DRAFT April 14, 2014

INTERNATIONAL ACTUARIAL ASSOCIATION

Asia Subcommittee Meeting
March 26, 2014
Omni Shorenham Hotel—Washington
Minutes

Please find the attendance list at the end of these minutes.

1. **Introduction and welcome**
   The chairperson, Darryl Wagner, welcomed participants and conducted roundtable introductions.

2. **Approval of the minutes of the Singapore meeting in October, 2013**
   The minutes were approved as presented. Chris Daykin proposed, and August Chow seconded, the motion to approve the minutes.

   Action item
   Secretariat to post the minutes to the website.

3. **Activity updates for target countries**
   Darryl presented the activity reports of the countries listed below.

   Bangladesh
   Darryl has had the opportunity to meet with some of the actuaries from Bangladesh and said that the Actuarial Society of Bangladesh's (ASB) main interest is with regard to educational assistance and receiving support for seminars helping the students who are preparing for the exams of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA—United Kingdom), and Society of Actuaries (United States). The Actuaries Without Borders Section has provided assistance with the seminars.

   Representatives from the IFoA have discussed the new certified actuarial analyst qualification with ASB members. The first exams will be taken later this year, and an exam centre will be set up in Bangladesh. It was noted that Chris Daykin and Derek Cribb will be travelling to the region may be able to assist in liaising with possible contacts in the country.

   A relationship manager for the ASB had been identified but is no longer able to act in this role. Darryl asked members to consider possible candidates.

Action items

- Darryl to ask Derek Cribb if he could provide the names of contacts in Bangladesh; and
- Members to respond to Darryl with names of suitable candidates for the role of relationship manager.

Mongolia

There is an active actuarial community in Mongolia and actuaries in the country are interested in receiving educational assistance.

Darryl asked members to suggest any names of suitable relationship managers for this region. He/she would ideally travel to Mongolia on a regular basis.

The IFoA organized a series of three one-week general insurance training modules that took place in February, March, and April.

Action item

- Members to respond to Darryl with names of suitable candidates for the role of relationship manager; and
- Darryl to contact Gantulga Donorov to ask for suggestions for the relationship manager role.

South Korea

It was reported that following the admission of the Institute of Actuaries of Korea (IAK) as a Full Member, Sang Rae Park, IAK President, requested information on how the association could engage more with the IAA. This information has been provided.

Action item

Continue to offer assistance to the IAK.

Sri Lanka

Darryl has discussed the development of the actuarial profession in Sri Lanka at length with Munisami Poopalanathan, President of the Actuarial Association of Sri Lanka.

Chris Daykin reported that the possibility of setting up an actuarial course at the University of Colombo, in conjunction with the IFoA, has been discussed. He also suggested that professional development seminars, in addition to regional seminars, would be of benefit.

Vietnam

August Chow, the relationship manager for this region, explained that due to regulation requirements, Vietnam has not yet formed an association as such, however, an Actuarial Working Group does exist. It has been suggested that this group could apply for associate membership, providing it meets the criteria.

It was agreed that Carla should send August the criteria for associate membership and

any other information that may be useful.

It was noted that Vietnam is one of the biggest communities in the region that does not have an association.

Action item
Carla to send the information above to August who will pass on the advice *(Secretarial note: done)*

Myanmar
Chris Daykin reported on his recent meeting in Myanmar where he met Alan Thai, a qualified actuary working on start-up operations, who informed him of his interest to develop the actuarial profession in Myanmar. There are no practising actuaries, and now that Myanmar's industry consists of one national company, and 12 private companies, actuaries are needed.

Assistance has been requested to organize an introductory seminar on The Role of the Actuary in the Economy to make the government, the industry itself, and the universities, aware of the benefits. The cost of the event will be covered by companies in Myanmar, and possible dates in November, December, or next January are being discussed. The only requirement is that the IAA provide speakers.

It was agreed that Chris remain the relationship manager for Myanmar. He will encourage his contacts to find volunteers from the region to help organize the event. Subcommittee members were asked to inform Chris, Carla, or Darryl, if they are interested in participating in the organization of the seminar.

Action items
- Members to express any interest in helping in the planning of a seminar in Myanmar; and
- Event itself to be arranged (a session is planned for July 14)

Nepal
Dhundi Raj Pokharel (representing Nepal) explained that the country is currently in a transition period, and that there are 25 life and non-life insurance companies in Nepal, with the establishment of a reinsurance company in progress. Advice is provided to some of these companies by actuaries from India.

It was suggested that education seminars could be arranged to take place in Nepal.

Action item
- Darryl to follow up with Dhundi Raj with regard to arranging a seminar and discuss other ways in which the IAA can assist; and
- Secretariat to send letter of invitation to Dhundi for the London meetings in order for him to be able to attend.

Other Updates

Australia

The Actuaries Institute Australia submitted a bid to host the Congress in 2022, which will be voted on at the Council meeting. It will be hosting the AFIR/ASTIN Colloquium next year.

China

It was reported that solvency is progressing and that the China Association of Actuaries (CAA) is planning to have a qualitative test by the end of the year. The development of a professionalism course has also been discussed.

Action item

August Chow will offer the IAA's assistance to the CAA Secretary, and encourage the association to become more involved with the IAA, maybe by organizing a Section colloquium.

Chinese Taipei

The Actuarial Institute of Chinese Taipei (AICT) is working towards improving the lack of casualty actuaries in Taipei by developing a fast track program.

Hong Kong

It was reported that the Actuarial Society of Hong Kong (ASHK) has a membership growth of five per cent a year. The association is introducing the requirement that in order to practice in Hong Kong, actuaries should be members of the ASHK.

