



From the
Secretary General



AOFOG Council
Meeting 2018



AOFOG Congress
2019



From the JOGR



AOFOG NEWS



President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

Since our last Newsletter in May 2018, we have had a very successful Council Meeting in Kathmandu in June. Many thanks to Dr. Kusum

Thapa and the NESOG Council for ensuring that the Meeting went off smoothly.

During this Meeting, I reiterated the main objective of the Executive Board which was to make this organization more cohesive and relevant to all our member National Societies, and pivotal to achieving this objective is EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION. I reminded all National Society representatives that they played an extremely important role in ensuring that there is always a two-way communication between the AOFOG and the National Society that they represent. Just as they are required to disseminate AOFOG information to their National Society, they are also required to highlight issues and requests from the National Society to the AOFOG. All NS representatives have been encouraged to provide a formal report to their National Societies after every Council Meeting.

Our Committee Chairs continue to work hard to bring various educational opportunities to our less fortunate members. These have been highlighted in the Secretary General's report. We encourage National Societies especially those in low resource settings to be proactive in requesting specific educational activities and in helping our Committee Chairs to organise such activities in their locales. Council members also opined that these educational activities should have a formal feedback mechanism to gauge its efficacy and Committee Chairs have now taken cognizance of this.

This Council Meeting also allowed the NESOG to tap into the expertise of the Councilors and many of them stayed back to

Executive Board



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Ravi Chandran
(Malaysia)



President Elect
Kazunori Ochiai
(Japan)



Vice-President
Pisake Lumbiganon
(Thailand)



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Joo-Hyun Nam
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Rohana Haththotuwa
(Sri Lanka)



Deputy Secretary
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(India)



Treasurer
Tsung-Hsien Su
(Taiwan)



Editor-in-Chief, JOGR
Kiyoko Kato
(Japan)



Council
Representative
John Tait
(New Zealand)

AOFOG Committee Chairs

Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery

Masaki Mandai
(Japan)

Maternal & Fetal Medicine –

Ounjai Koranantakul
(Thailand)

Oncology –

Young Tak Kim
(Korea)

Reproductive Endocrinology Infertility –

Raymond Li
(Hong Kong)

Sexual & Reproductive Health –

Rowshan Ara Begum
(Bangladesh)

Ultrasound-

Nelinda Catherine Pangilinan
(Philippines)

Urogynecology –

Ching-Hung Hsieh
(Taiwan)

Fellowship selection Committee

Rohit Bhatt
(India)



participate in the NESOG Congress either as speakers or delegates. This is in keeping with the long standing practice of AOFOG to hold Council Meetings in member countries that are not in a position yet to host an AOFOG Congress. In this regard, we encourage invitations to host the Council Meeting in mid-2020.

Our website has received positive feedback to date but this is still a “work in progress”. We are open to any constructive comments and feedback and you may send them directly to me or to the Secretariat. This is OUR website so let us work to keep it attractive and current. We would be happy to highlight any activities or meetings from our member National Societies in our website.

Meanwhile, our colleagues in the Philippines have been working hard to organise the upcoming AOFOG Congress in November 2019. We will be highlighting these efforts in our next Newsletter in December 2018. In the meantime, please visit the AOFOG Congress 2019 website which can be accessed on the AOFOG website. There is a special discounted rate for Low Resource Countries and Early Bird Registrations but these will end in April 2019. Please take advantage of these offers!

Thank you all once again for your contributions to AOFOG and our women in this region.

With best wishes

Ravi Chandran



Secretary General's Message

We are nearing the end of the first year of our term in office. During the last four months we did not have much activity from the Secretariat. This was mainly due to the injury which I suffered making my mobility very limited. But during this period we were able to coordinate many activities.

Executive Board Meeting & Council Meeting

We had our Executive Board meeting & the Council meeting in Kathmandu along with the NESOG conference in June which I was unable to attend. I am thankful to the President Dr. Ravi Chandran for his advice and guidance, NESOG President Dr. Kusum Thapa and her team who assisted Asoka and myself to organise the events from Colombo. Also I would like to thank all the members of the Executive Board, Committee chairs and the National Society representatives who participated which made the meetings fruitful and meaningful.



AOFOG sessions at Member Society Congresses

We conducted an AOFOG session during the Annual Congresses of the NESOG, OGSM and SLCOG (for details please see separate news item). AOFOG is happy to be associated with Annual conferences of the member Societies so that AOFOG comes closer to the member societies and their members. Therefore I would like to request all the member Societies to inform the AOFOG Secretariat in advance so that AOFOG could conduct a Workshop or some other session during the congress.

