

2022

# 2022 Annual Report

## The Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN)

**PRESIDENT MESSAGE:** Welcome to 2022 APQN Annual Report! In 2022, APQN with 268 members from 47 countries/territories, has entered its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, showing its vibrant, vigorous tendency of sustainable development. With the great contribution and support of all APQN members, APQN has made obvious achievements. One of the most important things is the 2022 AAC and AGM was held in Singapore. Over 113 participants from the whole globe attended AAC to discuss the theme of "Quality Assurance for Higher Education under Covid-19 Pandemic and Beyond in the Asia-Pacific Region". It is sustainable for APQN to successful hand-over from the sixth Board to the Seventh Board! It is highly recommended President Report which vividly describes what APQN has done in the past 6 years! It is good to see that 13 QA actions have been taken during COVID pandemic. One of the most remarkable things is to have published 3 anthologies: 1) "APQN Research on the COVID Impact on the Quality of Higher Education"; 2) APQN 2019 AAC Anthologies in Sri Lanka; and 3) 2021 AAC Anthologies in Singapore", and "APQNews (Issue 25)" "APQNews (Issue 26)" were released. All above made a successful ending for APQN sixth Board.



APQN Sixth and Seventh Board

© Copyright: The Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN)



# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Asia-Pacific Quality Network Inc.

Trading As APQN

Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region

February 25, 2023

APQN Annual Report 2022

Issue 17 (online version)

ISSN 1833-5462

Serial Number: APQNAR2022-17

©Copyright: the Asia-Pacific Quality Network Inc.

Secretariat:

No. 202, South Shaanxi Road

Shanghai 200031, China

Tel: +86 21 54032285

Email: [apqnsecretariat@163.com](mailto:apqnsecretariat@163.com)

Website: [www.apqn.org](http://www.apqn.org)

Code: 52310000575884994B

Chief Editor: Jianxin Zhang

Editorial Committee: Jianxin Zhang, Galina Motova, Pingping Liu, Jagannath Patil, Deepthi Bandara, Farida Nurmanbetova, Barry Aw Yong; Nar Bahadur Raika, Srinivasa Chandramouliswar Sharma, Umankulova Onolka, Timur Kanapyanov

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>THE NETWORK .....</b>	<b>- 4 -</b>
DEFINITION OF APQN .....	- 4 -
THE BOARD .....	- 6 -
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE .....	- 7 -
THE GENERAL COUNCIL: 268 MEMBERS .....	- 8 -
WELCOME TO JOIN APQN .....	- 10 -
APQN FIRST BOARD MEETING IN 2022 WAS HELD IN SINGAPORE .....	- 11 -
THE 2 <sup>ND</sup> APQN BOARD MEETING OF 2022 WAS HELD IN SINGAPORE .....	- 12 -
<b>ACTIVITIES &amp; PROJECTS .....</b>	<b>- 13 -</b>
2023 APQN NEW YEAR GREETING .....	- 13 -
2022 APQN ACADEMIC CONFERENCE A GREAT SUCCESS .....	- 15 -
RELEASE OF THE BOOK ENTITLED "APQN RESEARCH ON THE COVID IMPACT" .....	- 24 -
APQN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING .....	- 26 -
WELCOME TO 2023 AAC AND AGM .....	- 29 -
WELCOME TO 2023 AAC AND AGM AT AIUB, DHAKA, BANGLADESH .....	- 29 -
<b>REPORTS BY THE BOARD .....</b>	<b>- 32 -</b>
PRESIDENT ANNUAL REPORT BY JIANXIN ZHANG .....	- 32 -
PROLOGUE .....	- 32 -
I. APQN ORGANIZATION CONSTRUCTION: MISSION AND FRAMEWORK .....	- 33 -
II. HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT .....	- 35 -
III. REGULATION AND SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION .....	- 38 -
IV. ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT .....	- 44 -
V. COVID RESPONSE MECHANISM .....	- 52 -
VI. CONSTRUCTION OF EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE: APQR .....	- 56 -

VII.CONSTRUCTION OF INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE : APQL .....	- 57 -
VIII. PUBLICATIONS .....	- 58 -
VIII. INCREASE OF FINANCIAL STATUS .....	- 61 -
IX. SPIRIT LEGACY .....	- 62 -
CLOSING WORDS .....	- 64 -
<b>VICE PRESIDENT ANNUAL REPORT BY GALINA MOTOVA .....</b>	<b>- 66 -</b>
<b>SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT BY PINGPING LIU .....</b>	<b>- 68 -</b>
<b>REPORT FROM BOARD DIRECTORS .....</b>	<b>- 73 -</b>
<i>Jagannath Patil</i> .....	- 73 -
<i>Deepthi Bandara</i> .....	- 75 -
<i>Aw Yong Jun Barry</i> .....	- 77 -
<i>Farida Nurmanbetova</i> .....	- 78 -
<b>2022 REPORT ON FINANCE .....</b>	<b>- 81 -</b>

# THE NETWORK

## Definition of APQN

### Our Goal

**To Dissolve Boundaries  
for a Quality Region**

### Our Vision

To promote quality culture and develop self-sustaining organizations, being the first point of reference, will advise and support, enhance interaction and share information among member organizations.

### Our Value

To be committed to the quality of higher education and is supportive of both internal and external quality assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region.

### Our Purpose

1. to promote good practices in developing an effective and comprehensive quality culture of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region;
2. to foster research activities in quality assurance practices for rebuilding the employability oriented higher education in Asia Pacific Region;
3. to provide advice and expertise in order to assist in the development of new quality assurance organizations in the region;
4. to facilitate cooperation among Quality Assurance Agencies (QAAs) and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), and recognize each other's decisions and judgment;
5. to assist APQN members in determining the quality standards operating across national borders;
6. to ensure better-informed international recognition of qualifications throughout the region;
7. to assist in the development and application of credit transfer systems;
8. to enhance the mobility of students between institutions both within and across national borders;
9. to make the APQN members aware of and alert against the dubious accrediting practices and organizations;
10. to promote the interest of the Asia-Pacific Region by effective representation vis-à-vis interacting with other networks and international organizations.



## Our Method

1. dissemination of information through APQNews, documents, journals, anthologies and books, whether in paper-based or electronic form;
2. training and development through seminars, workshops, conferences and staff capacity building;
3. developing and using databases of experts and good practices both in EQAA and international networks such as INQAAHE, CHEA/CIQG and other appropriate organizations working on accreditation and quality assurance in education;
4. recognition and dissemination of good practices through Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR), Asia-Pacific Quality label (APQL) and APQN Quality Awards (AQA) and so on;
5. other appropriate means as determined by the General Council or the Board.

## Our Principle

- 1) procedure-based
- 2) capacity building
- 3) self-reliance and information-sharing
- 4) sustainable development for final goal

## APQN

APQN is a non-profit, non-government organization.

APQN is an organization established under the name of the Asia-Pacific Quality Network Inc. (APQN).

APQN intends to operate as a regional network in association with the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education Incorporated (INQAAHE).

## The Board

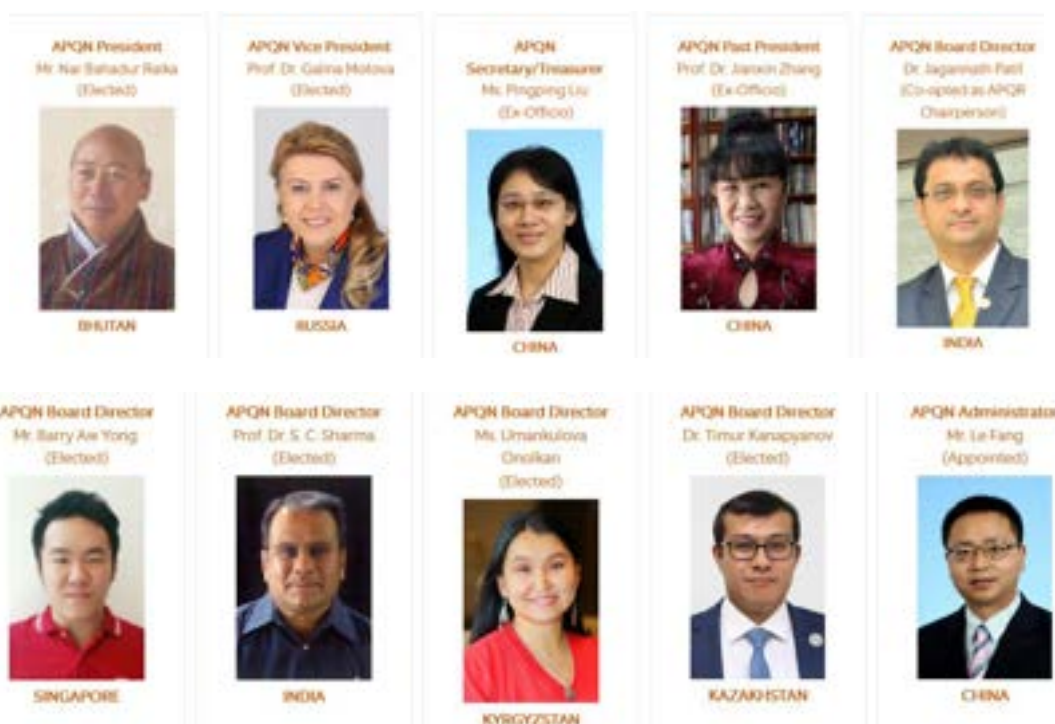
From November, 2021, APQN began the election work of APQN seventh Board Directors. Six months later, after passing six steps of the voting procedure, on June 6 this year, APQN announced the result of the election. They have taken over at Annual General Meeting on November 25, 2022. The seventh Board Directors are -

President: Elected Nar Bahadur Raika from Bhutan

Vice President: Elected Galina Motova from Russia

Secretary/Treasurer: Ex-officio Liu Pingping from China

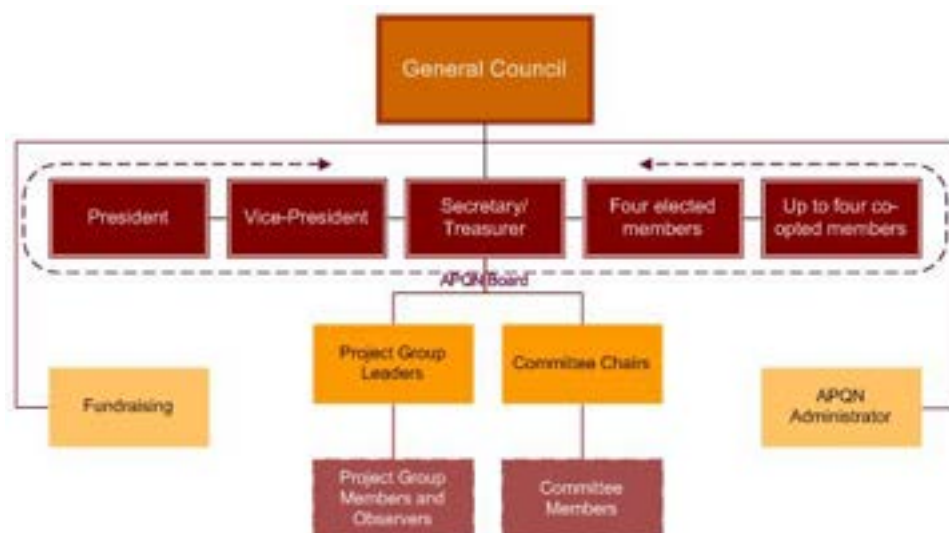
Board Directors: (1) Ex-officio as Immediate Past President, Jianxin Zhang from China; (2) Co-opted as APQR Chair, Jagannath Patil from India; (3) Elected Jun Barry Aw Yong from Singapore; (4) Elected Srinivasa Chandramouliswar Sharma from India; (5) Elected Umankulova Onolkan from Kyrgyzstan; and (6) Elected Timur Kanapyanov from Kazakhstan.



## Organizational Structure

The governing bodies and authorities of APQN are the General Council and the Board.

The General Council is comprised of Full Members, Intermediate Members, Associate Members, Institutional Members and Individual Members of APQN, each represented by one nominated person.

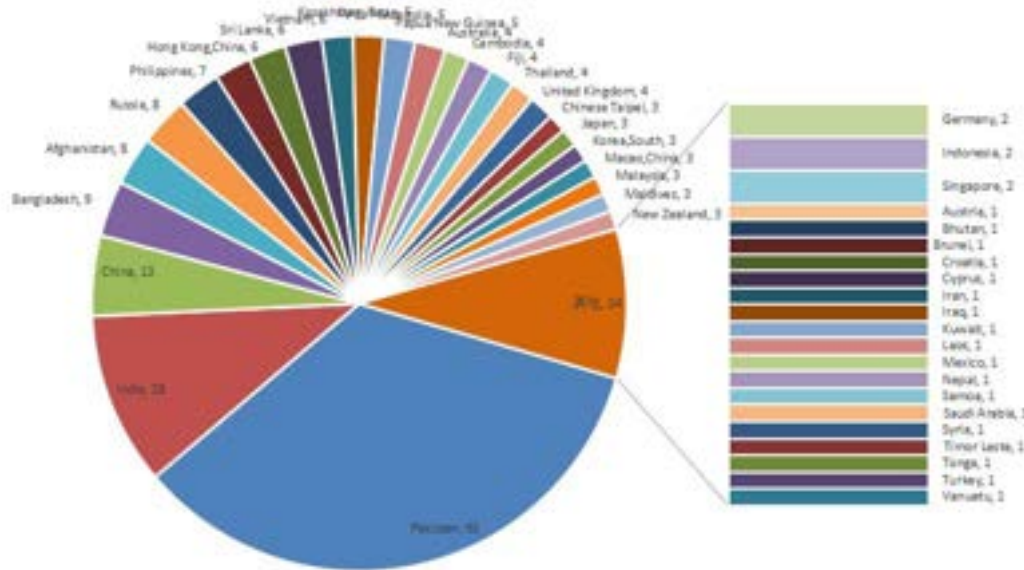




## The General Council: 268 Members

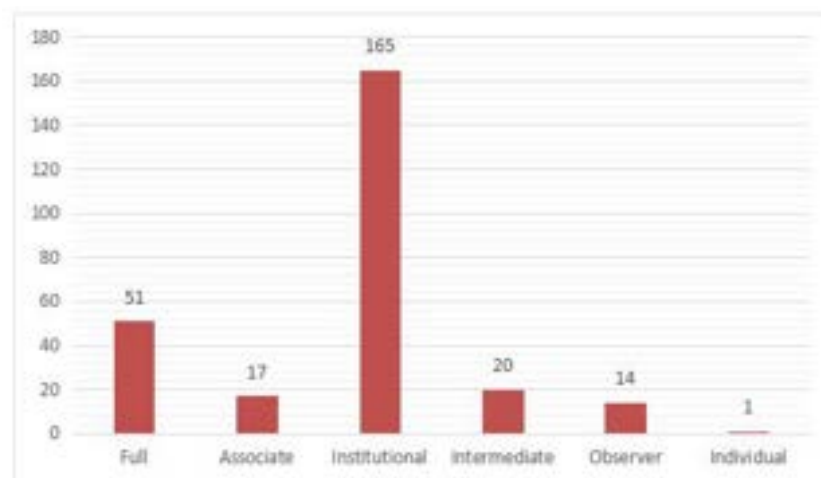
Currently, the number of APQN members of all types has reached 268 (Figure 1) from 47 countries and regions (Figure 2).

Fig.1 Country/Territory Distribution of APQN Members



Among them, there are five categories: Full members, Intermediate members, Associate members, Institutional members and Individual Members. Institutional members cover 62% of the total number, which means that internal quality assurance is getting more and more important in Asia-Pacific Region.

