

# An Introduction to the IAA – Welcome to Thailand

President Fred Rowley  
IAA Fund Event  
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# Origins, Mission and Recognition

- Founded in 1895, restructured in 1998 to serve as worldwide association of professional actuarial associations
- To encourage development of a global profession
- Based in Ottawa, Canada – constituted in Switzerland
- Over 800 volunteer actuaries (Council, Committees, Sections) and 11 staff
- Not-for-profit, non-political, Non-Governmental Organisation



# Membership and Representation

- Full Member Associations: 67
- Associate Member Associations: 29
- 7 special interest Sections for individual actuaries
- AWB section active in education
- Assisting development of the profession in 20 additional countries
- Fully qualified actuaries: 62,000+ in more than 108 countries



# IAA External Organizations

- Partners: important institutions that especially concern themselves at the international level with matters of concern to actuaries (*formerly referred to as Institutional Members*)

*The IAA has engaged in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with most of these organizations*



# IAA External Organizations

- Observers: public, academic or industry institutions of relevant interest for the global actuarial profession, particularly those active at international, supranational or regional level, that share IAA's intent of enhancing communications, liaison, exchanges and strategic support.

The logo for ADB (Asian Development Bank) consists of the letters "ADB" in white, serif font, centered within a dark blue square.

- Patrons: organizations that provide regular financial support to our volunteers who are developing the body of knowledge of actuarial science, enhancing the quality of services and the professional standards.

The logo for RGA (Reinsurance Group of America, Incorporated) features the letters "RGA" in a bold, red, sans-serif font. Below it, the full name "Reinsurance Group of America, Incorporated" is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.The logo for Milliman features a stylized green and blue square icon to the left of the word "Milliman" in a blue, sans-serif font.

# IAA Membership Requirements

- Full Member Association
  - Code of Conduct
  - Formal discipline process
  - IAA Education Guidelines and Syllabus for FQA's
  - Formal process to adopt standards of practice  
...if and when national standards are created
- Associate Member Association
  - Actuarial association not meeting all conditions above



# Potentially Difficult Issues for a Small Association

- Standards of Practice
- Member engagement
- Resources



# Standards of Practice (SOPs)

- Issues
  - Local actuarial market may not have sufficient experience in key areas to define the standard of practice
  - Local practitioners may not have adequate experience and perspective to draft the standards
  - Need a formal process for drafting and adopting SOPs





# Member Engagement

- Issues
  - Early career actuaries not ready to volunteer their time for the association
  - Lack of employer support



# Association Resources

- Issues
  - Not enough people to do all the work
  - Heavy burden on a few people
  - Dues income not sufficient to cover necessary expenses
  - Inventing each program for the first time



# Potential Resource: Leverage the IAA

- Samples and models of documents (e.g., International Standards of Actuarial Practice, code of conduct, discipline process, financial assistance fund)
- Local seminars
  - IAA Fund seminars
- IAA Sections
  - AWB section (see page at <http://www.actuaries.org>)
  - Webinars & Colloquia
- Advice & Assistance Committee – ask for help
  - Asia Subcommittee



# Potential Resource: Mature Associations

- Basic education
  - Educational materials
  - Examinations
  - Credential
  - Perhaps focus local effort on educating and testing regarding local laws, regulations, products, business practices
- Standards (make local adjustments)
- Seminars, including webinars



# Potential Resource: Universities

- Experts in education
  - Develop an appropriate credential path
  - Also a good mechanism for attracting additional students to the profession
  - May be able to bring in lecturers from around the world
  - Association may still need to cover some topics
- Perhaps combine with internships at local insurance companies and consulting firms



# Potential Resource: Regulators

- Very helpful to have the regulator supporting the role of the actuary
  - Informally
  - Formally (laws and regulations)



# Potential Resource: Mentors

- Find a mature association willing to partner
  - Exam materials and administration
  - Credentials
  - Professionalism education
  - Continuing education (seminars)
  - Ongoing advice
- Seek mentors from mature associations



# Recent IAA Activities in Asia

- IAA President and Immediate Past President presented at the 19<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Asian Actuarial Conferences respectively
- IAA President presented to CAA annual conferences, 2015 & 2014
- IAA representatives presented at the Actuarial Association of Sri Lanka's actuarial seminar and at the 10th Asia Conference on Pensions and Retirement Planning in 2014
- Contact made with representatives from Bhutan, Mongolia, Nepal, and Vietnam
- Seminar held in 2014 in Yangon, Myanmar, which was attended by 70 participants, addressing topics such as the role of the actuary in economy and the financial sector, life insurance, general insurance, and micro-insurance.
- Regional seminars held in Chinese Taipei in 2014





# Final Thoughts

- Even with a wide variety of resources, must have a core group of passionate leaders
- Pursue ambitious but realistic goals
- Ask for help if you need it
- Begin involving the next generation of leaders



# Thank You!

## International Actuarial Association

[www.actuaries.org](http://www.actuaries.org)

*Moving the profession forward internationally*