Bank Account

We have opened a bank account at the Commercial Bank, Colombo in Sri Lanka, in Sri Lankan Rupees to facilitate the transactions done in Sri Lanka.

The transfer of money to Colombo from the Federation account and the Secretariat account in Manila, Philippines is almost complete and we will be closing these accounts shortly.

Other Programmes

2nd AOFOG-KSGO Young Doctor Invitation Program

Following the success of the first programme, Korean Society of Gynecologic Oncology (KSGO) has planned and applications were called for the 2nd AOFOG-KSGO Young Doctor Invitation Program for October 22-28th, 2018 in Seoul, South Korea. This programme will give an opportunity for the participants to make educational visits to the five participating hospitals (Seoul National University Hospital, Asan Medical Center, Samsung Medical Center, Seoul St. Mary's Hospital, Ewha Medical Center) & thereafter attend the KSGO Fall Symposium. This will enable the Young Gynaecologists to improve their knowledge regarding the latest developments in the field of oncology.

We are thankful to Prof. Young-Tak Kim, President, Korean Society of Gynecologic Oncology & Chairman, AOFOG Oncology Committee for initiating this programme and continuing it.

AOFOG OGSM iCOE programme

Two more Emergency Obstetric Care workshops were conducted by the O&G Society of Malaysia and AOFOG in:

1. Luang Prabang, Laos 10 - 11 March 2018 &
2. Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 1-2 July 2018

These programmes continue to be well attended and greatly appreciated by the participants. The enthusiasm and interest shown by the participants has encouraged the organisers to explore the possibility of extending this programme to other AOFOG countries.

FIGO Regional Congress of Middle East and Africa

AOFOG endorsed the FIGO Regional Congress of Middle East and Africa, which was held in Dubai UAE, from the 11th – 13th April, 2018.



Dr. Ravi Chandran participated in the FIGO Executive Board meeting as the President of AOFOG and presented his report. Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa participated in the Executive Board meeting as the Chairman of FIGO, Menstrual Disorders Committee and Prof. Tsung-Hsien Su participated as the Chairman, FIGO Uro Gynaecology Committee.

In the congress, Dr. Ravi Chandran delivered his lecture on Obesity in Pregnancy in the session on “Nutrition”. Then in the session on “Essential ART”, Dr. Jaydeep Tank spoke on “To Agonize or Antagonize – Why is it still a question?”

The presence of the President, Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General and the Treasurer improved the visibility of AOFOG among the international faculty present at this Congress.

AOFOG Update Course on Evidence-Based Infertility Care

This AOFOG update course has been organised by Dr. Raymond Li, Chair, Reproduction & Endocrinology committee on 24th & 25th Nov 2018. (See details in separate news item.)

I appreciate the hard work done by the committee members and thank all the member Societies for their continued enthusiasm in AOFOG activities.



Committee Events

LAOG Obstetrics Ultrasound Workshop



This workshop was held at the Mother and Newborn Hospital in Vientiane, Laos from 16-17 July 2018. It was chaired by Dr Nelinda Pangilinan (Chair of the AOFOG Ultrasound Committee) and co-hosted by the Laos Association of OBGYN (LAOG), Faculty of Medicine University of Health Sciences Laos and AOFOG. AOFOG resource persons included Dr Nelinda and Prof Ounjai (Chair AOFOG MFM Committee).

The objectives were to strengthen the knowledge and skills in screening for fetal malformations and early detection of preeclampsia and fetal anaemia by Doppler ultrasound via lectures and hands-on training. The 6 hours of lectures were spread out over the 2 mornings and the topics were designed in consultation between the LAOG and AOFOG. The hands-on sessions totalled 7 hours and were held over the 2 afternoons.

Sixty participants (general Obstetricians, Residents and Medical students) attended the Lectures while 25-30 doctors took part in the hands-on sessions in 5 small groups. Upon successful completion of the course, a formal feedback was conducted by Prof Alongkone Phengsavanh (Vice Dean Faculty of Medicine, University of Health Sciences and Secretary General of LAOG) and his team. All participants expressed satisfaction with the workshop and felt that they had improved their knowledge and skills tremendously. However, most felt that the workshop should have been extended to 3 days.



Workshop on Female Pelvic Floor Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery in collaboration with Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB)

A Workshop on Female Pelvic Floor Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery organised by Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB) and Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Dhaka Medical College Hospital in collaboration with AOFOG was held at Prof. Syeda Feroza Begum Conference Room, National Fistula Centre (4th Floor), Dept. of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Dhaka Medical College & Hospital, in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 17th-18th August, 2018.