Fig. 2: Category of APQN members



As is shown in Table 1, APQN welcomed 18 new members in 2022.

Table 1: New Members in 2022

Number	New Agency	Country /Territory	Membership
1	National ELT Accreditation Scheme Australia	Australia	Full
2	The "Sapattuu Bilim" Agency for Accreditation of Educational Organizations and Programs	Kyrgyzstan	Full
3	Higher Education Council Syria	Syria	Full
4	Shahid Virpatni Laxmi Mahavidhyalaya, Titave	India	Institutional
5	Avid College	Maldives	Institutional
6	Baqai Medical University	Pakistan	Institutional
7	City University of Science and Information Technology	Pakistan	Institutional
8	Fatima Jinnah Medical University	Pakistan	Institutional
9	Forman Christian College	Pakistan	Institutional
10	Foundation University Islamabad	Pakistan	Institutional
11	Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University, Islamabad	Pakistan	Institutional
12	Sir Syed University of Engineering & Technology	Pakistan	Institutional
13	The Women University Multan	Pakistan	Institutional
14	Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University	Philippines	Institutional
15	Our Lady of Fatima University	Philippines	Institutional
16	Universal Institute of Professional Management	Singapore	Institutional
17	CONIES Council on International Higher Education Supervision	Austria	Observer
18	Accreditation Service for International Schools, Colleges & Universities	United Kingdom	Observer



## Welcome to Join APQN



**We warmly welcome all QAAs, HEIs and those who have interest in QA to join APQN!**

Membership of APQN is valuable for quality managers/officers, who would join a community of colleagues working with quality assurance of higher education.

As an APQN member you can embrace what is being offered in the region, and share in the delights of learning and expanding your own knowledge base. Specifically, full members (there might be some differences with other 3 categories) will be able to:

- Participate in APQN Academic Conference (AAC) and AGM as well as APQN online forum;
- Gain your branding through using APQN logo in your website or relative documents;
- Develop different kinds of collaborations across the distinguished network of QAAs and HEIs through AACs;
- Co-organize international seminars, workshops or forums together with APQN in your local context;
- Have the right to apply for APQN Award which occurs once every year;
- Have access to over 180 consultants in Consultant Data Base and get advice on different and specific QA matters;
- Receive the electronic APQNews twice every year and Annual Report;
- Publish your qualified research paper on APQN Academic in Proceedings during AAC every year;
- Have the right to apply for Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR) for QAAs; and
- Have the right to apply for the accreditation of APQN Quality Label for HEIs.

The following steps for you to join APQN big family

1) Application Process for APQN Members:

<http://www.apqn.org/members/application-process-for-members>

2) Choose the right membership category for your agency.

<http://www.apqn.org/members/membership-criteria> (for universities, it is “institutional member”.)

3) Fill in application forms with all the required information.

<http://www.apqn.org/members/directory/entry/add>

4) Inquiring. If there is no feedback from APQN Secretariat after you submit your application for one month, please contact Administrator at APQN Secretariat (apqnsecretariat@163.com) for questions.

## APQN First Board Meeting in 2022 was Held in Singapore

In the afternoon of November 24, 2022, APQN 1<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting of 2022 was held at EDUVALUE office in Singapore both online and offline. The physical attendees were Jianxin Zhang (President), Galina Motova (Vice-President), Deepthi Bandara (Board Director), Jun Barry Aw Yong (Board Director), Alan Go (local organizer), Nar Bahadur Raika (Incoming President) and Umankulova Onolkan (Incoming Board Director). The online participants were Liu Pingping (Secretary/Treasurer) and Jagannath Patil (Board Director).



The meeting comprised 5 items. First of all, President Jianxin welcomed all attendees both online and offline. Secondly, Barry and Alan, the local organizers gave brief reports on the preparation of 2022 AAC and AGM. Thirdly, Jianxin Zhang (the Chair of Programme Committee of 2022 AAC and AGM) gave a report on 2022 AAC and AGM, such as the tenth version of the programme and others. The 7 follow-up tasks were also confirmed, such as the report writings of 2022 AAC Report and 2022AGM, the publication of academic anthology of selected papers of 2022 AAC in Singapore.

Later on, Ms. Liu Pingping (Secretary/Treasurer) gave a brief Secretary/Treasurer report. She presented secretariat work, including 6 items: (1) APQN Members; (2) Board Matters; (3) Events and Projects; (4) External Publicity; (5) Finance Affairs; and (6) Public Relations.

In closing, all of the sixth Board Directors were required to provide his/her summary report of the term to be released at APQNews (Issue 26). After the acknowledgement, the meeting adjourned.



(Written by Jianxin Zhang, APQN Immediate past President)

## The 2<sup>nd</sup> APQN Board Meeting of 2022 was held in Singapore

APQN Second Board Meeting in 2022 was held both offline and online at 17:50-19:00 on November 26, 2022. It was chaired by APQN President, Mr. Nar Bahadur Raika, at the Lifelong Learning Institute, Singapore, while the offline participants also included: Prof. Dr. Galina Motova (APQN Vice President), Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang (Immediate Past President), Mr. Barry Aw Yong (Board Director) and Mrs. Umankulova Onolkan (Board Director). The online participants were Ms. Pingping Liu (APQN Secretary/Treasurer), Dr. Jagannath Patil (co-opted ex-officio as APQR Chairperson), Prof. Dr. S. C. Sharma (Board Director), and Mr. Le Fang (APQN Administrator) .



The Meeting commenced by welcoming all participants by President Nar Bahadur Raika. It was the first time that the seventh Board met. Also, it was the first time that the seventh Board takes the responsibility to contribute and provide ideas for APQN development.

The Secretariat/Treasurer Pingping Liu presented “APQN Tasks Draft for 2023”. Ms. Pingping introduced 7 major categories of tasks – AAC and AGM, Annual Report, APQR, Finance Issues, Publication, Routine, and Membership Review. Among all the 37 tasks, 15 of them have already been taken by the Secretariat or both the Secretariat and the Host. Regarding the remaining 22, it is decided that the Board Directors should take some of the tasks all by his/herself .

APQN Immediate Past President Jianxin Zhang put forward 8 suggestions, focusing on the problems crucial for APQN future development, such as “Amend the Criteria of APQN Membership in APQN Procedure Manual, because the criteria are for the QAAs, not for institutional members nor for individual members”.

Vice President Galina Motova also raised 4 suggestions regarding the difficulties and prospects of APQN, such as “considering the Strategic Plan 2022-2025 for APQN Development” “redesigning APQN and APQR Website”.

At last, President Nar Bahadur Raika gave the closing remarks. Despite the COVID pandemic, APQN is moving and doing well in connecting members with activities. He believed that with the shared experience and expertise of APQN board directors as well as members, APQN will be moving faster and becoming closer.

The Board Directors agreed that both AAC, AGM and the Board meeting was well-organized, beneficial, and fruitful. They expressed thanks to the sixth board, the Secretariat, and the host EDUVALUE, looking forward to the upcoming physical meetings. The board meeting is of great importance for APQN further development.

**(Written by Yingjie Xu, APQN administrator)**

## ACTIVITIES & PROJECTS

### 2023 APQN New Year Greeting

#### Dear Members of Asia Pacific Quality Network,

On behalf of the seventh Board of Directors, I am pleased to send Warm Greetings to all the 268 members of the Network, for the New Year 2023 – which in the Bhutanese Lunar Calendar is the Female Rabbit Year.

It was exactly a month ago that the Seventh Board of Directors took over the baton for steering and spearheading the Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) from the Sixth Board of Directors in Singapore. As you are aware, the current Board consists of a good mixture of dedicated and experienced members as well who are all enthusiastic and passionate about the Network's vision and mandate. The team representing diverse experiences is all set to take the Network to greater heights in the years to come.



While we acknowledge and appreciate the tremendous achievements made by the past Boards of Directors, this is the time to reflect on our past and present work and consider possibilities for our future. It is a future of greater meaning and engagement that we must look forward to and prepare for. The clear vision we set for that future will be our driving force and motivation. It is truly said that the dream of the future is better than the history of the past.

We need to consider both long-term and short-term plans, expectations, hopes and aspirations. We shall consider the long-term goals of ensuring quality in higher education thereby making it not only comparable but also compatible with those that exist beyond our own borders. We shall work towards providing meaningful education and training of the highest possible standards focused on transferable skills and competencies. Let our aspirations be high enough so that we reach higher than ever.

Talking about the plans, we have them enough for the year 2023. The American International University - Bangladesh is preparing to host our mega event of APQN Academic Conference and Annual General Meeting (AAC & AGM 2023) in November 2023. We will send out the invitation for hosting the AAC & AGM 2024 during the year. Other events like International Higher Education Conference and Global Summit will also find their time and place. There will be projects, research activities and their publications to keep the members active in innovation and creation of new



knowledge. The first year of the term of the seventh Board also deserves our time and effort to develop and endorse the Strategic Plan 2022-2025.


It is good to continue with the time-tested good practices based on our rich experiences. As the New Year dawns, it is even better to reflect on and improve the system that needs our attention and to adapt and adjust to the needs of changing times and unexpected situations. Even documents like our own Constitution deserves to be reviewed to accommodate the current requirements. This will entail, for example, the need to align our existing Procedure Manual too.

Collaboration and cooperation with other quality assurance agencies around the globe is inevitable. It will be our priority. We shall facilitate such initiatives to move forward with the common goal of assuring quality in higher education. We also would like to encourage more agencies and institutions to join the Network.

There is also a forum created to share our experiences and best practices. APQNews, our quarterly publication and its Editorial Board invites and requests all the member agencies to submit any articles that they would like to see published and shared. The APQNews27 is scheduled to be published in March 2023.

We will put all our efforts to take the status of the Network to the next level. We believe that we will know our true strength only when we have a burden to bear. Once we put our body, mind and spirit together, there is nothing we cannot achieve. We will continue to work together with single-minded dedication, devotion and passion. At this point of time, I am reminded of a saying: "Life is not about expecting, hoping and wishing; it's about doing, being and becoming."

Finally, but most importantly, I would like to wish you more happiness, peace and prosperity than all my words can tell, not just for today, but all throughout the New Year and beyond.

Tashi Delek! 

**APQN Board Directors:** Mr. Nar B Raika, President; Prof. Dr. Galina Motova, Vice President; Mrs. Pingping Liu, Secretary; Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang, Immediate Past President; Mr. Barry Aw Yong, Director; Prof. Dr. Srinivasa C Sharma, Director; Mrs. Umankulova Onolkan, Director; Dr. Timur Kanapyanov, Director; Dr. Jaganath Patil, Director; Mr. Le Fang, Administrator



## 2022 APQN Academic Conference a Great Success

On November 24-27, 2022, APQN Academic Conference(AAC) was held at Lifelong Learning Institute located at 11 Eunus Road 8, Singapore 408601, organized by APQN and EDUVALUE.

Overall, 120 delegates signed up for the event, which is a smaller turnout compared to other regional APQN AAC and AGM gatherings due to the inconsistency of Covid-19 policies and the increased international travel costs of airfare and accommodations brought on by global inflation. Attendees and presenters represented 27 countries at the conference.

Although a few APQN Board members, speakers, and a few attendees were unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances at the last minute, the event still saw about 113 delegates from educational QA accrediting organization, regulatory bodies, and universities from Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Germany, China Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Turkey, United Kingdom and Vietnam, and delegates from Singapore.



Representatives from these organizations came to the event Educational Innovation and Skills Development (EISD), UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education; The International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE), Arab Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ANQAHE); Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation (FIBAA), Germany; Taiwan Assessment and Evaluation Association (TWAEA) in Chinese Taiwan, Chinese Taipei; Ecctis / UK ENIC, United Kingdom; National Centre for Public Accreditation (NCPA), Russia; Quality Assurance Council, University Grants

Commission, Sri Lanka; New Zealand Qualifications Authority; National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), India; NEAS, Australia; Japan University Accreditation Association, Japan; Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute, China; Certification Agency Russian Register, Russia; Quality Assurance in the field of education “EdNet”, Kyrgyzstan; Quality Assurance and Accreditation Division, Department of Adult and Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Bhutan; Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACUP); Malaysian Qualifications Agency, Malaysia; Samoa Qualifications Authority, Samoa; Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute, China; Quality Enhancement of Higher Education (NIAD-QE), Japan; National Council.

### **Day 1: 24 Nov 2022**

The sixth and seventh APQN Board members and APQR Council representatives arrived at EDUVALUE's office by 4.30 pm. A Zoom link was set up for those who couldn't travel to Singapore.

Day 1 saw the conduct of three meetings: APQN Finance Committee Meeting that was chaired by APQN sixth and seventh Vice-President Prof. Galina Motova, the first Board Meeting was chaired by APQN sixth President: Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang and APQR Council Meeting was chaired via zoom link by APQR Chairperson and APQN Board Dr. Jagannath Patil.

The APQN Secretariat office from Shanghai, represented by APQN Secretary/Treasurer Mrs. Pingping Liu and APQN Administrator Mr. Le Fang, joined in via zoom together with participants from India, Dr. Jagannath Patil and APQN Board Director, Prof. Dr. S. C. Sharma, as well as from Kazakhstan, APQN Board Director Dr. Timur Kanapyanov. Mr. Alan Go, Lead Researcher of EDUVALUE's EV Academy updated the Board on APQN 2022.

The Boards met for several hours to settle outstanding business, determine strategic goals for APQN in 2023 and beyond, and discuss a wide range of other topics. Despite some Board members only landing in Singapore shortly before the meetings begin, it was encouraging to see some of them making active contributions.



## Day 2: 25 Nov 2022

At 7 a.m., the EDUVALUE APQN 2022 host planning committee, along with all EDUVALUE Singapore and Malaysia staff, arrived at the event venue, the Lifelong Learning Institute, to begin setting up the Conference theatre and registration desks. The first delegate arrived at 7.30 a.m. for Conference Day 1 registration. To welcome them to Singapore, the Singapore Tourism Board provided each delegate with a door gift, including a Singapore National Official Mascot Merlion souvenir for all delegates.

While waiting for the conference to begin, many delegates met up with old friends and peers for a lively early morning networking, while others entered the lecturer theatre, took their seats, and checked their phones for messages.

The Welcome speech for the APQN 2022 AAC is delivered by the host and local organizer, Mr. Barry Aw Yong, CEO, EDUVALUE Singapore, at precisely 9:05 a.m.,



followed by the Conference Theme address by Dr. Jianxin Zhang, the sixth president of the APQN.

As part of the morning opening ceremony, APQN sixth President Dr. Jianxin Zhang and all of the sixth Board Directors released the printed publication of "APQN Research on the COVID Impact on the Quality of Higher Education", Prof. Deepthi Bandara of the sixth Board of APQN released the digital publication of Sri Lanka APQN 2019 Anthology, and Associate Prof. Alan Go, Lead Researcher, EV Academy of EDUVALUE released the digital publication of APQN 2021 Anthology.



After morning tea-break and group photo session, keynote speaker 1, Dr Tariq Al-Sindi, the Chief Executive of the Education and Training Quality Authority of Bahrain, the Secretary General of the Arab Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ANQAHE) and an Executive Board member at The International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE) delivered his speech on “Quality Assurance in Higher Education During and After COVID-19”. This was followed by Sub-Themes Plenary Sessions 1, 2 presentations and after lunch break continued with Plenary Sessions 3 and 4 papers. The papers presented are as follows:

Analysis of Criteria I and II of NAAC Assessment and Accreditation Process in the State Universities of India: Quality Assurance Perspective by Sharma S.C. from National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), India (Pre-recorded Video presentation)



### Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony

Day 1 concluded at approximately 5.45 p.m., with delegates being escorted to waiting buses for transportation to the APQN 2022 Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony venue, Joyden Hall, located at Bugis+, 201 Victoria St, #07-01, Singapore 188067.