The association is considering making the local insurance regulator an independent body.

Japan

The Institute of Actuaries of Japan is addressing solvency issues by drafting guidelines and standards, and is also working on the Chartered Enterprise Risk Analyst credential.

It was noted that the association organizes a mentoring seminar every year.

4. World Bank Update—Craig Thorburn

Craig Thorburn, World Bank (WB), mentioned the relationship that it has with the IAA through the Supranational Relations Committee. He explained that the WB is involved with projects in countries all over the world offering technical assistance on regulation and supervision, and capacity-building for supervisors. The bank also undertakes work on market development, microinsurance, annuities, and other retirement income solutions. Currently, the WB is reforming the capital work programs in Sri Lanka.

In Bangladesh, some time ago, the WB wrote the current insurance law, which established the separate regulatory authority. It also has some involvement with regional activities, such as partnering with the Asian Development Bank, and undertaking regional technical assistance projects.

Craig said that he would like to follow the progress of the Advice and Assistance (A&A) Subcommittee country reports so that he can offer assistance if needed. For example, WB representatives travel to Sri Lanka every couple of months, and will continue to do so for at least the next 18 months.

The WB has had some productive discussions with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat. Myanmar and Cambodia amongst others, receive support from ASEAN, so there may be an opportunity for the IAA to seek advice. Cambodia has enough foreign and local companies conducting business to secure a need for actuaries. There are resident actuaries in Cambodia, some local and some foreign. The WB is also working in the Maldives but the market is not very advanced at the moment.

Darryl informed Craig that so far the Asia Subcommittee has been focused on South East Asia, but in the last six months, A&A has created the Eurasia and Middle East Subcommittee, which will cover Central Asia.

There is a solid regulatory agenda for change in Pakistan, and it was suggested that this should be added to the subcommittee's agenda. Craig Thorburn will be speaking at the South Asian regulator's group annual conference in Karachi, in April. It was noted that although the Pakistan Society of Actuaries is a Full Member and is fairly active, it is not very active with regard to its involvement with the IAA.

Action items

- Secretariat to create a report form for Cambodia;
- Craig to provide names of contacts in Cambodia;
- Invite representatives from Cambodia and Myanmar to the Taipei meeting; and
- Craig will liaise with the Secretariat on how the WB can assist with the region's work.

5. Update on ADB/IAA relationship

Craig reported that the WB and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) work collaboratively, and that he and Arup Chatterjee, ADB, discuss the projects on which and the countries in which, they are working. They also organize joint seminars in the region.

Darryl informed members that he and Arup have communicated. Arup is working on a couple of funded projects, one on regulatory capacity-building and the other on microinsurance, and he is interested in collaborating with the IAA on these. Darryl has identified a group of people to work on this, including Chris Daykin, Renata De Leers, Dave Sandberg, and Howard Bolnick. The first step will be for this group to participate in a conference call with Arup, once documentation has been received from him.

Action item

Darryl to follow-up with Arup on the promised documentation and to schedule a conference call with the whole group.

6. Association Relationships

Michael Bayard Smith made a presentation on the topic of association relationships, which included an update on the activities of the Mentorship Task Force, as well as observations and conclusions reached as a result of the feedback received from various associations on their mentorship experiences.

It was concluded that advice and assistance provided from association to association cannot be monitored effectively by the IAA. However, this information *can* be used to create an information page on the website for associations who may require help. The aim is to have an information page by the time of the meetings in London.

Action item

Carla will:

- collate the feedback received from the various associations;
- collate any relevant information that is currently on the IAA website and in Bob Conger's paper on professionalism support; and
- draft a document including this information which will be circulated to all regional subcommittees and A&A members for approval before adding it to the A&A webpage.

7. Meetings

Darryl reported on the IAA Fund meeting which took place in Singapore last year. Another regional seminar is being organized in Taipei to take place on the afternoon of October 11 and the morning of October 12, prior to the East Asian Actuarial Conference (EAAC). Pat Kum (ASHK) will work with a representative from the AICT, and the IAA Secretariat to organize the seminar.

It was suggested that for effective planning, the Protocol for Regional Seminars document be shared with the group organizing the seminar. It was agreed that the invitations need to be sent soon, to the presidents of the association, academics, and regulatory bodies.

The suggested agenda topics included association relationships, sharing of information on country-specific development, challenges of professionalism in various countries (representatives rather than one presenter), education, capacity-building, and public policy initiatives.

8. Other areas to target

It was suggested that the EAAC use the same registration process that is used for the regional seminars, and that the Secretariat also provide advice to the conference organizers on how to decide on the bursary award recipients.

Action item

Carla to ask Christian if the Secretariat are able to set up the registration form, and provide advice to Ruth Chu on awarding bursaries. *(Secretarial note: Christian has advised Ruth)*

9. Close of meeting

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 17:00.

Respectfully submitted, Carla Melvin

Attendance List

Subcommittee Members
Darryl Wagner, Chairperson
Bosco Chan (via telephone)
August Chow
Yoshihiko Tsuji

Ex-officio
Chris Daykin Chief Executive, IAA Fund

Invited Guest
Craig Thorburn, Lead Insurance Specialist, World Bank

Observers
Joe Chan, *Actuarial Institute of Chinese Taipei*
Dhundi Raj Pokharel, *Insurance Board of Nepal*
Martha Sikaras, *Society of Actuaries*
Daniel Smith, *Actuaries Institute Australia*
Michael Smith, *member of the Latin America Subcommittee*
Billy Wong, *Actuarial Society of Hong Kong*

Secretariat
Carla Melvin

Regrets
Estella Chiu, Vice-chairperson