This was a two day workshop with lectures and live surgery demonstrations on female pelvic floor medicine and pelvic floor reconstruction. Dr. James Ching-Hung Hsieh (Taiwan) and Dr. Almira J. Amin-Ong (Philippines) represented AOFOG as resource persons. Dr. Ajay Rane was from Australia. Other resource persons were from OGSB. The workshop was attended not only by Obstetricians & Gynaecologists and others of anaesthesiology and urology but by members of the health ministry, government, and other organizations concerned with the issue, which made the workshop more successful & valuable.

There were more than 100 participants. And all the lectures, live surgery demonstrations, and the panel discussions were well appreciated by the audience with much interaction between the participants and the foreign faculties in each topic and surgery. The whole programme, especially each surgery for pelvic floor reconstruction, was greatly appreciated by everyone and was very impressive and useful to all the participants.

We would like to appreciate and congratulate OGSB President Prof. Laila Arjumand Banu, OGSB Secretary General Prof. Firoza Begum, OGSB VVF & Urogynaecology Committee Chairman Prof. Sayeba Akhter, and Prof. Salma Rouf, Head of the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Dhaka Medical College, and the OGSB for organizing the workshop so well. The success of this workshop encouraged us to carry out similar workshop in Bangladesh and other nation societies in our Federation in the future too.

AOFOG session in Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE) Congress 2018

The Asia Oceanic Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (AOFOG) Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE) held a Congress in Taiwan, on 12th to 15th April 2018. Theme of the congress was Preventing Complications of ART. Session was chaired by Dr. Raymond Li (Hong Kong). The following lectures were delivered at the congress. Optimizing ovarian stimulation regimens by Prof. William Ledger - Australia, Prevention and management of ovarian hyper stimulation syndrome by Prof. Hong-Nerng Ho - Taiwan and Preventing complications at oocyte retrieval and embryo transfer by Prof. Ernest Ng - Hong Kong.





Update REI

AOFOG Update Course on Evidence-Based Infertility Care.

This event is organised by the Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility committee - AOFOG with the collaboration of Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Hong Kong, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, The University of Hong Kong. Event will be held at Main Campus, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong on 24th – 25th November 2018. Organisers are targeting Clinicians with interest in infertility care. Course instructors are Prof. Ying Cheong (UK), Prof. Hong Neng HO (Taiwan), Dr. Suphakde Julavijitphong (Thailand), Prof. William Ledger (Australia) and local experts from Hong Kong. More information can be gathered online and online registration will be available at www.obsgyn.hku.hk/aofogr8.



AOFOG Sessions at Annual Conferences of Member Societies

AOFOG Session at Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists Congress

Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Committee of the Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology facilitated a panel discussion on Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health at the 51st Annual Scientific Congress of the Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists held on 12th August 2018 at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute in Colombo. The subject of the panel discussion was “Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health: Investment for the future”.



This was the second of a series of activities, the Committee plans to conduct to raise awareness and capacitate Member Societies to address the issue of Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health in the Asia Oceania Region. The first activity, a one day workshop was held in Dakhla Bangladesh in association with OGSB, and the next planned is to be held in Myanmar.



The objective of the discussion was to: Identify the key issues related to ASRH in the Sri Lankan context, share the global experiences and best practices, and recognize and reiterate the role and responsibility of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and the National Societies in ensuring ASRH services through advocating and facilitating necessary interventions as an investment for the future

The Session was chaired by Dr. Rohana Hathotuwa, Secretary General AOFOG and Prof. Prasantha Wijesinghe, President SLCOG.

Dr. Ms. Chiranthika Vithana, Consultant Community Physician of the Family Health Bureau, Ministry of Health presented the Key issues related to ASRH in Sri Lanka, challenges faced in addressing them and key responses made in ensuring ASRH services and achieving related SDGs.

Prof. Krishnendu Gupta (India), Prof & Unit head, department of O&G, Vivekananda Institute of Medical Sciences, Kolkata, Member of AOFOG ASRH Committee, presented the current situation on ASRH in India and highlighted the immense challenges faced to provide services to adolescents, measures taken to overcome them both by state and the FOGSI, and presented some of the good practices and lessons learnt, which drew the attention of many participants.



Dr. Lakshmen Senanayake Past President of SLCOG and a current member of the AOFOG ASRH Committee, gave an overview of the principles involved in effectively responding to the needs of adolescents, drawing attention to global documents and instruments emphasizing the importance of engaging adolescents in decision making, planning and implementing programmes and underscored the role of National societies to take up the issue of addressing ASRH as a high priority and an investment for the future.