After a day of learning and networking, delegates get to enjoy a big buffet spread of Singapore delights and dishes, that the host has specially curated and even have two "Live" cooking stations for the delegates to enjoy some of Singapore famous dishes "Laksa", a spicy noodle dish popular in Southeast Asia. and "Kueh Pie Tee", a thin crispy pastry tart shell filled with shredded Chinese turnips, sweet mixture of thinly sliced vegetables and prawns.



### APQN 2022 Award Ceremony

There was an APQN 2022 Award Ceremony that took place during the Gala Dinner. This year, EDUVALUE was recognized with the Successful Host Award for their work in organizing APQN 2020 (which had to be postponed because of the Covid-19 pandemic), the APQN 2021 webinar, and APQN 2022, as well as editing and producing two digital APQN anthologies.





Dr. Jianxin Zhang, the sixth President of the APQN, presented the Successful Host trophy to Mr. Barry Aw Yong, CEO of EDUVALUE, and thanked him for his contributions as well as the efforts of all EDUVALUE staff.



There are three “Best Practice of QA during COVID pandemic” Awards presented to Macao Polytechnic University, China, by Dr. Galina Motova, APQN Vice-President (the award was received by Mr Alan Go in the absent of a representative from the University), Mr Barry Aw Yong, APQN Board Director presented the award to National Centre for Public Accreditation (NCPA), Russia, and Prof. Deepthi C. Bandara, APQN sixth Board Director presented to Riphah International University, Islamabad, Pakistan (the award is received on behalf by Indus University, Pakistan).



The APQN Best Model Internal QA Award was presented to University of Liberal Arts, Bangladesh by Mr. Nar Bahadur Raika, incoming APQN seventh President (received on behalf by American International University Bangladesh)



### Day 3: 26 Nov 2022

On the second day of the APQN AAC, delegates began arriving at 9 a.m. to attend the six different parallel sessions held in two classrooms. The speakers at these sessions kept the attention of the delegates throughout the morning, and all of the sessions were at nearly at full seating capacity.



*Parallel sessions were at nearly at full seating capacity.*

After lunch on Day 2 of AAC, Keynote Speaker 2, Dr Wang Libing, Chief, Section for Educational Innovation and Skills Development (EISD), UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education spoke on the topic “The Future of Higher Education: Inspirations from the 3rd World Higher Education Conference”.



The final Sub-theme 5, the Role of the Government saw the following papers presented:

1. Redefining the Role of Government Intervention in Private Education Quality Standards – Singapore Context by Alan Go from EV Academy, Singapore
2. Aotearoa New Zealand's Reform of Vocational Education (RoVE): Changing Roles for Government and Private Sector in Technical and Vocational Education and Training by Eve McMahon, Amy Davis and Terry Neal, New Zealand Qualifications Authority, New Zealand
3. Application of Module Approach in the Education Evaluation Projects-Take the Performance Evaluation of Phase I Construction and Demonstration of Phase II Construction Scheme of Shanghai New Type Research Institute as an Example by Le Fang, Xiumeng FENG and Pingping Liu from Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute, China.

### **Closing of APQN 2022 AAC and AGM**

After the afternoon tea-break, Prof. Galina Motova, APQN Vice-President, Deputy-director of National Centre for Public Accreditation (NCPA), Russia Chaired the APQN AGM covering the following matters:

#### **Part 1: AGM**

1. Secretary Report (including welcome to new members in 2022) from APQN Secretary/Treasurer by Ms Pingping Liu (Video Presentation)
2. Report from APQN fifth and sixth President by Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang
3. Thanks to the sixth Board and awarding the Certificates by the seventh President, Mr. Nar Bahadur Raika
4. Introduce the seventh Board Directors and awarding certificates by the sixth President and Vice President: Dr. Jianxin Zhang and Dr. Galina Motova
5. Inaugural Speech by the seventh President, Mr. Nar Bahadur Raika

#### **Part 2: Closing Session**

1. Announcement of the next host of 2023 AAC and Presentation by the next host, American International



University Bangladesh, Dr. Farheen Hassan, Professor, Director, Undergraduate Program (BBA), Faculty of Business Administration (FBA)

2. Closing Remarks by the Chair of the Programme Committee: APQN President, Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang

3. Closing Remarks by the Chair of the Local Organizing Committee: Mr. Jun Barry Aw Yong, CEO, EDUVALUE Singapore

4. Comments, feedback, acknowledgment from the participants

Award of APQN Board Director Certificate to incoming and outgoing board members

The Keynote speakers Dr Tariq Al-Sindi and Dr Wang Libing were invited to give the APQN Board Director Certificate to incoming and outgoing board members present at APQN 2022 AAC and AGM. Mr. Nar Bahadur Raika, the incoming seventh APQN President and Specialist (Advisor) to the Quality Assurance and Accreditation Division, Department of Adult and Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Bhutan, welcome all incoming Board of Directors and showed his deep appreciations to Dr. Jianxin Zhang, sixth APQN President for her great leadership and the good work of outgoing directors.

Mr. Nar Bahadur Raika subsequently chaired the 2nd Board Meeting in 2022 as new APQN President and discussed sustainable development of APQN with new Board of Directors.

### Day 4: Post-Conference Event City Tour

There are 20 delegates who participated in joining a half-day City Tour of Singapore – Heritage Tour on 27 Nov 2022 from 9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. provided with English-speaking guide. Delegates will visit two conservation areas on this tour: Little India and Kampong Gelam. With excellent photo opportunities, guests will learn about the various groups of immigrants who have settled in these areas, including Chinese, Indians, Arabs, Malays, and others.



(Reported by: Alan Go, Lead Researcher, EV Academy (part of EDUVALUE);  
Photographer: Goderic Tia Photos@Copyright to EDUVALUE Pte Ltd)



## Release of the book entitled "APQN Research on the COVID Impact"

At the open ceremony of 2022 APQN Academic Conference at Life-long Learning Institute in Singapore, APQN book entitled "APQN Research on the COVID Impact on the Quality of Higher Education" has been released to the public.

Jianxin Zhang (APQN President), Galina Motavo (Vice President), Mr. Jun Barry Aw Yong (Local host), together with Dr Wang Libing (Chief, Section for Educational Innovation and Skills Development, UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education) released this book.



In the past 2-and-half years, APQN carried on many actions during the COVID pandemic, including 4 surveys, 7 interviews, 1 online forum, 3 international online conferences, 1 online-teaching standard and other researches. The current book is the result of most of APQN researches and projects COVID-19.

The book consists of 10 chapters including 4 parts: Part I is the research of chapters 1-3, which describes the impacts of COVID outbreak, such as "Survey of the COVID Impact on the HEIs", "Survey of the COVID Impact on QAAs" and "Survey on the Effectiveness of Online Teaching in the HEIs". Part II is the research of chapters 4-7 which narrates the uncertainty and challenges during the of COVID-19, such as "Review of APQN 2020 Online Forum", "APQN Board Interviews on HE Quality in COVID Crisis", "Qualitative Research on Effectiveness of Online Course during COVID-19" and "Academic Review of the 12th Higher Education International Conference". Part III is the research of chapters 8-10 which shows the results, such as "Meta-Review to APQR", "APQN Standard for Online-Teaching QA" and "COVID Response Mechanism". Part IV is annex 1-6 which provides more details to the researches carried on during the pandemic, such as 4 surveys, 7 interviews, and "APQN Standard for Online-Teaching Quality Assurance" issued globally on May 30, 2021.

You can download it at APQN website at  
<https://www.apqn.org/library/aac-proceedings>



**(Written by Jianxin Zhang, APQN President as well as the chief-editor)**



## APQN Annual General Meeting

The APQN Annual General Meeting took place in Singapore on November 26, 2022. It was chaired by Prof. Galina Motova, APQN Vice-President, Deputy-director of National Centre for Public Accreditation (NCPA), Russia



The meeting began with the report of the APQN Secretariat made by Liu Pingpin, Xu Yingjie, Fang Le, and Fan Cunyao. The Secretariat is currently administered by the Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute (China). The report specifically emphasized an increase in the number of Network members from 222 in March 2019 to 268 as of today. Nowadays, the 268 APQN members come from 47 countries. There are 51 full members, 20 intermediate members, 17 associate members (agencies outside the Asia-Pacific), 14 observers, and 165 institutional members. There is also one individual member. The Secretariat stressed that accreditation agencies in the region and around the world are highly interested in the APQN membership.

The fifth and sixth APQN President, Professor Dr. Jianxin Zhang, reported on two terms of chairing the APQN Board. During the past six years, particularly as a result of the vigorous efforts and initiatives of Dr. Jianxin Zhang and the dedicated work of the Board, APQN has achieved strong financial stability and attracted the attention of numerous stakeholders, including quality assurance agencies, HEIs, and partner organizations. Every year, the Network gains more members and expands the scope of its political influence in the area. Many events have been held during this period, including Annual Academic Conferences, General Meetings, Summits, and International Forums. Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, when the borders were closed and communication was limited, APQN continued its activity and held conferences in an online format. The research into the influence of COVID on teaching and learning and the effectiveness of quality assurance agencies was carried out. The following papers were published: Anthology 2019, Anthology 2021, and "APQN Research on the COVID Impact on the Quality of Higher Education." APQR and APQL projects aimed at the external review of agencies and HEIs are being implemented. The electronic edition of APQNews is published twice a year, and the Annual Report is published every year.

Professor Dr. Jianxin Zhang commended the Board for their productive collaboration and wished the newly elected Board success in their efforts to promote the Network's sustainability.

The sixth Board members were awarded certificates. The election results of the

new seventh Board were declared and finalized during the General Meeting. The new Board includes the following members: President: Nar Bahadur Raika from Bhutan, Vice President: Galina Motova from Russia, Secretary/Treasurer: Liu Pingping from China and Board Directors: (1) Ex-Officio as Immediate Past President, Jianxin Zhang from China; (2) Ex-officio as APQR Chair, Jagannath Patil from India; (3) Elected Jun Barry Aw Yong from Singapore; (4) Elected Srinivasa Chandramouliswar Sharma from India; (5) Elected Umankulova Onolkan from Kyrgyzstan; and (6) Elected Timur Kanapyanov from Kazakhstan.



Dr. Tariq Al-Sindi, the Chief Executive of the Education and Training Quality Authority of Bahrain, the Secretary General of the Arab Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ANQAHE) and an Executive Board member at the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAHE) awarded certificates to the new Board members.

The key highlight of the General Meeting was the inauguration address made by the seventh President, Mr. Nar Bahadur Raika. In his speech, he expressed gratitude to the sixth Board, emphasized the achievements accomplished, highlighted the effective work of the conference organizer, EDUVALUE (Singapore), and thanked the members of the Network for the great honour of electing him as the President of one of the most reputable and influential quality assurance networks in the region.

Assuming full responsibility for APQN further progress, he stated the following: "As I take on this large responsibility, I propose to move the Network further guided by the 3 Cs – Constitution, Collaboration, Continuity, and Sustainability." Mr. Raika also noted how much the world has changed recently and that the Network needs to adapt to these changes. "We will adopt, adapt, and adjust to the needs of the volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous world for continuity of the practices and change, thereby making them current and relevant. Meanwhile, we will look ahead to the future, take into account development trends, and support new ideas and innovations in quality assurance. We will not work as if we have inherited the

Network from the sixth Board of Directors but as if we have borrowed it from our future Boards to make it sustainable.”



The General Meeting was held after the APQN Annual Academic Conference, where the venue and date of the next AAC were announced: November 2023, Bangladesh. In addition, it was suggested that a quality assurance summit be held in the Philippines.

The year 2023 is particularly noteworthy for all the network members since it marks APQN 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



(Written by Galina Motova, APQN Vice-President)

## Welcome to 2023 AAC and AGM

### Welcome to 2023 AAC and AGM at AIUB, Dhaka, Bangladesh

We are delightful to declare, 2023 APQN Academic Conference (AAC) and APQN General Meeting (AGM) will be hold at Dhaka, Bangladesh by American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) on Nov. 02-04, 2023.

**Theme: Innovation and Sustainable Development in Higher Education**

#### Four Sub-Themes:

**1. Quality of Trans-formative learning (TL) and Trans-formative teaching (TT).** Education can be restructured as “Trans-formative” if students are responsible, respected, valued and are included in the teaching-learning process as active and contributing members. This conference is considering “Trans-formative education” as one of the themes to highlight and identify the critical factors of this new requirement of Trans-formative education.

**2. Blended Education from the perspective of 4th Industrial Revolution and the COVID Pandemic.** Institutions have come to understand the value of their online capabilities, organizational management, resourcefulness and adaptability after the hard lock down due to the global effect of COVID pandemic. Thus, “Blended Education” has considered as one of the themes of the conference to re-think how mankind could use the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) to accommodate blended learning in higher education.

**3. Digital Quality Assurance and Journey to Quality Enhancement.** The Digital Quality Assurance in Higher Education Institutions is now considered as an innovative and reliable approach towards the Quality Enhancement which can be used for modernizing the governance, management and total functions of Higher Education Institutions and further enhanced to better serve the stakeholders. Hence, this conference is considering “Quality Enhancement via Digital Quality Assurance” as another sub-theme.

**4. University-Industry Linkage in the background of internationalization.** The power of implementation of policies in connection with university-industry collaboration have high impact in producing graduates with knowledge and employ-ability skills. Therefore, cooperation between universities and industries has been a sub-theme of the conference to emphasize the employer demand and job applicant’s knowledge and skills.

#### APQN Academic Conference Fee Structure 2023 at AIUB, Dhaka, Bangladesh

APQN Board Members (no more than 10):	FREE
Keynote Speakers (no more than 3):	FREE

APQN Member:	100 USD per person
Non APQN Members:	150 USD per person
Local (Academic Members):	60 USD per person
Local (Students):	30 USD per person
Early bird registration fees:	75/100 USD

To recapitulate, AIUB, the co-host of AAC and AGM-2023, would like to provide an opportunity to all the local and international researchers to participate in this conference where they will be learning how to re-organize the existing model of higher education perspective to sustainability and innovation. AIUB expects that with the help of the Ministry of Education (MOE), Bangladesh Accreditation Council (BAC), Board of Accreditation for Engineering and Technical Education (BAETE), UGC and a good amount of expertise on quality assurance from the academicians and industries will participate in the event. It is highly expected that the outcome of the 2023 AAC and AGM will be a big success not only for Bangladesh but also for the Asia-Pacific region.



American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) is an institutional member of APQN since 2007 and hold an international workshop in Dhaka to introduce the concept of Quality Education among the academicians in Bangladesh. Thereafter, AIUB has participated and positively contributed to different workshops and conferences hosted by APQN in different countries. AIUB acknowledges the importance of AAC and AGM and firmly believes that such conference will be able to create a platform to exchange ideas on quality assurance and quality enhancement among the academicians across the regions. Knowledge sharing in the past conference has helped many universities and countries to enrich the quality of the academic programs which are very visible. AIUB is committed to ensure quality in higher education. Therefore, since its inception in 1994, AIUB has been working to promote Internal Quality Assurance within different academic and administrative activities. AIUB has been the first university in Bangladesh to introduce Quality Assurance Center (QAC) in 2008 and approached to Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities (PAASCU) for international accreditation for different programs of AIUB. The Quality Assurance Center has



trained the staff of the university and key personnel of University Grants Commission (UGC) on different instruments used for quality assurance in different areas.

