Singapore

Following up the success of the three previous Asia-Pacific University Youth Regional Conference (APUY-RC), APAY and YMCA of Singapore will hold the biggest conference for this year: YMCA Regional Youth Conference with the theme 'STEP-UP: ENCOURAGE, EDUCATE, ENGAGE'. This will be held from 17-22 July 2012 at National University of Singapore ~ U-Town.

The conference mainly focuses on empowering youth leadership capabilities and stimulating the need for engaging in social responsibilities. This aims to ENCOURAGE the young leaders to unleash the talents, skills, and poten-

tials they have within. Further, the conference will EDUCATE them with trends in leadership skills arena and the cases and best practices other youth groups have. Lastly, this will also ENGAGE them in participating proactively within their own movements.

We thank the YMCA of Singapore and the Working Group for this conference for their efforts in putting these great planning and preparation for all the young leaders in Asia-Pacific YMCAs.

Circulars for the National Movements are already up in the website: www.asiapacificymca.org. Please place your registrations NOW!

2 New APAY Board Members Profile

Taken from the Executive Committee Meeting decisions a year ago, finally, APAY has elected the additional 2 Board Members. Last 7 March 2012, the election for the 2 Board Member posts was held at The Cityview, Hong Kong. Below are their profiles:



Mr. Ng Yee Khai is presently belongs to the Board of Directors in YMCA Kuala Lumpur. Since 2010, he has been the Youth Chair for the National Council of YMCAs Malaysia. Also, he has served in Ecumenical Asia-Pacific Students Youth Network as a coordinator. Further, he has been actively part of the Youth Participation and Leadership Development (YPLD) committee since 2007. For the many previous years, he has been consecutively participating in several regional programs including the Executive Committee Meeting (ECM). Among the other regional programs he has attended were: 2nd Youth Assembly in which he was the Co-Chair, Forum on Ageing, Regional Gender Training Workshop, Roundtable on YMCAs Global Citizenship, and World Council 2006.



Ms. Nilani Manthrinayake joined the Moratuwa YMCA in Sri Lanka from 2006. Since then, she has been part of the Legal Committee. Also, in 2011, she was appointed as an Ex-Co Member for the National Council of YMCAs in Sri Lanka. Some of the posts she has held were: Director of Moratuwa YMCA, Chairperson for Gender Committee Department, and Chairperson of the Legal, Peace and Justice Committee.

The two will be serving the office for four-year term along with the other six (6) Officers. Again, we would like to congratulate the both and we are looking forward for a broader horizon as these advancements take place in APAY.

APAY Staffs Take Another Lead



APAY staff team poses for a final photo with Jose and his family last March 14. (from L-R): Kristina Velez, Eloisa Borreo, Fion Fung, Bruce Van Voorhis, Irene Chan, Lewis Semper, Richard Kaing, Manju Jose, Joju Jose, Jose Varghese, and Kohei Yamada at the center. Photo taken from APAY-GS room.

After the Executive Committee Meeting, three (3) our APAY staff team would be leaving. This quadrennium marks many transitions for our staff.

Initially, Mr. Jose Varghese, Executive Secretary for Programs left this 14 March. He had served the office since January 2008. Mainly, he was responsible for Mission and Responses programs as well as overall operational works of the Area Office (APAY). Especially, he had developed key programs in line with Global Alternative Tourism Network (GATN), ecological programs, ageing issues, peace and justice, and Global Citizenship. Last January 2011, Josh, as known to everybody, joined the World Alliance of YMCAs as an advisor/consultant for programs. After his APAY engagement, he will soon be joining the National Council of YMCAs of India based at the National Head Quarters of the YMCAs of India at New Delhi as Program Secretary for Movement Strengthening and Resource Mobilization.

Kristina Velez, Tina V, as most people know her, will soon be ending her one-year term as Youth Intern for APAY. Since she joined APAY last March 2011, she had already been engaged

with Global Citizenship training programs, Youth and General Assembly preparation and conduct for the whole term. Also, she had worked closely with other operational tasks in APAY aligned to other program thrusts. As she ends her term this March 23, she will be joining the National Council of YMCAs of the Philippines as a staff by April.

Lewis Semper, GATN Young Professional, will soon be leaving the office too. He was engaged with the Global Alternative Tourism Network Workshop in Cambodia last November. As he decides to take a different path halfway his term, APAY wishes him the best of whom he could be.

Mr. Duncan Chowdhury (NCY Bangladesh) will assume the Executive Secretary post by April; while Ms. Julia Mun Pan (Myanmar) has began working as the Youth Intern since March.

APAY extends its deepest gratitude to all these staff members who had enjoyed working with us for the previous term. We wish all of you the best in whichever path you may lead on. For long you will be part of the APAY family and all your contributions will be valued.