The discussion that followed generated much interest and was well received by the audience.

Dr. Lakshman Senanayake,
Member, AOFOG ASRH Committee.

NESOG National Conference

It was a great pleasure for NESOG to host AOFOG Council meeting on 6th and 7th of June 2018 followed by NESOG National conference on 7th and 8th June 2018. For the upcoming new generations of NESOG had great learning experience for both the General Secretary and Treasurer as they were



able to sit as observers during the council meeting. NESOG also took this opportunity to invite Dr. Ravi Chandran, AOFOG President to deliver NESOG Oration and other members for the AOFOG session on the National conference.

NESOG oration by the President AOFOG, Dr. Ravi Chandran on Sexually transmitted infection was one of the important highlights where the crowd in the hall itself spoke its importance in Nepal as it is one of the burning issues interrelated to reproductive Health, Adolescent health, Gender based survivors and many more.

AOFOG has many contribution for Nepal through NESOG especially during the Earth quake 2015 and young OBGYN



participating as YGA in different international forums. It gave the young Obs/Gyn an opportunity to listen to eminent speakers like Dr. Ravi Chandran and other delegates from AOFOG from different countries in the National conference. Moreover the presence of AOFOG President, AOFOG council members in our National conference was very inspirational

Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Malaysia (OGSM) Gynaecological Oncology Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 26th July 2018

The Asia Oceanic Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (AOFOG) and the Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of Malaysia (OGSM) held a one day Gynaecological Oncology educational meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on Thursday 26th July 2018. This meeting was held as a pre-congress event prior to the Malaysian International Scientific Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology held from 27th July 2018 to 29th July 2018. This educational meeting was also supported by the International Gynaecological Cancer Society.

A wide range of topics covering the entire spectrum of gynaecological oncology practice was covered during the workshop. Topics included Quality of Life in Gynaecological Oncology, Hereditary Gynaecological Cancers – Genetic Tests, Screening and Risk Reduction, Surgery for Cancer of the Cervix, Cancer Cervix – when to use Adjuvant treatment and Managing Advanced Disease, Borderline Tumours of the Ovary, Epithelial Ovarian Cancer – Surgery in Primary and Recurrent Disease, Chemotherapy and Targeted Therapy in Ovarian Cancer, Germ Cell Tumours of the Ovary, Endometrial Cancer – Controversies in Management, Trophoblastic Disease – Current Management and Uterine Sarcomas was covered. The program was comprehensive yet succinct and provided an up to date review of current knowledge in the field of gynaecological oncology for the busy practitioner in a day. Lectures were supplemented by videos of gynaecological oncology surgical procedures and techniques. There was lively discussion during the question and answer sessions that followed the lectures.



A distinguished international faculty from the Asia-Oceania region delivered the lectures. The faculty included: Prof. Michael Quinn (Australia), Prof. Hextan Ngan (Hong Kong), Prof. Aikou Okamoto (Japan), Dr. Suresh Kumarasamy and Prof. Woo Yin Ling (Malaysia), Associate Prof. Timothy Lim Yong Kuie (Singapore), Prof. Young Tak Kim and Prof. Suk-Joon Chang (Korea).

The venue of the meeting was the new state of the art convention centre, the Malaysia International Trade Exhibition Centre. About 60 participants attended the workshop. The President of AOFOG, Dr. Ravi Chandran graced the opening and welcomed the delegates in his introductory speech. Many of the participants said that they had benefitted from attending the event and requested that similar educational events be held in the future.

Workshops/ educational events following this successful format could be held in different AOFOG member countries in the future to help educate gynaecologists and gynaecological oncologists on the latest in the rapidly



expanding field of gynaecological oncology. This will ultimately improve the care of women with gynaecological cancer in our part of the world.

Dr. Suresh Kumarasamy

FRCOG, FRCPI, Gynaecologist/Gynaecological Oncologist, Convener,
AOFOG-OGSM Gynaecological Oncology Workshop 2018.