AIUB was chosen as the best Quality Assurance Model University by APQN in 2016. Quality Assurance Unit of UGC in Bangladesh also recognized AIUB as a role model in Quality Assurance for higher education. Currently, nine programs of AIUB are accredited by Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities (PAASCU), three programs are accredited by national professional bodies and all the programs are reviewed and evaluated by the External Peer Reviewers under the Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP). AIUB has participated in APQN capacity building workshop on Quality Assurance in collaboration with Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT) in Chinese Taiwan and participated in on-line fora on Quality Assurance and always positively contributed to ensure quality education. Participation of AIUB in different international projects has been a motivation for AIUB to be able to organize the APQN Academic Conference (AAC) and APQN General Meeting (AGM). AIUB has done a research project on Internal Quality Assurance of higher education with International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), UNESCO. The major objective is to document innovative and effective International Quality Assurance systems, to study their effects and to identify the factors that condition their effectiveness. Also, to internationalize the education, AIUB has worked with International Association of Universities (IAU) in a project named as Internationalization Strategy Advisory Service (ISAS). This project became a platform bringing together the institutional leaders and key officials to further expound and convey their perspectives and experiences on the internationalization issues and concerns and to continue bringing about change in the values and knowledge as universities continue to explore and implement the tenets of internationalization.



**Welcome to APQN Academic Conference 2023 at AIUB, Dhaka,  
Bangladesh!**

**(Written by American International University-Bangladesh )**



## REPORTS BY THE BOARD

### President Annual Report by Jianxin Zhang

#### Prologue

**Dear Board directors, dear members in APQN big family, a very good afternoon!**

Welcome you to AGM!

On behalf of APQN Board Directors, Jianxin Zhang, Galina Motova, Pingping Liu, Jagannath Patil, Deepthi Bandara, Farida Nurmanbetova and Barry Aw Yong, Here I present "APQN President Report" for you to approval.



6 years ago (2016), in Fiji known as the "heaven on earth", I was elected APQN fifth President, taking over the baton of "APQN Long March" from 4<sup>th</sup> president, Dr. Jagannath Patil. Since then, I have shouldered APQN responsibility as the parent of this international family.

In 2019, I was once again honored to be elected as the sixth president. Together with all the Board directors and members, we spent the difficult time under the great challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, we are happy to welcome APQN seventh Board. On behalf of the fifth and sixth Board, let's warmly welcome and congratulate the new Board directors!

In my inaugural speech 6 years ago, I said: "*I will faithfully perform the duties of APQN President*". I also raised a question: "*Everyone in APQN, especially myself, should not ask what APQN can do for us, but what I can do for APQN?*" Today is the time to answer that question and to check whether the Board has fulfilled the promise and implemented the tasks or not.

Based on "APQN Constitution" "APQN Procedure Manual", 2 APQN Strategic Plans (2016-2019; 2019-2022), 13 Issues of APQNews (Issue 14-26), 5 APQN Annual Reports (2016-2021), on behalf of APQN fifth and sixth Board, here President Report will presented in 10 aspects: (1) APQN organization construction; (2) Human

resource development; (3) Regulation and system construction; (4) Academic development; (5) COVID Pandemic response mechanism; (6) Construction of external QA mechanism; (7) Construction of internal QA mechanism; (8) Publications; (9) Financial status; (10) Spirit legacy.

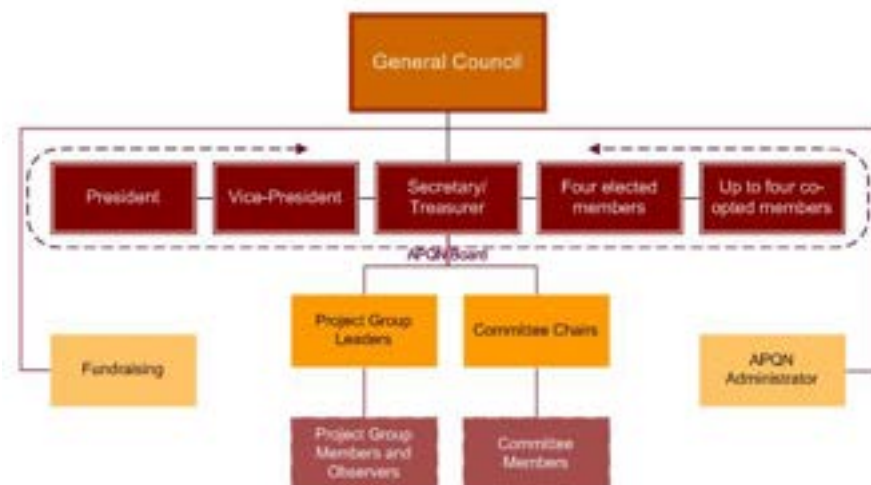
## I. APQN Organization Construction: Mission and Framework

### 1.APQN Governing body

APQN governing bodies and authorities are the General Council and the Board. The General Council is comprised of Full Members, Intermediate Members, Associate Members, Institutional Members and Individual Members.

APQN Board consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer(ex-officio), immediate Past President(ex-officio), and four other elected directors, and other directors whom the Board may decide to co-opt, to a maximum of four co-opted directors on the Board.

Fig. 1 APQN Administration framework



APQN Board may establish committees, such as the Executive Committee, Membership Committee, the Finance Committee, the Office Bearers, etc. According to APQN projects and tasks, the Board can appoint Project Group Leaders who, if not already directors of the Board, may be co-opted as directors of the Board to a maximum of two co-opted Project Group Leaders as outlined.

## **2.APQN mission, value, vision, principle and ultimate goal**

APQN mission is to enhance the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region through strengthening internal and external quality assurance in all kinds of organizations and extending the cooperation among them.

APQN value is to be committed to the quality of higher education, and supportive of both internal and external quality assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region.

APQN vision is to promote quality culture; to be a self-sustaining non-government and non-profit organization; and to be the first point of reference, efficient in its operations and sharing information among members.

APQN principles are: (1) procedure-based; (2) capacity building; (3) self-reliance and information-sharing; and (4) sustainable development for final goal.

APQN ultimate goal is "Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region".

## **3.APQN History Development**

On a sunny day 19 years ago (January,2003) in Hong Kong, China, a small core group of QA persons (Peter Cheung of HKCAA, David Woodhouse of AUQA, and VS Prasad of NAAC) with a common wish for excellence in quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region had a meeting... and here APQN came into being!

Time flies! 19 years had passed by before we realized it. After the 19-year development, APQN has become the largest and the most influential international, non-governmental, non-profit organization in the Asia-Pacific Region with 268 members from 47 countries/territories.

In the past 19 years, APQN has gone through 4 development stages: (1)Before 2003, it is initiative development stage focusing on APQN goal, mission, vision, etc. (2) from 2005-2012, it is basic-construction development stage, focusing on website, constitution, etc.; (3) from 2012-2016, it is self-sustainable development stage, focusing on APQN survival because of the cease of grand-support; (4) from 2016 to 2022, it is self -sustainable development stage, focusing on third generation of quality assurance. From 2022, APQN will enter new development stage, focusing on fourth generation of quality assurance.

Fig. 2: APQN history development stage



Founded in 2003, APQN has been focusing on higher education QA, insisting the mission of "To enhance the quality of higher education in Asia and the Pacific region through strengthening the work of quality assurance agencies and extending the cooperation between them" (APQN Mission Statement, 2015) to carry out international cooperation within the Asia-Pacific Region.

## II. Human resource development

In the filed of human resource, APQN has been continuously working hard on three aspects: Board Directors, APQN members and 3.Consultant Database.

### 1.APQN Board Directors

In the past 6 years, APQN has two terms of Board: the fifth and sixth Board.

At the fifth Board, there are 9 Board Directors in total: Jianxin Zhang (President), Angela Hou Yung-chi (Vice President), Li Yaogang and Pingping Liu (Secretary/Treasurer), and Directors: Jagannath Patil (Ex-Officio as Immediate Past President), Manuel Corpus, Zita Mohd Fahmi (dropped out), Galina Motova, Malini Nair-Prasad and Deepthi C. Bandara(2018-2019).

Fig. 3: The fifth Board Directors (2016-2019)



At the sixth Board, there are 8 Board Directors in total: Jianxin Zhang (President), Galina Motova (Vice President), Liu Pingping (Secretary/Treasurer), and Directors: Jagannath Pati, Deepthi C. Bandara, I-Jung Grace Lu(2019-2020), Farida Nurmanbetova, Jun Barry Aw Yong( 2020-2022).

Fig. 4: The sixth Board Directors(2019-2020)

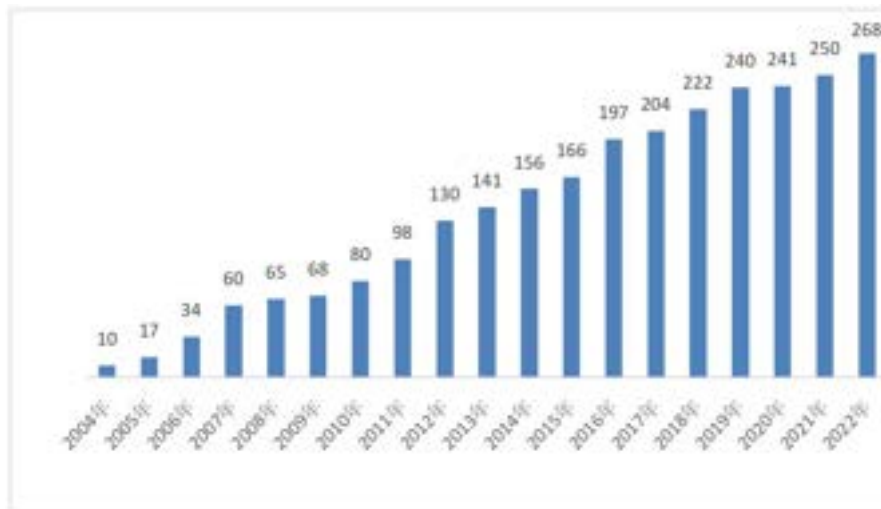


## 2.APQN Members

As of November 25, 2022 APQN has 268 members from 47 countries/ territories.

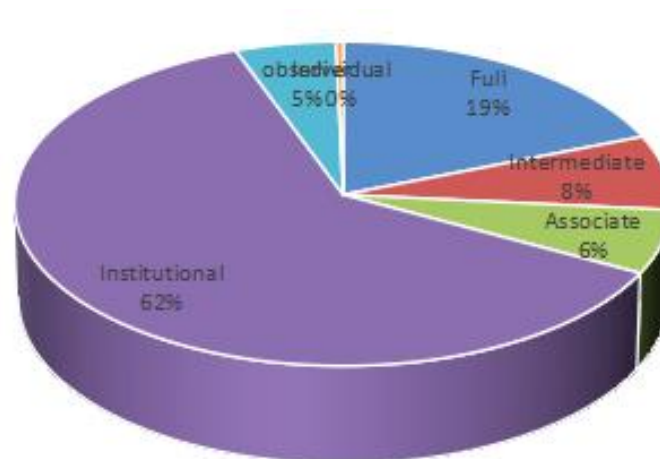


Fig.5: The growing number of APQN Members



Among them, there are five categories: Full members, Intermediate members, Associate members, Institutional members and Individual Members. Institutional members cover 62% of the total number, which means that internal quality assurance is getting more and more important in Asia-Pacific Region.

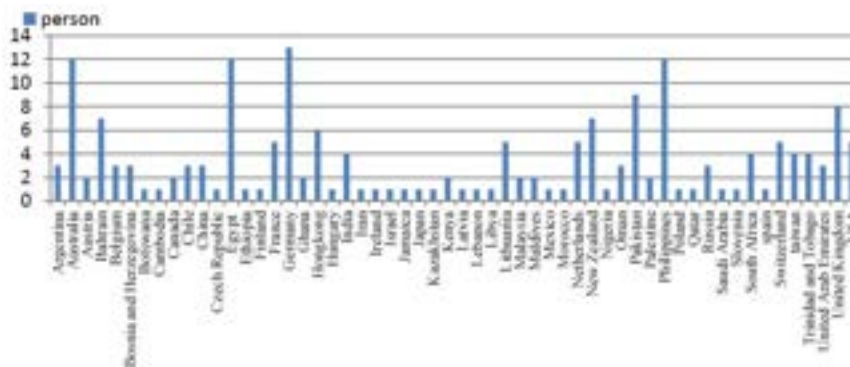
Fig. 6: Category percentage of APQN members



### 3. Consultant Database

In 2016, the consultant database is composed of 188 consultants from 56 countries. 47% consultants are from developed countries and 53% from developing countries. such as Germany, Australia, Egypt and the Philippines.

Fig. 7: The composition of APQN consultant database



In 2020, 46 new Consultants were added to Consultant Database, there are 234 consultants.

### III.Regulation and system construction

In the filed of regulation and system construction, APQN has covered 5 important aspects: (1) completing "APQN Procedure Manual"; (2) amendments of "APQN Constitution"; (3) making 2 "Strategic Plans" (2016-2019; 2019-2022); (4) establishing "9-Ones system"; (5) holding 5 AGMs.

#### 1. Completing "APQN Procedure Manual"

Since its inception in 2003, APQN has released 2 versions of the Manual: (1) Version 1 with 8 chapters was released in 2007; (2) Version 2 with only 1 chapter on Finance was released in 2011, supplementary to Version 1.

In the past decade, APQN got financial support from World Bank and UNESCO, but since 2012, the found was ceased, and APQN stepped into a self-sustaining era. Naturally many procedures are of no use.

In 2016, at the first Board meeting of the fifth Board in Fiji, the Board considered that it's high time for APQN to revise the Manual. The Board approved that Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang as the group leader to revise APQN Procedure Manual with the financial support of "the Self-fundraising Project: APQN Sustainable Development" donated by Mr. Zhang Jianping, CEO of Wuxi Shenzheng International Logistics Co. Ltd., China.

Based on APQN Procedures Manual (version 1) in 2007 and Finance Manual (Version 2) in 2011, referencing INQAAHE General Procedures Manual (version 17) in 2013, "APQN Procedure Manual (Version 3)" with 12 chapters has been revised and updated by Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang with the help of Ms. Xinna Zhang, Angela Hou Yung-chi. The Manual was endorsed by APQN Board in September, 2017 . In October

31, 2017, APQN released "APQN Procedure Manual (version 3)" to the public in the website (<http://www.apqn.org/about-apqn/apqn-brochures>). At the open ceremony of 2018 APQN Academic Conference held in Nagpur, India, APQN Board Directors together with distinguished guests, keynote speakers officially released the Manual.

Fig. 8: Formal Releasing of APQN Procedure Manual in 2018 in India



As we all know, the Manual acts as guidance for APQN, lays guidelines for its functioning, gives astonishingly positive results in its functioning in the area it belongs to. The implementation of the Manual has made APQN working smooth, question free and transparent which is the need of the sustainable development of APQN.

## 2. Amendments of "APQN Constitution"

According to the decisions of the first Board meeting of the sixth Board held on March 30, 2019, it's high time for APQN to amend APQN Constitution (v. 9.0), which was amended five years ago.

Approved by the sixth Board, 19-step procedure was made as the schedule of the Amendments of APQN Constitution. In September, the amendment has been completed, including the 5 aspects: (1) Adding the member category of "Individual Member"; (2) adding APQN mission, value, vision and goal which APQN has implemented for more than a decade; (3) adding the benefits of APQN members according to "APQN Procedure Manual" released in 2018; (4) some expressions that might cause confusion; and (5) a few more changes have been made to fine tune Constitution.

APQN Constitution is of great significance to APQN: it is not only the foundation of APQN, but also the soul of APQN. By the end of 2019, APQN had amended it (9 version), such as adding individual membership category.

Fig. 9: 2.Amendments of "APQN Constitution" in 2019

The historical record list of the amendments of APQN Constitution		
Date	Session	Resolution
April, 2004	1 <sup>st</sup> session	Preliminary discussion, formulating draft
October, 2004	2 <sup>nd</sup> session	Fundamental contents
December, 2004	2 <sup>nd</sup> session	Fundamental contents
January, 2005	3 <sup>rd</sup> session	Fundamental contents
April, 2006	3 <sup>rd</sup> session	Further improvement
February, 2007	4 <sup>th</sup> session	Add a new member category: individual member
February, 2008	5 <sup>th</sup> session	Define the responsibilities of the Secretariat, modify the voting rights of its elected board members
March, 2014	8 <sup>th</sup> session	Determine that immediate Past President is Board member (to officially modify the current APQN Board)
December, 2019	9 <sup>th</sup> session	(1) Adding the member category of "Individual Member"; (2) adding APQN mission, vision and goal which APQN has implemented for more than a decade; (3) adding the benefits of APQN members according to "APQN Provision Manual" released in 2012; (4) other improvements that might cause controversy; and (5) a few more changes have been made to the new Constitution.

### 3. Making 2 "APQN Strategic Plans" (2016-2019;2019-2022)

APQN Strategic Plan is as the guidance for the new general council in the next three years. In order to realize the final goal of "Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region", the fifth and sixth Board of APQN made the APQN Strategic Plan (2016-2019; 2019-2022).

The Board took on the persistent mission with new attitude and new perspectives. The five principles of the Strategic Plan are: (1) target-orientated principle; (2) project-orientated principle; (3) SMART Project principle (specific, meaningful, agreed-upon, results-oriented and tractable); (4) Win-Win Principle; and 5) principle of sustainable development. The five key words are "procedure-base, capacity-building, self-reliance, information-sharing and sustainable development".

2 APQN Strategic Plans (2019-2022) focus on completing 7 goals and actions along with 9 targets in the next three years.

Table 1: 7 goals and 9 targets in APQN Strategic Plan

APQN Strategic Plan	
7 Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establish ongoing financial viability and stability</li> <li>2. Develop the website to provide a platform for the communication for all members</li> <li>3. Populate and maintain the consultant database and make information accessible to all</li> <li>4. Ensure APQN annual conference efficiently and effectively</li> <li>5. Complete the research projects facilitate the requests, support and advice for training or others</li> <li>6. Strengthen relations with other international, regional and national networks/organizations within and outside the Region</li> <li>7. Broaden the base of services to its members to ensure visibility and sustainability of network activities</li> </ol>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Raise more funds by seeking sponsorship, support and in-kind contributions from all kinds of relative stakeholders.</li> <li>2. Ensure all countries/territories in the region have access to an accreditation agency – national or regional, establish Qualification Framework.</li> </ol>

9 Targets	<p>3. Conduct capacity building workshops on evaluators on a user pay principle.</p> <p>4. Asia-Pacific Quality Register(APQR) to be implemented in 2019 -2020.</p> <p>5. APQN Quality Label (APQL) to be implemented in 2019 -2022.</p> <p>6. Continue to publish the series of AAC anthologies, APQN Annual Report and APQNews.</p> <p>7. Continue to establish QA Consultant Database.</p> <p>8. Continue to establish Quality Information Portal along with on-line forum.</p> <p>9. Continue to establish mutual relationship with other international, regional and national QA networks/organizations.</p>
--------------	---

Fig. 10: APQN Strategic Plans(2016-2019) and APQN Strategic Plans (2019-2022)



## 4. Establishing "9-ones system"

Based on "APQN Procedure Manual", we made APQN annual routine work as "9-One system" in order to systematically and continuously promote the development of higher education QA:

- 1) Once a year, holding an AAC (international academic conference ) to all (5 sessions)
- 2) Once a year, holding an AGM (annual general meeting) of the General Council (5 times)
- 3) Once a year, holding a quality award ceremony (5 sessions)
- 4) Once a year, holding the "Global Summit " to QA experts (3 sessions)
- 5) Once a year, MPI-APQN holding international conference on "teaching QA" in Macao (6 sessions)
- 6) Once a year, publishing an APQN Annual Report (6 issues)



- 7) Once a year, publishing an academic anthology of selected papers (5 volumes)
- 8) Once a year, publishing APQNews twice a year(12 issues)
- 9) Twice a year, holding QA online forum (2 sessions)

It is based on the "9- One system", we made APQN calendar at the beginning of each year, while at the end of each month we made monthly calendar to inform all APQN Board Directors to keep in mind what APQN has done last month and what APQN will do next month. By this way, APQN can systematically function very well without delaying or missing the tasks should be done.

## 5.Holding 5 Annual General Meetings

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is the important annual meeting of the General Council (GC). The governing bodies and authorities of APQN are the General Council and the Board. The GC is composed of Full Members, Intermediate Members, Associate Members and Institutional Members.

According to "APQN Constitution", APQN must hold Annual General Meeting(AGM) once a year. Since 2017, APQN held 6 AGMs (table 2). In the year of 2020, there was no AGM because of the COVID-19 pandemic, all the conferences, meetings and activities stopped in the whole globe .

Table 2: The year and venue list of Annual General Meetings (2017-2022)

Year	Venue	Theme
2017	Mosco, Russia	APQN General Meeting in 2017
2018	Nagpur, India	APQN General Meeting in 2018
2019	Colombo, Sri Lanka	APQN General Meeting in 2019
2021	Singapore	APQN General Meeting in 2021(online)
2022	Singapore	APQN General Meeting in 2022

Fig. 11: Group photos of 5 AGMs  
2017, Russia



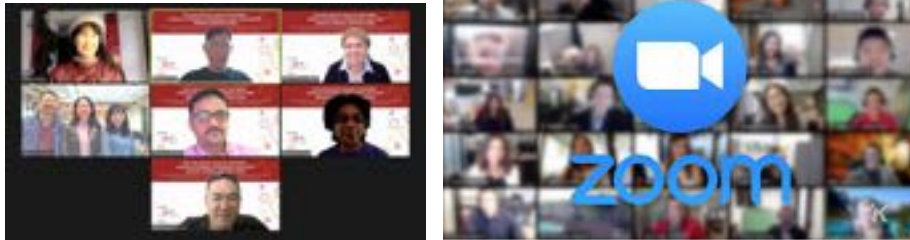
2018, India



2019, Sri Lanka



2021, Singapore online



2022, Singapore



## IV. Academic development

In the field of academic development, APQN held 5 Academic Conferences, 3 Global Summit, 2 Online Forums, 5 Quality Award Ceremonies and 7 MPI-APQN international conferences.

### 1. Holding 5 APQN Academic Conferences

APQN Academic Conference (AAC) is a major event of the year and it is an opportunity for members to update themselves on the latest trends in quality assurance and liaise with their colleagues in the region, which coincides with the AGM.

From 2017 to 2022, APQN held 5 AACs in 4 countries: Russia, India, Sri Lanka and Singapore. The most important keyword is "quality assurance". In 2020, because of COVID, just like other networks in the global, APQN had to cancel AAC, and in 2021 APQN had to hold online AACs.

Table 3: The list of AAC year, venue, theme and host (2017-2022)

Year	Venue	Theme	Host
2017	Mosco, Russia	New Horizons: Dissolve Boundaries for a Quality Region	NACPA
2018	Nagpur, India	Capacity Building (CB) for Next- Generation Quality Assurance in Higher Education	SSESASC
2019	Colombo, Sri Lanka	Quality Assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region: Insight into the Future	UGC
2021	Singapore	COVID-19 Response Mechanism and Impact on Quality Assurance for Higher Education in the Asia-Pacific Region (online)	EDUVALUE
2022	Singapore	Quality Assurance for Higher Education under Covid-19 Pandemic and Beyond in Asia-Pacific Region	EDUVALUE

Fig. 12: Group photos of 5 AACs

2017, Russia





2018, India



2019, Sri Lanka



2021, Singapore online





2022, Singapore



## 2. Holding 3 Global Summit

APQN Global Summit is one of the main annual events for discussing and advancing quality assurance in higher education throughout the Asia- Pacific region.

Since September, 2016, 3 Global Summits on Quality Assurance have been held in 3 countries/territories. The most prominent one is the "Global Summit on Quality Higher Education: Sharing values and fostering trust beyond borders" held in Bengaluru, India.

Fig. 13: Group photo of the 3 global summits



"Bengaluru Statement for 2016 on Next-Generation Quality Assurance of Higher Education" was the culmination of the global summit and is counted as the major landmark in the International history of higher education quality assurance.

Table 4: The year, venue, theme and organizer list of 3 global summit

Year	Venue	Theme	Organizer
2016	Bengaluru, India	Sharing Values and Fostering Trust beyond Borders (Bengaluru Statement)	NAAC
2017	Chinese Taipei	Regional Cooperation and Harmonization: ASEAN Countries and East Asia in Quality Assurance of Higher Education	HEEACT
2018	Bali, Indonesia	Quality Assurance for Higher Education 4.0 - Issues and Challenges,	NAAHE
Total	<b>3 cities</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

### 3. Holding 2 Online Forums

On-line forum is conducted twice every two year. 2 Online Forums have been conducted, The theme of the seventh forum is "Capacity Building of Quality Assurance Agencies and Universities: Professionalism and Effectiveness" while the eighth is "Influence of COVID on Quality Assurance: The new normal of Higher Education 4.0" held on July 27, 2020.

Fig. 14: Group photo of the eighth online forum



The forum was focused on six themes: (1) Governments as a key player for higher education quality assurance under the impact of COVID-19; (2) The new normal of internationalization of quality assurance; (3) Quality assurance of outcome-based teaching and learning: the influence of COVID-19; (4) Digitization of

quality assurance: will this be the new normal for quality assurance? (5) Innovations in HE accreditation in an era of disruptive technologies; (6) Reflections on new normal and strategies for quality assurance in emerging out of COVID-19 pandemic. The success of the online forum gave APQN great confidence: APQN would shoulder its responsibility and take the online forum as an opportunity to further enhance the Quality of Higher Education in Asia-Pacific region.

Table 5: The year, theme and chair of 2 online forums

Year	Theme	Chair
2018	Capacity Building of Quality Assurance Agencies and Universities: Professionalism and Effectiveness	Angela, Jianxin and Deepthi
2020	Influence of COVID-19 on Quality Assurance: The new normal of Higher Education 4.0 "	I-Jung Grace Lu

#### 4. Holding 4 Quality Award Ceremonies

APQN Quality Award is the first international quality assurance award in the Asia-Pacific region, which can encourage members that have done outstanding work individually, institutionally, nationally as well as internationally in quality assurance in higher education.

Since 2017, 4 Quality award ceremonies have been held in 4 countries: Russia, India, Sri Lanka and Singapore. 22 winners both within and outside the Asia-Pacific Region got the awards in QA field.

Table 6: Summary list of the ceremonies of APQN Quality Awards

Year	Ceremony Venue	Award Categories	Winner
2017	Moscow, Russia	4	6
2018	Nagpur, India	3	6
2019	Colombo, Sri Lanka	5	5
2022	Singapore	3	5
Total	<b>4 cities</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>22</b>

Fig. 15: Group photo of 4 Quality Award Ceremonies

**2017, Russia**



**2018, India**



**2019, Sri Lanka**



**2022, Singapore**





## 6. Holding 7 MPI-APQN international conferences

Macao Polytechnic Institute (MPI) and APQN have been jointly organizing international conferences on quality of teaching and learning quality in higher education in Macao since 2015.

In the past 7 years, MPI-APQN successful held 7 international conference. Nearly 200 scholars and experts coming from countries or regions such as the United Kingdom, Portugal, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Sri Lanka, Fiji, India, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Chinese Mainland, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao, spoke or presented their latest research, attracting the participation of hundreds of academics, QA experts, and higher education students in the Asia-Pacific Region. MPI has published "6 Proceedings"

Table 7: The year and theme of 7 MPI-APQN international conferences

Year	Theme
2016	The New Frontiers of Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance in Higher Education
2017	The New Developments of Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance in Higher Education
2018	Innovation and Developments in Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance
2019	Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance in International Contexts
2020	Education Innovation and Teaching Quality Assurance in the Post-Pandemic Era
2021	Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance in the Post-Pandemic Era
2022	Online Teaching and Sustainable Quality Assurance: Challenges and Perspectives

Fig. 16: Group photo of MPI-APQN international conferences





## V. COVID Response Mechanism

### 1. APQN 13 innovative actions to guarantee education quality assurance under the COVID pandemic

In the past 3 years, the COVID Pandemic attacked all the global human being in a threatening and horrible manner. It is an unprecedented scenario in the world history of education.

During the COVID pandemic, APQN conducted 13 actions, including 4 surveys, interviews to 7 Board Directors, 1 online forum, 3 international online conferences, 1 online-teaching standard, 2 books and other researches(table 8).

Table 8: APQN 13 innovative actions to guarantee education quality assurance under the COVID pandemic

#	Time	Innovative actions	Beneficiaries	Impacts
1	Marc h-May, 2020	APQN global survey on the COVID impact in higher education institutions(HEIs)	The survey covered the respondents from 47 countries/territories around the World.	Final Report of APQN Survey Research on the COVID-19 Impact in Higher Education Institutions ( <a href="#">Annex 1: 47 pages</a> )
2	April-June, 2020	APQN survey on the COVID impact in quality assurance agencies(QAAs)	The survey was sent to 71 QAAs – APQN members, as well as 30 QAAs from Europe	Results of APQN survey on the influence of COVID-19 on Quality Assurance Agencies ( <a href="#">Annex 2: 11 pages</a> )
3	June-July, 2020	Interviews with APQN Board Directors on COVID impact on HE quality	7 Board Directors were interviewed on quality of higher education in the COVID-19 Crisis from April 20 to May 20, 2020.	APQN Board Interviews on HE Quality in COVID-19 Crisis ( <a href="#">Annex 3:15 pages</a> )
4	July 28, 2020	APQN 8th online forum entitled "Influence of COVID on higher education quality assurance: the new normal of higher education 4.0	32 representatives from 9 countries and regions around the world participated in the online forum through the Webex.	Review Report of APQN 2020 online forum entitled the COVID-19 impact on the quality assurance of higher education ( <a href="#">Annex 4: 11 pages</a> )
5	July, 2020	Survey on Effectiveness of On-line Teaching	4650 respondents from 23 provinces/regions replied the survey	Survey Report of the effectiveness of online teaching in the HEIs ( <a href="#">Annex 5: 10 pages</a> )
6	Nov.2 5-26, 2020	MPI-APQN 12th International Conference on Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance in Higher Education under the Pandemic	The conference featured four keynote speakers and 22 presentations divided into six parallel sessions.	Academic Review of the 12th Higher Education International Conference ( <a href="#">Annex 6: 13 pages</a> )
7	June to December, 2020	Qualitative Research on Effectiveness of Online Course during the COVID-19 Pandemic	54 on-the-job graduate students majoring in Education Administration at Yunnan University, China	Qualitative Research on Effectiveness of Online Course during the COVID-19 Pandemic ( <a href="#">Annex 7: pages</a> )
8	May 31, 2021	APQN Standard for Online-Teaching Quality Assurance	The Standard was released to the whole world on May 31, 2021. 268 APQN members directly got the “Standard” from APQN Secretariat.	8-1: APQN Standard for Online-Teaching Quality Assurance( <a href="#">11 pages</a> ); 8-2: APQNews (Issue 23); Releasing APQN Standard (p.12-13) ( <a href="#">Annex 8-1 &amp; 8-2: )</a>
9	Nov. 22, 2021	MPI-APQN 13th International Conference on Education Innovation and Teaching Quality Assurance in the Post-Pandemic Era	Over 30 experts from England, Portugal, Australia, Japan, Turkey, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, cross-straits, Hong Kong and Macao presented their papers.	(1)MPI-APQN 13 <sup>th</sup> International Conference was Held; (2) Speech at MPI-APQN 13 <sup>th</sup> Higher Education International Conference