Future Events and Activities

- **AOFOG Session at XXII FIGO World Congress of Gynecology and Obstetrics 14 – 19 October 2018, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.**

Session Title: Looking back, Moving forward (Asia Oceania Region)

Chairperson(s) Name:

1. Dr. Ravi Chandran - Malaysia
2. Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa - Sri Lanka

Titles of individual presentations	Speaker's Name
1. Minimally Invasive Surgery- Pros and Cons of Lap Myomectomy	Dr. Kurian Joseph - India
2. Cervical cancer screening and prevention	Prof. Y.T. Kim - South Korea
3. Pelvic Organ Prolapse- Vaginal repair for pelvic organ prolapse: Where are we now?"	Prof. Tsung-Hsien Su - Taiwan

- **The Second Asia-Pacific Diabetes in Pregnancy Conference & IPRAMHO-International Meeting 2019 on 11-12 Jan, 2019, in Singapore.**
- **AOFOG SYMPOSIUM AT RTCOG 2018 on 25th October 2018 at 13:30-15:00 at Dusit Thani Pattaya. Theme of the Symposium is Eradication of Cervical Cancer.**
- **AOFOG session at the AICOG 2019 from 8th – 12th January 2019 in Bangalore, India, which is organized by Federation of Obstetric & Gynaecological Societies of India (FOGSI).**

AOFOG Congress 2019

PREPARATIONS FOR AOFOG 2019 IN FULL GEAR

Beep! Beep! Ride with us!



In June 2017, the new Executive Board and Council of the Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology (AOFOG) was convened by Dr. Ravi Chandran of Malaysia as President and Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa of Sri Lanka as Secretary-General. This Executive Council is abounding with enthusiasm that reflects their impressive commitment that aims to translate into productive activities for the Federation. Moreover, what used to be called the Asian and Oceanic Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology (AOCOG) has now been changed to AOFOG Congress instead to avoid confusion on the name of AOFOG and its Congress. All is set now for AOFOG Congress 2019 in Manila.

The Philippine Obstetrical and Gynecological Society (Foundation), Inc. (POGS) will host the 26th Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology (AOFOG) Congress here in Manila. Congress proper is from November 11-14, 2019. We are excited to welcome more than 5,000 delegates from and here and abroad to the AOFOG 2019 Congress with the theme "Strengthening the Road to Women's Health . . . Reaching New Heights."

Indeed, the AOFOG 2019 Congress in Manila promises to be an enthralling blend of intellectual exchange and upbeat social interaction.

Keeping our machine well-oiled are our Congress Advisers: Drs. Walfrido Sumpaico, Ditas Decena, Blanca De Guia-Fuerte, Mayumi Bismark, Elisa Tiu and Mario Bernardino. All ready to drive us to the AOFOG Congress 2019 is the Congress President, Dr. Christia Padolina, assisted by the Congress Secretary, Dr. Brenda Zamora.

Kindly visit our website: aofog2019.com

**Beep! Beep! Time to take advantage of the pre-registration rates!
Ride with us! See you at the AOFOG Congress 2019 Manila!**

Obituary

Professor Sung Bong Hong (Former Executive-board member)

Professor Sung Bong Hong was born in June, 1925 in Sogyeok-dong, Seoul. After completing the pre-med program at Keijō Imperial University, he enrolled in Seoul National University School of Medicine in September, 1946 and graduated in May, 1950. Professor Hong entered military service in the Korean Air Force in 1953 and completed a program with The United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine (USAFSAM) between April and June of 1955. In 1956, he completed internship at the Binghampton City Hospital and started his residency at Wilson Memorial Hospital in New York. He then returned to Korea in 1959 as a faculty member of Korea University College of Medicine. He completed his Masters in fetal maternal health at Johns Hopkins University in 1963. In 1964, Professor Hong studied the status of induced abortion in Seongdong-gu, Seoul, with funding from the US Population Association. He contributed to the advancement of the Korean Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology as its secretary general.



He lectured at many overseas conferences, such as the 11th Pacific Scientific Conference held in 1966 in Tokyo, where he lectured on the status of induced abortion in Seoul, and International Induced Abortion Conference held in 1968 in Hot Springs, Virginia, US, where he was invited to speak on abortion and mortality. In 1969, he started his second study on the status of induced abortion in Seoul with funding from the US Population Association.

In 1971, he started a clinical study on female infertility procedure together with Professor Byeong Sam Gu, thanks to the support from the US AVS. In 1974, in cooperation with seven European countries, he started an investigative study on the complications of induced abortion, which was funded by the WHO. In 1977, the WHO also funded his study on induced abortion, and Columbia University funded his clinical study on MCA female infertility procedures.

Between 1981 and 1983, Professor Hong served as the Chairman of the Korean Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and he served as the President of the Korean Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology between 1988 and 1989. He retired in August, 1990. He wrote over 160 papers during his career, which are still serving as valuable data for the younger generations.

From the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecological Research (The AOFOG Journal)

Whenever an issue is published the journal homepage is updated as Editor's choice which can be accessed free access at

[http://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/hub/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1447-0756/](http://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/hub/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1447-0756/).

We hope these articles will be useful as references and updates for our members.



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