				(Annex 9:10 pages)
10	Nov. 25, 2021	AAC on COVID Response Mechanism and Impact on Quality Assurance for Higher Education in the Asia-Pacific Region	350 persons have registered from Bangladesh, Hong Kong, China, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Malaysia, Maldives, and other countries/territories.	10-1: 2021 AAC and AGM is a Great Success (p.11-17)  10.2: Overview of 2021 AAC on COVID-19 Response Mechanism (Annex 10:-1 & 10-2: 16 pages)
11	June, 2022	Anthology of selected papers of 2021 AAC (online) in Singapore under COVID Pandemic	The selected papers of 45 authors have been published.	Annex 11-1: Digital Publishing of APQN 2019 and 2021 Anthologies (p.17-21)  Annex 11-2: Annex 11-2 APQN Anthology of 2021 AAC on COVID-19 Response Mechanism (225 pages)  (Annex 11: 330 pages)
12	June, 2022	APQN Research on the COVID Impact on the HE Quality	The book was up-load to APQN website for free download for all in the world.  The book was officially released at 2022 AAC to 120 participants in Singapore.  14 authors published their research on COVID-19 Impact on quality assurance in higher education.	Annex 12-1: Publication of "APQN Research on the COVID Impact on the Quality of Higher Education (Pp.14-16)  Annex 12-2: Book entitled "APQN Research on the COVID Impact on the HE Quality (245 pages)  Annex 12-3: Releasing the book on APQN Research on the COVID-19 Impact (p.35)  (Annex 12: 25 pages)
13	Nov., 2022	APQN academic conference "Quality Assurance for Higher Education under COVID Pandemic & Beyond in Asia-Pacific Region"	The 4-day event saw about 120 delegates from educational QA organizations, regulatory bodies, and universities from 27 countries/territories. In total, we had 11 sessions, 5 meetings, 2 keynotes, 1 ceremony. 79 papers on COVID- Impact were submitted.	REPORT of APQN 2022 AAC & AGM (Annex 13:16: pages)

## 2. APQN Research on the COVID Impact on the HE Quality

Based on the actions taken above, APQN published one book entitled "APQN Research on the COVID Impact on the HE Quality in the Asia-Pacific Region", which

includes most of APQN actions under COVID-19. The book consists of 10 chapters in 4 parts:

Part I is the researches of chapter 1-3, which describes the impacts at COVID-19 outbreak, such as "Survey of the COVID-19 Impact on the HEIs", "Survey of the COVID-19 Impact on QAAs" and "Survey on the Effectiveness of Online Teaching in the HEIs".

Part II is the researches of chapter 4-7 which narrates the uncertainty and challenges during the of COVID-19, such as "Review of APQN 2020 Online Forum", "APQN Board Interviews on HE Quality in COVID-19 Crisis", "Qualitative Research on Effectiveness of Online Course during COVID-19" and "Academic Review of the 12th Higher Education International Conference".

Part III is the researches of chapter 8-10 which shows the results, such as "Meta-Review to APQR", "APQN Standard for Online-Teaching QA" and "COVID-19 Response Mechanism".

Part IV is annex 1-6 which provides more information in detail during COVID-19, such as 4 surveys, 7 interviews, and "APQN Standard for Online-Teaching Quality Assurance" issued globally on May 30, 2021.

The book and the 2 anthologies can be downloaded from APQN website:  
<https://www.apqn.org>.

Fig. 17: Three books published during the COVID pandemic



### 3. APQN Standard for Online-Teaching Quality Assurance

Since campus lockdown restrictions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, online teaching has emerged onto the global higher education stage as a leading means of “adjusting to new environments”. The results of “APQN survey on COVID-19 impact”

conducted in 2020, showed that 68% of the respondents are “not satisfied” with online teaching.

At APQN 8<sup>th</sup> forum entitled “Influence of COVID-19 on Higher Education Quality Assurance” held on July 28, 2020, an urgent demand made APQN decide to develop APQN Standard for Online-Teaching Quality Assurance.

Based on the survey and the key elements of standard for online-teaching quality assurance were developed by Delphi Method, “APQN Standard for Online-Teaching Quality Assurance” was released in June, 2021.

APQN standard consist of 5 criteria, 14 indicators and 46 observation points. The 5 criteria are (1) Online teaching environment; (2) Teachers’ online teaching; (3) Learners’ online learning; (4) Presentation of online teaching outcomes; and (5) Online- teaching quality assurance. The Standard can be downloaded from APQN website.

Fig. 18: The framework of “APQN Standard for Online-Teaching Quality Assurance”



## VI. Construction of external quality assurance: APQR

Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR) is a Register of external quality assurance agencies (EQAAs) that demonstrated certain thresholds of maturity.

After the "quantity era", today HE has entered into the "quality era" and as "the gate keepers of quality", EQAAs are playing more and more important roles, the social status and responsibility become more and more prominent. How to guarantee the quality of the QAAs?

Since 2015, APQR began its official journey to review Fiji Higher Education Commission (FHEC). Since 2017, 9 QAAs have been accepted onto APQR.



Table 9: The list of 10 QAAs accepted onto APQR

#	Country	Name of the Quality Assurance Agencies (QAAs)	Review Time
1	Fiji	Fiji Higher Education Commission (FHEC)	2015
2	Russia	Russian Register (RR)	2017
3	Russia	National Centre for Public Accreditation (NCPA)	2017
4	Indonesia	Indonesian review Agency for Higher Education in Health (IAAHEH)	2018
5	Kazakhstan	Eurasian Centre for review and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health Care (ECAQA) in Kazakhstan	2019
6	Mongolia	Mongolian National Council for Education review (MNCEA)	2019
7	Kazakhstan	Independent Agency for Review and Rating (IAAR) in Kazakhstan	2019
8	Malaysia	Finance review Agency (FAA) in Malaysia	2020
9	Samoa	Samoa Qualifications Authority	2022
10	Kyrgyz	EdNet Agency on Quality Assurance in Education	2022

## VII.Construction of internal quality assurance : APQL

Asia-Pacific Quality Label (APQL) as regional/international accreditation was launched in January, 2014. The overall objective is to support, develop, improve and enhance excellent internationalization or student learning outcomes (SLOs) in higher education institutions (HEIs) and programs in the Asia-Pacific region.

In April, 2019, the expert APQL review panel visited Symbiosis International (Deemed University), (SIU), India. This is the first review of the internationalization processes.

SIU is one of the few exceptional universities that has embarked on this international journey for the heartfelt cause of enabling and empowering international students in India. SIU is the first university in India to be conferred this prestigious label and this is fitting as they are the pioneers in the field of internationalization for higher education.

Fig. 19: The APQL review panel reviewed SIU in India



## VIII. Publications

As for publications, APQN has published 5 Academic Anthologies, 12 Issues of APQNews and 5 APQN Annual Reports.

### 1. 4 Academic Anthologies

Sharing means selflessness, generosity and global perspective that reflects the conduct and morality of APQN. APQN is an organization of shared information, experiences, theories, and practices of quality assurance.

In order to stick to the Spirit of Sharing, since 2012 APQN has published a series of Academic Anthologies after AACs each year. The anthologies are focused on the fixed theme each year.

From 2016-2022, APQN has published 4 anthologies for selected papers at APQN academic conferences (AACs), including 5 themes, such as "Perspectives on Globalization and Diversification of Quality Assurance ", which reflect the results of current research and advancements in the sphere of quality assurance in education.

Table 10: The list of APQN academic anthologies since 2016 to 2022

Year	Chief-editor	Title	Press
2016	Jianxin Zhang and Jaganath Patil	Perspectives on Globalization and Diversification of Quality Assurance of Higher Education: Academic Proceeding of 2015 APQN Conference	Yunnan People Publish Press in China
2017	Galina Motova and others	New Horizons: Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region - 2017 APQN	Guide of Experts in Russia

		Conference and AGM	
2021	Barry Aw Yong and Alan Go	An Anthology of Selected Papers of 2019 APQN Annual Academic Conference in Sri Lanka	EDUVALUE, Singapore
2021	Barry Aw Yong and Alan Go	An Anthology of Selected Papers of 2021 APQN Annual Academic Conference in Singapore	EDUVALUE, Singapore

Fig.20: 4 Academic anthologies of 4 AACs



### 2.13 Issues of APQNews (Issue 14-26)

APQNews is a half-year periodical newsletter on updating APQN on developments within the Network. It also gives members an opportunity to share QA activities within their organization. All members are invited to contribute articles for the next issue of APQNews.

From Dec. 2016 to 2022, APQN has published 13 issues, over 200 articles in Over 500 pages. APQNews play an excellent good role in demonstrating QA activities and communicating with APQN members. The contents of APQNews vary according to the activities and projects, but the followings are the main contents: (1) Key Speech;

(2) The Board; (3) The Project; (4) The Cooperation; (5) Member News; and (6) Coming-up Events.

Fig. 21: The list of 13 APQNews (Issue 14-22)



### 3. 5 APQN Annual Reports

It is a must for APQN to inform what APQN has done in one year.

From 2016-2021, 5 APQN Annual Reports have been published, which consists of 4 parts: (1) The Network; (2) Activities and Projects; (3) Reports by the Board Directors; (4) Finance Statement.

Fig.22: 6 APQN Annual Report (2016-2021)



## VIII. Increase of Financial Status

In my inaugural speech 6 years ago, I said:"APQN is an non -government, non-profit organization. WI will do the gratis job without asking one cent from APQN. I promise to keep APQN finance increase, no Fiscal deficit".

After 6 years, together with APQN Secretariat and all the Board Directors, today I am happy o say: "We have realized our promise".The total revenue has been steadily increasing since 2016, increasing 80% from 147733 in 2016 to 259454 in 2022.

Fig. 23: Increasing of APQN total revenue (2016-2022)



APQN openly published audited finance statement in "APQN Annual Report" each tear. Altogether we released 6 years.



Fig. 24: APQN audited finance statement published at APQN Annual Report (2016-2022)

2022 APQN Statement of Income and Outcome( in USD)

Category / Program	Actual amount
<b>Income</b>	
1 Annual Membership Fees, including Initial Joining Fees	40,708.11
2 Grants of Asia-Pacific Quality Region (APQR)	8,400.00
3 Interest received	331.40
<b>Total income in 2022</b>	<b>49,440.51</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
1 Audit Fees APQN Account	1,779.40
2 Administration & Salary & Administration of the Secretariat in 2022	15,000.00
3 The Expenses for APQN Website in 2022(includes USD 1000 for 2021 unpaid fee)	5,400.00
4 The Expenses for APQR Website in 2022	200.00
5 The Expenses for APQR Development(includes USD 1000 for Research Project)	2,800.49
6 2022 Sponsorship to AAC in Singapore	4,736.71
7 Publication of the Book "APQN Research on the COVID-19 Impact in Higher Education"	2,000.00
8 Authorship Publications for 2019-2020 AAC in Sri Lanka & Singapore	2,500.00
9 Authorship Publications for 2021 AAC in Singapore	2,500.00
10 Other Expenses (includes postage fee, banking fee and unexpended equipment)	475.50
<b>Total Expenses in 2022</b>	<b>35,616.99</b>
<b>Balance for 2022</b>	<b>13,825.99</b>
<b>Balance carried forward from 2021 and the previous years</b>	<b>209,483.80</b>

## IX. Spirit legacy

In the past 19 years, under the leadership of former presidents: Mr. Peter PT Cheung, Ms. Concepcion Pijano, Dr. Antony Stella, Dr. Jaganath Patil, and Jianxin Zhang, APQN has achieved remarkable results. The 19 years of efforts of all APQN people have given us the following 5 spirit legacies:

**1. The Spirit of Dedication.** Dedication is the passion and love for the cause of education quality bonded by the affection and friendship among our members. In the call of this spirit, the Board of Directors fulfill their duties in their respective positions in their home countries while completing APQN work as a dedicated cause without compensation.

*Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region*

2. The Spirit of Sharing. Sharing means selflessness, generosity and a global perspective that reflects the conduct and morality of APQN. APQN is an organization of shared information, experiences, theories, and practices in quality assurance. The current and the previous APQN Boards have been working hard to create an atmosphere of mutual trust, win-win cooperation and sharing culture.

3. The Spirit of Serving. Serving means that the Board of Directors should satisfy the requirements of higher education in the changing Information Age, answer the calls for excellent quality by the stakeholders, EQAAs, HEIs and the whole society, meet their needs and fulfill the duties entrusted. Being a Board director is not a privilege, but an increased responsibility for service. To serve the members wholeheartedly, satisfy their needs and help APQN going forward.

4. The Spirit of Innovation. It is to improve and create new methods and new paths based on the needs of APQN members and the limited financial and human resources. The Board of Directors should consider APQN as their own careers, do everything possible to contribute in their areas of expertise, and constantly improve creative function of APQN.

5. The Spirit of Sustainable Development. Sustainable development is to meet the present needs of the members without compromising future needs. It contains three key concepts: (1) diversity – to understand and accept the distinctiveness of all countries/regions of the Asia-Pacific Region; (2) equality – to make sure all members enjoy the same rights as prescribed in "APQN Constitution"; and (3) harmony – to promote harmonious relationship among APQN members, other international organizations and stakeholders in the QA field.

Fig. 25: APQN 5 spirit legacies



These spirits mentioned above are the spiritual legacy of APQN over the past 13

years. The fifth Board chaired by President Jianxin Zhang pledge themselves to inherit and carry on APQN spiritual legacy-Dedication, Sharing, Serving, Innovation and Sustainable development. With our diligence, we, all members in the APQN big family, will fight for "Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region", to realize the vision of "being a self-sustaining network, efficient in its operations and open in its information sharing", and to reach the goal of "enhancing the quality of higher education in Asia and the Pacific region through strengthening the work of quality assurance agencies and extending the cooperation between them".

## Closing Words

Founded in 2003, the 19-year-old APQN is already a vibrant young man in his best prime of life. Next year we will celebrate its 20th birthday. Today, it is like the handover of a baton for the Asia Pacific Games. We pass the baton in the hands of the seventh Board. They are: President: Nar Bahadur Raika(Elected) from Bhutan, Vice President: Galina Motova(Elected) from Russia, Secretary/Treasurer: Liu Pingping (Ex-Officio)from China, Board Directors: (1) Jianxin Zhang (Former President, Ex-Officio)from China; (2) Jun Barry Aw Yong(Elected) from Singapore; (3) Srinivasa Chandramouliswar Sharma(Elected) from India; (4) Umankulova Onolkan(Elected) from Kyrgyzstann; (5) Timur Kanapyanov (Elected) from Kazakhsta.

At this new starting point, we hope, the seventh Board directors, with new attitudes, new perspectives and new visions, enter the new roles with their greatest efforts and best performances, to repay APQN Members' trust and expectations, to promote sustainable development of APQN, and to contribute for the prosperity of APQN.

Dear sisters and brothers, in the past 6 years, we have been united as one big family, support each other, care for each other. The 10 aspects I presented above, have strongly demonstrated that we have make APQN greater. I am greatly appreciated your heart-felt trust, help and care to me. Let's give us a big applause.

In the future 3 years, I still have the same dream like my inaugural speech 6 years ago : we, 268 members from 47 countries/territories will unite like brothers and sisters, ignite our passion, and work closely hand-in-hand to achieve our common goal of high-quality education and excellent QA in the Asia Pacific region of "Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region".

Thank YOU, dear all!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jianxin Zhang'.

The fifth and sixth President: Jianxin Zhang

Galina Motova (Vice President)

Liu Pingping (Secretary/Treasurer)

Jagannath Pati (ex-officio Board Director as Immediate past President)

Deepthi C. Bandara (Board Director)

Farida Nurmanbetova (Board Director)

Barry Aw Yong (Board Director)



## Vice President Annual Report by Galina Motova

The year 2022 has evolved as a genuine challenge for the Asia Pacific Quality Network, my Agency (NCPA) and myself with its unanticipated complexities, uncertainties, and ambiguities. At the same time, 2022 has taught me to trust in myself, my agency, the associations and networks I am part of, and, most importantly, the people I work with. It has brought positive achievements, excellent experiences, and meaningful accomplishments to contribute to my professional development.



The implementation of COVID-19 management strategies and the subsequent opening of borders after physically and morally exhausting protracted lockdowns, gave cherished hope for an annual APQN conference to be conducted in a face-to-face format with personal onsite cooperation with colleagues. Significant efforts were put forth by EduValue, the APQN Past President Prof/Dr Jianxin Zhang, and the Secretariat to make this aspiration a reality. Due to the contributions of many people and organisations the APQN conference has proved a great success.

While preparing for the conference, together with other Board members, I was responsible for the review of the papers submitted to the conference proceedings. The quality of presentations, the nature of research actions, and their relevance are largely dependent on the authors' expertise, commitment, and professionalism. Forty-nine papers altogether were submitted for publication in the conference proceedings. It was encouraging to see that many of them were evaluated as being scientifically meritorious with high quality research and deep analysis.

In June 2022, I was honored to Chair the Review Committee in the external evaluation of the EdNet Quality Assurance Agency in Education (Kyrgyz Republic) seeking APQR membership. In this position, I spent a significant amount of time analysing the agency's application documents. I regarded this work as of the utmost importance since trust in the APQR begins with trust in its members.

The position of a Chair provided favorable opportunities for me to go through all the stages of the external accreditation procedure. It turned out to be very important for my professional development and for the development of the APQR project I became involved in. The experience of the external evaluation of the EdNet agency provided me with a detailed inside look at how the APQR project should be implemented. As a result of this work, I came to a number of conclusions, that are transferrable and bound to make the APQR project more sustainable.

1)The APQR criteria based on Chiba principles require thorough revision and should be transformed into standards that contain detailed and clear requirements



to agencies, taking into account the existing good practices of the revised ENQA, CHEA, and INQAAHE standards.

2) The APQR website needs revision to make it more transparent and content rich.

3) Higher Education Institutions, teachers, students, applicants and other stakeholders would benefit from the development of the APQR Database of accredited study programmes by APQR-registered quality assurance agencies. It would increase recognition and trust in the quality of the delivered study programmes by making their programmes visible and competitive at the international level.

My colleagues from NCPA and I continued elaborating on the mechanisms of assessing the quality of education and aggregating the results of such an assessment into rankings. The Asia-Pacific Region's trends in the development of higher education systems are highly interesting. In 2021, we could see the evidence of a ranking boost of some universities in the region in various global rankings. In 2022, their positions became even stronger, which indicates an increase in the quality of education in the region and a growing trust.

The results of this research were disseminated at the 14th Higher Education International Conference on Online Teaching and Sustainable Quality Assurance: Challenges and Perspectives, at which I gave a key-note speech on «Aggregated ranking as a tool for evaluation of the quality and positioning of Asia-Pacific universities at the global level». It was a joint event organized by the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) and Macao Polytechnic University. The conference brought together over 200 participants to address the issues of quality assurance and student learning. Over 20 experts from the UK, Belgium, Russia, Philippines, Pakistan, Sri-Lanka, Mongolia, China, Hong Kong, and Macao.

In 2022, I was promoted to become a Director of the National Centre for Public Accreditation, the Russian Federation's leading accreditation agency, which strives to maintain the high quality of external review procedures and regards its work as crucial to improving competitiveness, demand, and recognition of the quality culture at the national and international levels.

The past always defines the future. The year 2022 has been truly remarkable for me in the sense that in June 2022 I became a Vice-President of the Asia-Pacific Quality Network. I wish to extend my deepest respect and appreciation to all APQN Board and members for their strong support and trust they have placed in me. Collaborating with professionals committed to APQN's values I do hope to make meaningful and lasting contributions to its development.

As 2022 has come to an end, I thankfully take this opportunity to wish all APQN members a prosperous new year full of great successes, wonderful experiences, and significant achievements. Let us dissolve all the boundaries for a genuinely quality region.

**APQN Vice President: Dr. Galina Motova**  
**Deputy Director of the National Centre for Public Accreditation, Russia**

## Secretary/Treasurer Report by Pingping Liu



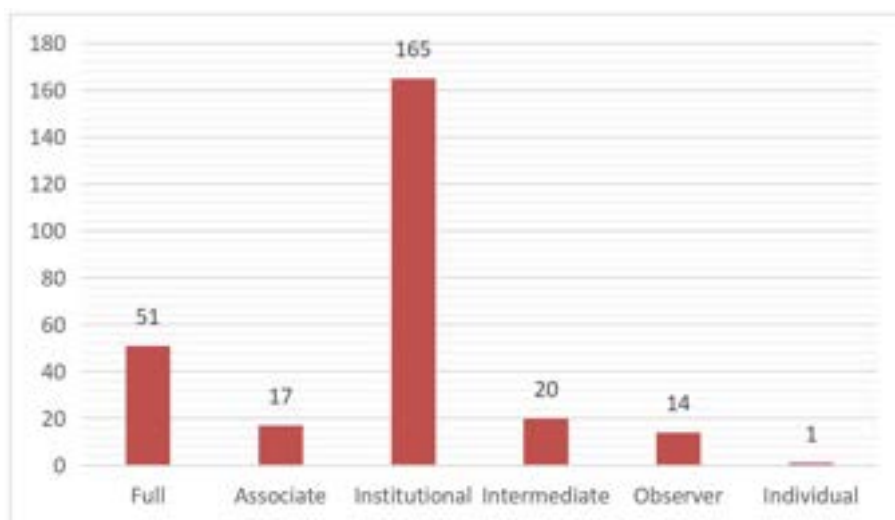
The year 2022 was another year of challenge for APQN and all of us. The long-lasting Covid, devastating natural disasters, and instability of the international situation all pose threats to the sustainable development of APQN. Thankfully, with the strong support and warm help of APQN family, APQN Secretariat takes a step forward. Thanks to the trust and support of Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang and all Board Directors, Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute (SEEI) was approved to host the APQN Secretariat for another new term. To effectively conduct the work of Secretariat, a team of 4 experienced staff from SEEI has been formed — Ms. Pingping Liu as the Secretary/Treasurer, both Mr. Le Fang and Ms. Yingjie Xu as Co-Administrators and Ms. Cunyao Fan as the Accountant, with the additional financial support from SEEI. All of them have devoted plenty of time and energy to the operation of the Secretariat.

The main tasks accomplished by the Secretariat in 2022 can be divided into four parts.

### 1. APQN Members and the Board

The Secretariat is devoted to calling for new members, such as approaching potential members in the APQN database and non-member participants of APQN activities, answering queries in the process of application, providing timely feedback after pre-review of the application, and conducting follow-up work for the review of the Board. Currently, the number of APQN members of all types has reached 268 (Figure 1) from 47 countries and regions (Figure 2). As is shown in Table 1, APQN welcomed 18 new members in 2022.

Fig.1 Types of APQN Members



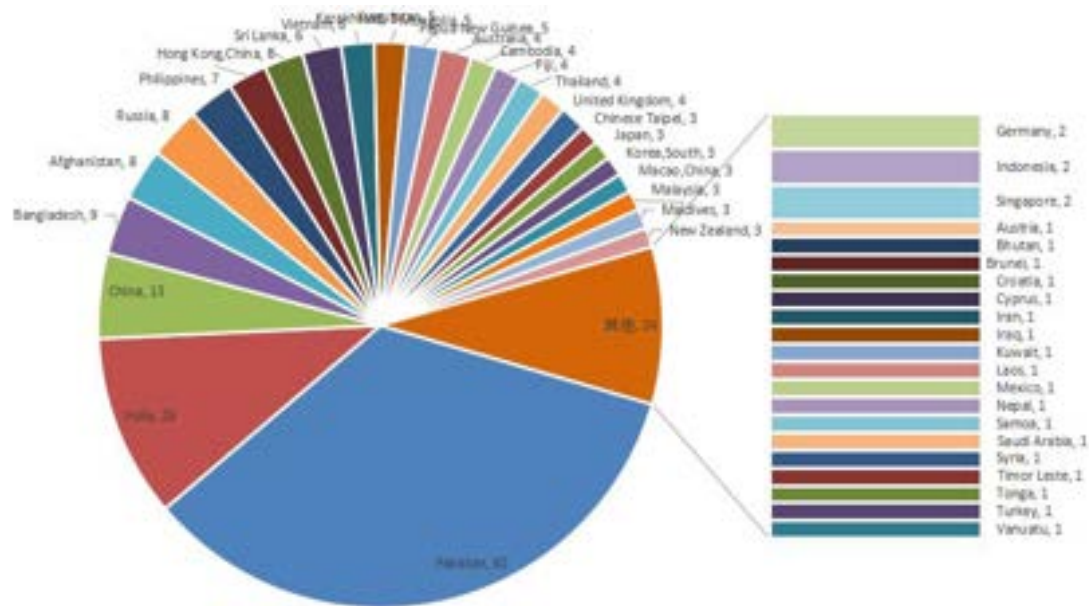


Fig.2 Country/Territory Distribution of APQN Members

Number	New Agency	Country /Territory	Membership
1	National ELT Accreditation Scheme Australia	Australia	Full
2	The "Sapattuu Bilim" Agency for Accreditation of Educational Organizations and Programs	Kyrgyzstan	Full
3	Higher Education Council Syria	Syria	Full
4	Shahid Virpatni Laxmi Mahavidhyalaya, Titave	India	Institutional
5	Avid College	Maldives	Institutional
6	Baqai Medical University	Pakistan	Institutional
7	City University of Science and Information Technology	Pakistan	Institutional
8	Fatima Jinnah Medical University	Pakistan	Institutional
9	Forman Christian College	Pakistan	Institutional
10	Foundation University Islamabad	Pakistan	Institutional
11	Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University, Islamabad	Pakistan	Institutional
12	Sir Syed University of Engineering & Technology	Pakistan	Institutional

13	The Women University Multan	Pakistan	Institutional
14	Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University	Philippines	Institutional
15	Our Lady of Fatima University	Philippines	Institutional
16	Universal Institute of Professional Management	Singapore	Institutional
17	CONIES Council on International Higher Education Supervision	Austria	Observer
18	Accreditation Service for International Schools, Colleges & Universities	United Kingdom	Observer

Table 1 New Members in 2022

The Secretariat also actively provided the necessary support for tasks assigned by the Board, such as forwarding conferences and instant notifications to members and assisting in the review of new members' entry applications. Thanks to the dedicated support of APQN Board, an effective communication mode has been well formed.

## 2. Events and Projects

APQN 2022 AAC (themed with "Quality Assurance for Higher Education under Covid-19 Pandemic and Beyond in Asia-Pacific Region") and AGM was hosted by EduValue, Singapore on 25-26 November 2022. Authors of 43 papers shared their experience and expertise, and two keynote speakers - Dr. Tariq Al-Sindi, the Chief Executive of the Education & Training Quality Authority of Bahrain and an Executive Board member at INQAAHE, and Dr. Wang Libing, Chief of Section for EISD, UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, gave their speeches at the conference. A total of 160 representatives from APQN members and other interested parties participated in the conference. Any important decisions and updates have been circulated to all members through Secretariat's emails. The Secretariat makes every endeavor to support the Conference, such as paper collection, review, agenda-making, and so on, playing an important role in connecting the Board, members, and any parties involved.

On 26 November 2022, the 7<sup>th</sup> APQN Board was officially sworn in. with the help of new President Nar Bahadur Raika, Vice President Galina Motova, Immediate Past President Jianxin Zhang, and 6 other Board members, the 7<sup>th</sup> APQN Board will dedicatedly work for better development and brighter future of APQN. And on 29-30 November 2022, APQN Vice President Galina Motova participated the 14th Higher Education International Conference on Online Teaching and Sustainable Quality Assurance Challenges and Perspectives together with APQN's long-term partner, Macao Polytechnic University, one of the institutional members of APQN. APQN Secretariat was actively involved in the preparation work and supported many issues,

including organizing the online meeting for cooperation discussion, summarizing the report, and contacting the webmaster for posting the news on time.

The Secretariat launched the “Three Calls” (Call for Expression of Interest to Host 2023 AAC and AGM, Call for Nominations for 2022 APQN Awards, and Call for 2022 Applications for Sponsorship) according to APQN agenda. After sending out the calls and later receiving positive replies, we have successfully helped elect American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB-IQAC) as the host of the 2023 APQN AAC and AGM, assisted the outcome of the APQN Quality Awards, and aided the members who needed sponsorship from APQN.

This year, APQN has been invited by the Union of International Associations, a non-profit research institute and documentation center, based in Brussels since 1907, to update our information on the Yearbook of International Organizations, a publication of the Union of International Associations. The Secretariat takes the responsibility of contacting UIA and editing the Yearbook. APQN believes that this would help ensure APQN a more open and brighter future with greater international influence. Besides, APQR Council Meeting was successfully held on 24 November 2022. The majority of the Council members were present at the meeting.

### **3. Routine Work**

Apart from what has been mentioned above, APQN Secretariat also focuses on the APQN routine work, including:

(a) Board Matters. The Secretariat actively conducts reviews for new membership applicants, discussion of membership fee, and coordination with the Board. Annually, the Secretariat will help organize meetings such as AAC & AGM, including planning agendas, collecting papers, and corresponding to Board decisions.

(b) External Publicity. The Secretariat has kept cooperation and contact with the website administrator to promote website maintenance. The Secretariat has updated information of existing members and added new members, with detailed and thoughtful consultations provided, and uploaded records and materials of previous years' APQN Conference and AGM.

(c) Public Relations. The Secretariat takes the responsibility to liaise with international education evaluation institutes such as INQAAHE (International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education), UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization), and World bank.

### **4. The Financial Statement**

According to the 2021 APQN Statement, the total income was USD 49,432.68 and the expense was USD 19,645.14. As a result, in 2021, the balance for APQN was USD 29,787.54 and the balance carried forward was 245,627.52.

Regarding the APQN Financial Statement of this year, until October, the total income was USD 42,749.44 and the expense was USD 18,287.11, which indicates a balance of USD 24,462.33.

Due to the long-lasting influence of Covid and rising uncertainties around the globe, some of our members are struggling to continue the operation and having difficulties in submitting the Annual Membership Fees. We've received membership



fees from 88 members in 2022 (by October 31, 2022). So far, the total amount of membership fee in 2022 is USD 39,720.50. The Secretariat is still working on receiving unpaid 2022 membership fees at present.

I'd like to express my sincere gratitude to President Nar Bahadur Raika, Vice President Galina Motova, and all the Board Directors – Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang, Dr. Jagannath Patil, Mr. Barry Aw Yong, Prof. Dr. Srinivasa Chandramouliswar Sharma, Mrs. Umankulova Onolkan, Dr. Timur Kanapyanov, as well as Alan Go, our Singapore colleague. And special thanks go to all APQN members and friends for their trust and support. Through our joint efforts, we can bring a promising future for APQN and enhance the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific region.

**APQN Secretary/Treasurer: Ms. Liu Pingping**  
**Deputy Director of Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute**

## Report from Board Directors

**Jagannath Patil**



It gives me great pleasure to submit a brief report on activities undertaken by me as an Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) Board Director co-opted as APQR Chairperson.

### **APQN Conference– 2022 / APQN AGM-2022, Singapore**

**APQN Conference and APQN Annual General Meeting (AGM) - 2022** which held on **23-24 November 2022** at **EduValue Singapore**. The undersigned had participated in the various programmes as APQN Board member and

Speaker in the Conference through virtual mode.

### **The highlights of my virtual Participation in AAC, Singapore are given below:**

- ✓ **Chaired the APQR Council Meeting** and made a brief report on Asia Pacific Quality Register (APQR) activities.
- ✓ Participated in the **APQN Board Meeting** as APQN Board Director
- **APQR Council Meeting held in Edu Value Office, Singapore, on November 24, 2022**  
The **5<sup>th</sup> APQR Council Meeting** was held on **November 24, 2022** through virtual mode at 17:30 (Thursday) at Edu Value Office, Singapore, on eve of APQN Annual Conference (AAC) and Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2022.  
The meeting was chaired by **Dr. Jagannath Patil**, Chairperson, APQR and Co-chaired by **Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang**, APQN President. APQR Council members and other APQN Board Members also participated. **Mr. N.B. Raika**, Chief, Quality Assurance and Accreditation Division, Ministry of Education, Bhutan and **Alan Go** attended as special invitees.  
APQR Council has been revamped with elevation of Prof Jianxin as Co-chair, addition of incoming APQN Vice President Prof Galina Motova and incoming APQN President as members. With these changes Council will continue to work in sync with upcoming 7<sup>th</sup> Board. We thank outgoing members and welcome new members.
- **The APQR Review of QAA's:**  
In 2022, APQR has registered 2 Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) to undergo the process of inclusion on APQR.
  - **“Ed Net” Agency for quality assurance of educational field, Kyrgyzstan.**

- **Samoa Qualification Authority (SQA), Samoa.**

In 2022, APQR has received Expression of Interest (EOI) of 2 Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) to undergo the process of inclusion on APQR.

- **“National Centre for Public Accreditation (NCPA), Russia”**
- **“Indonesian Accreditation Agency for Higher Education in Health” (IAAHEH) based in Jakarta, Indonesia.**

**As of now following 10 QAAs are registered on APQR.**

- I. “Fiji Higher Education Commission” (FHEC) based in Suva, Fiji.
- II. Certification Association “Russian Register” (RR) based in Saint Petersburg, Russia.
- III. “National Centre for Public Accreditation” (NCPA) based in Russia.
- IV. “Indonesian Accreditation Agency for Higher Education in Health” (IAAHEH) based in Jakarta, Indonesia.
- V. Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA), Mongolia.
- VI. Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR), Republic of Kazakhstan.
- VII. Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health care (ECAQA), Republic of Kazakhstan.
- VIII. Finance Accreditation Agency (FAA), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- IX. “Ed Net” Agency for quality assurance of educational field, Kyrgyzstan.
- X. Samoa Qualification Authority (SQA), Samoa.

➤ **Other highlights:**

Apart from these issues it has been a great pleasure and privilege to be part of various APQN Board activities such as APQN Finance Committee, website and various other initiatives.

*Overall, it was a great experience of learning and sharing with APQN quality assurance family. We hope to continue the legacy of APQN as the torch bearer of higher education quality assurance networking in Asia-Pacific.*

**Dr. Jagannath Patil**

**Adviser, NAAC, Bengaluru, India**

**Former Specially Appointed Professor, NIAD-QE, Tokyo, Japan**

**Former President of Asia Pacific Quality Network [APQN]**

**Founder Chairperson, Asia Pacific Quality Register (APQR)**

[jp.naacindia@gmail.com](mailto:jp.naacindia@gmail.com)

## Deepthi Bandara

The year 2022 was still extraordinary and challenging even though most countries had their vaccination programs in gear as the COVID 19 pandemic continued its impact throughout the world with different variants due to rapid mutation of the virus. I am so thankful and grateful to all the scientists of the world who weathered bad times, had the tenacity and resilience to continue their research in developing vaccines against the deadly virus. As a Board Director in APQN, I acknowledge that we still had to continue to look out for alternatives, short term as well as long term to brace the new normal with respect to the Network. It extended all the way to the services I provided to the University, Government and Higher Educational Institutes to family and home. As 2022 draws to a close I feel quite relieved because I have been vaccinated but I understand for sure that all of us still need to take all precautions and be vigilant in our actions so that we do not contribute in any way to the spread of the virus.

APQN Board Member  
Prof. Deepthi C. Bandara  
(Elected)



Sri Lanka

Even though the activities of APQN had to be conducted at a subdued scale we were encouraged much by the Board decision that the 2022 Annual General meeting and the Annual Academic Conference would be held in person in November in Singapore. I greatly appreciate the efforts and commitment of our hosts – EDUVALU for their efforts in making this a reality. I also acknowledge the enormous commitment by President Zhang to keep the APQN activities alive this year too and the cooperation and solidarity expressed by my fellow Board members in decision making and conducting activities for the Network during difficult times.

As the local coordinator of APQN AAC in 2019 in Sri Lanka, I am relieved that finally we were able to publish the 2019 Anthology with selected papers from the 2019 AAC in Sri Lanka. My apologies to all for the delay in making this a reality due to circumstances which were beyond my control.

I continued to serve as a member of the Membership review committee for new applications.

I was also able to contribute to the APQN as a reviewer of the papers that were submitted for the 2022 AAC, make suggestions on the AAC program draft and take

part in the conference as a paper presenter and moderator of a session. It was great to meet members of the APQ network even though the numbers were yet limited due to continuing effects by the COVID and high air travel costs.

It was very good to be in person at the last Board meeting as a member of the 6th Board. The gala evening and presentations of awards recalled good memories of APQN AACs of yester year.

I wish Dr. Raika from Bhutan - the new APQN President and the new Board members of the 7rth Board good luck in all its endeavors. I would be glad to be of any assistance to them if called upon to do so.

I hope the new Board would be democratic and transparent in their activities as we move in to challenging times in the years to come and also take on some novel activities which we as the 6th Board could not embark on due to the trying times of the COVID.

I hope the year 2023 would be a better year for all and that APQN would continue to bring us together for the betterment of higher education in our region.

I wish you all good health and safety and a successful year in 2023.

**APQN sixth Board Director: Prof. Deepthi Bandara  
University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka**



## Aw Yong Jun Barry

What a year 2022 was for all of us. An exciting year it was for Asia Pacific Quality Network as we could finally resume in person conference after a long 3-year hiatus. Although we pushed for an online APQN Conference in Year 2021, the face to face interactions was never going to be replaced by an online mode through virtual interactions.

EduValue, a specialized Quality Assurance Consulting Firm for Singapore Private Education Institutions, was extremely honoured to have been selected to host the Asia Pacific Quality Network Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting in Singapore. The EduValue team was very honoured to have work with APQN's Board of Directors, the President, speakers, among many others to ensure that we could bring the Singapore hospitality to all international guests. This year's event saw the participation of more than 120 participants from all over the world and I was personally very touched to see how Quality Assurance is being recognized by the different education institutions.

Having also given the chance to review the many different academic papers to be published and also to be presented at the APQN Conference, was an eye opener for myself where I also got to learn a lot from the Quality Assurance experts. As a board member myself and having to review over 100 articles over the past 2 years, definitely allowed me to gain knowledge that I would be able to use to enhance the quality assurance standards for the industry.

Although I am a board member in my personal capacity, my team at EduValue, out of passion for Quality Assurance, stands ready to assist APQN in many areas. This would include our involvement in chairing the APQN Website Review and possible rebranding for Year 2023 and also being part of the work team for the APQN Micro-credentials project and APQN 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations which we definitely want to be a part of.

Last but not least, let us look forward to a good year in 2023.

**APQN Board Director: Aw Yong Jun Barry**

**Chief Executive of EduValue**

[barry@eduvale.com.sg](mailto:barry@eduvale.com.sg)

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/eduvaleglobal/>

[www.eduvale.com.sg](http://www.eduvale.com.sg)

[www.eduvaleglobal.com](http://www.eduvaleglobal.com)

## Farida Nurmanbetova



As a Board Director of APQN (elected) I have served and contributed to 1) chairing the session at the APQN2019 AAC in Sri Lanka; 2) participated at the meeting of 6th Board Director of APQN and discussion on upcoming 2020APQN AAC in Singapore, and shared responsibilities of the 6th Board Directors of APQN; 3) participated in discussions and submitted the comments on the topics for the 2020APQN AAC and AGM “Quality Assurance for Higher Education 4.0”; 4) submitted the feedback to the APQN Bidding Proposal for “Supporting the Organizational Capacity Assessment and Development Institutional Improvement Plan for the Quality Assurance and Accreditation Directorate (QAAD), Ministry of Higher Education, Afghanistan that was well structured and focused on the needs of QAAD as well as the UNESCO requirements and expected outcomes; 5) provided the feedback and inputs on the “Three-year Strategic Plan for APQN Sustainable Development (2019-2022)”; 6) participated on discussion and approval of the new categories of APQN Membership – the Individual Member; 7) sent the feedback and inputs to the new APQN Constitution; 8) analyzed the relevant information and documents for the application of the APQN’s new members (26+9); 9) provided the feedback to the APQN News (drafts) in 2019.

I have served and contributed to the APQN2020 International Initiatives and Events:

1) Review of the information and related documents to the application of the APQN’s New Members in 2020;

2) Review of CV 32 applicants and additional 17 applicants, that applied for the Nominations of Consultants Database with feedback, and submission of the conclusion, regarding each applicant’s eligibility to be included in the updated APQN’s Consultants Database;

3) Participation at the 8th Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) Online Forum, discussing the topic of "Influence of COVID-19 on Quality Assurance: The new normal of Higher Education 4.0 " that was hosted by APQN, led by Dr. I-Jung Grace Lu (from HEEACT) and facilitated by All Board Directors of the APQN. My presentation 4. “Digitization of quality assurance: will this be the new normal for quality assurance?” was focused on the new approaches and values, the practical implication of digital technologies in external quality assurance, and the consideration of how Quality Assurance Agencies use these technologies to appropriately respond to the challenges presented by the COVID-19 outbreak and it is allowed to discuss a possibility that a hybrid approach to Quality Assurance would become normal in the future. Also, it reviewed and provided useful guides for EQA in times of COVID-19

and publications of the QAA-UK, ENQA, CHEA, and Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security that suggested further reading and discussion on the pre-conference forum.

4) I have reviewed and provided my feedback and some suggestions regarding the content and the questions of a) the APQN Survey on the Influence of COVID-19 at Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and b) the APQN Survey on the Influence of COVID-19 at Quality Assurance Agencies as well as the final reports of these surveys;

5) I have submitted my perspective and answers to the questions of the Interview with the APQN Board Director on the COVID-19 Impact on the Quality of Higher Education and also provided the Kazakhstan Government with new Regulations to respond to the challenges during the COVID-19 Crisis. Due to the Governmental Regulations the HEIs are following the proposed plan that includes implementation of the crisis management strategies and plans to deal with the spread of the coronavirus, as well as launching a webinar series designed to enable university faculty and administrators alike to share the best practices in distance learning and teaching.

6) Approval of the report of the Survey on the Effectiveness of Online Teaching in the HEIs during the COVID-19 Pandemic supported by Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN).

7) Discussion for approval of Joint APQN Quality Label & UK NARIC TNE Quality Benchmark proposal and methodology for joint review by APQN and UK NARIC as well as the draft of MoU between APQN and UK-NARIC including areas for collaboration and expected activities: Information Exchange and promotion the UK NARIC TNE Quality Benchmark (TNE QB) as a new tool for international recognition of TNE Qualifications; Cooperation in Quality Assurance and implementation and review of TNE QB; Capacity Building and Training; Dissemination and Outcome of QA for improving the understanding and acceptance of international qualifications.

8) Participation in discussion and support of the final decision to postpone the APQN AAC Conference to November 17-20, 2021.

Also, I would like to acknowledge the great support of Professor Jianxin Zhang, President of APQN, and Ms. Zhijie Xiang, Graduate Student from the Higher Education institution of Yunnan University for their contribution to the paper named "Student Participation in ECAQA's Quality Assurance of Higher Education in KAZAKHSTAN" that includes the discussion the basics of students' involvement in ECAQA's quality assurance of higher education and the reference points.

Furthermore, the ECAQA team appreciates Professor Jianxin Zhang's support of the webinar on "Students' contribution to quality assurance in higher education" on May 18th, 2021 which was conducted in partnership with the Kazakhstan Medical Student Association (KazMSA), which is a Full Member of the International Federation of Medical Students Association (IFMSA). Professor Jianxin Zhang emphasized the essential role of the students in external and internal quality assurance in the context of the APQN regional and international practice.

It was a great experience to review the new entry application for APQN Full Member, Institutional Membership, and Observer and learn more about the current

practice of external quality assurance agencies, higher education institutions, professional associations in the region, and international organizations as well.

Also, I was able to contribute and provide feedback to APQN Board Directors regarding its international initiatives (APQN Standard for Online-Teaching Quality Assurance, APQN-Qedex Cooperation) and other activities including the review of 16 submitted thematic papers, nomination for APQN 2022 Quality Awards, and the Programme for the 2022 APQN AAC and AGM in Singapore.

It was a great honor to be part of the 6th Board Directors of APQN and I appreciate very much the strong Leadership of Professor Jianxin Zhang, President of APQN, and the 6th Board Directors of APQN for their great support and cooperation during this period of time.

I wish the 7th Board Directors of APQN great success and to foster the regional and international developments of APQN for its further sustainability.

Dr Farida Nurmanbetova

6 th Board Directors of APQN

Dr. Farida Nurmanbetova MD, DmedSc.

Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health care (ECAQA), Kazakhstan

## 2022 REPORT ON FINANCE

### 2022 APQN Statement of Income and Outcome( In USD)

	Categories / Programs	Actual amount
S/N	<b>Income</b>	
1	Annual Membership Fees, including Initial Joining Fees	40,708.53
2	Review of Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR)	8,400.00
3	Interest received	332.42
	<b>Total income in 2022</b>	<b>49,440.95</b>
S/N	<b>Expenses</b>	
1	Audit Fees APQN Account	1,579.42
2	Administrator 's Salary & Administration of the Secretariat in 2022	15,000.00
3	The Expenses for APQN Website in 2022(includes USD 1800 for 2021 unpaid fee )	5,400.00
4	The Expenses for APQR Website in 2022	200.00
5	The Expenses for APQR development (includes USD 1000 for Research Project )	2,601.69
6	2022 Sponsorship to AAC in Singapore	4,356.15
7	Publication of the Book “ APQN Research on the COVID-19 Impact in Higher Education”	2,000.00
8	Anthology Publications for 2019+2021 AAC in Sri Lanka & Singapore	2,500.00
9	Anthology Publications for 2022 AAC in Singapore	1,500.00
10	Other Expenses (includes postage fee, banking fee and unexpected Expenses)	477.70
	<b>Total Expenses in 2022</b>	<b>35,614.96</b>
	<b>Balance for 2022</b>	<b>13,825.99</b>
	<b>Balance carried forward from 2022 and the previous years</b>	<b>259,453.51</b>



# 2022 APQN Annual Report



© Copyright: The Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN)

Serial Number: APQNAR2022-17

Chief Editor: Jianxin Zhang

**Editorial Committee:** Jianxin Zhang, Galina Motova, Pingping Liu, Jagannath Patil, Deepthi Bandara, Farida Nurmanbetova, Barry Aw Yong; Nar Bahadur Raika, Srinivasa Chandramouliswar Sharma, Umankulova Onolka, Timur Kanapyanov