



**ASIA PACIFIC WOMEN OF FAITH NETWORK
RELIGIONS FOR PEACE, ASIA**

Report on APWoFN Activities, Year 2022

APWoFN Online Seminars 2022

First Webinar: Human Trafficking

HOSTED BY
ASIA PACIFIC WOMEN OF FAITH NETWORK (APWOFN)
RELIGIONS FOR PEACE, ASIA (ACRP)

TACKLING HUMAN-TRAFFICKING IN ASIA: CHALLENGES AND BEST PRACTICES



RELIGIOUS PERSPECTIVES **STATE AGENCIES AND ACTIVIST PERSPECTIVES** **ONLINE SHELTER VISIT (BREAKOUT SESSION)**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2022
2:00 PM-5:00 PM (JST / UTC+0900)

Please register to join!
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/611111111111>

Let's combat
human trafficking together!!!

SPEAKERS

- ◆ **MR. OEUN SAM ART (OPENING PRAYER)**
INTERFAITH COUNCIL OF CAMBODIA, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBER OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE ASIA/ACRP
- ◆ **DR. DEEPAI BHANOT**
CO-PRESIDENT OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE ASIA/ACRP, REPRESENTATIVE MEMBER OF ASIA-PACIFIC WOMEN OF FAITH NETWORK
- ◆ **MS. ALISON RAHILL**
EXECUTIVE OFFICER CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY, ANTI-SLAVERY TASKFORCE
- ◆ **MRS. BINTANG PUSPAYOGA**
MINISTER OF WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND CHILD PROTECTION, REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
- ◆ **MS. MARY GIRLIE GLEN M. TUPAS**
SENIOR LEAD ON CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION
- ◆ **REV. IRA IMELDA, MTH.**
DIRECTOR WCC DUREBANG SINODE GKP BANDUNG
- ◆ **MS. AYESHA SAMAH**
A MEMBER OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE OF RFP INDIA
- ◆ **DR. SUPHATMET YUNYASIT**
CO-CHAIR OF ASIA-PACIFIC WOMEN OF FAITH NETWORK

* THE SPEAKERS ARE AS OF SEPTEMBER 19TH, 2022

<-ABOUT ASIA-PACIFIC WOMEN OF FAITH NETWORK->

ASIA-PACIFIC WOMEN OF FAITH NETWORK (APWOFN) IS THE REGIONAL NETWORK OF MULTIRELIGIOUS WOMEN'S LEADERS OF THE ASIAN CONFERENCE OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE (ACRP). ITS MEMBERS CONSIST OF DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS FAITHS AND TRADITIONS IN THE COUNTRIES AND OTHER TERRITORIES IN ASIA AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC. THE APWOFN BRINGS TOGETHER THE COMMITMENT OF WOMEN'S LEADERS TO ADVANCE COMMON ACTIONS TOWARDS PEACE.

THE APWOFN OPERATES IN FOLLOWING THE ACRP'S VISION AND MISSION TO ADVANCE COMMON ACTION AMONG THE WORLD'S RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES FOR PEACE. THE APWOFN FUNCTIONS IN CONVENING WOMEN'S FORUMS AND OTHER PROGRAMS WHEN DEEMED APPROPRIATE DESIGNED TO PROMOTE THE AIMS OF THE ACRP AMONG WOMEN.

<-ABOUT RELIGIONS FOR PEACE ASIA (ACRP) >

THE ASIAN CONFERENCE OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE, ALSO KNOWN AS RELIGIONS FOR PEACE ASIA, IS THE WORLD'S LARGEST REGIONAL BODY OF RELIGIOUSLY-INSPIRED PEOPLE WORKING FOR PEACE, HARMONY AND THE WELL-BEING OF PEOPLE IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES, IN THE ASIAN-PACIFIC REGION.

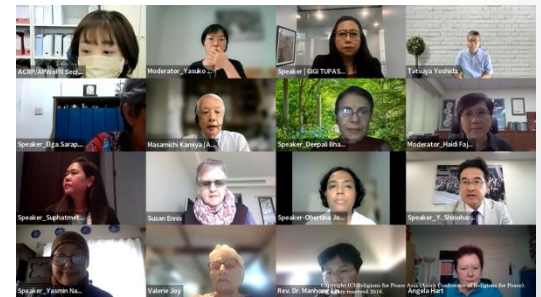
THE ASIAN CONFERENCE OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE ENCOMPASSES THE ASIAN-PACIFIC REGION, STRETCHING FROM THE COUNTRIES OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA UP TO CENTRAL ASIA ACROSS TO EAST ASIA AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA AND DOWN TO THE COUNTRIES OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC.

WITHIN THESE BOUNDARIES ARE CONTAINED MANY OF THE GREATEST CULTURAL, LINGUISTIC AND SPIRITUAL HERITAGES THAT CELEBRATE THE DIVERSITY OF HUMANITY. WITHIN THESE BOUNDARIES ARE CONTAINED OVER HALF OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION, INCLUDING SEVEN OF THE TWELVE MOST POPULOUS NATIONS LED BY CHINA AND INDIA.

URL: [HTTPS://RFPASIA.ORG/](https://rfpasia.org/)

Number of participants: About **35** participants

Documentations of Human Trafficking Webinar



Notes from the Seminar (1)

- Human trafficking has become an increasingly urgent crime against humanity in many countries, both as a sender and as a recipient. Human Trafficking is one of violating in human dignity.
- Education, skills, employment that cause poverty are some of the things that cause human trafficking. In addition to social and economic injustice and the weaknesses of legal enforcement.

Some notes from the Seminar (2)

- This situation cannot be tolerated, especially since the mafia is doing it, starting from the main actors, those with money, supporters (including government officials, security forces, law enforcers) to recruiters who are generally looking for money. But what was done was a crime against humanity. Selling humans to fellow humans to be used in an inhumane, uncivilized manner by other human beings. The form is violence: being beaten, insulted, sexually abused, wages not paid, and some are even killed.

Some notes from the Seminar (3)

- Religious leaders, women and men as well as young people cannot remain silent. All have to work together with various stakeholders: government, civil society, schools, campuses, the media to prevent, overcome and recover the victims.
- For example, trauma prevention is also required to cure anyone who has had a negative experience like this. A family program that fosters relationships is one strategy to lessen the number of victims of human trafficking.

What needs to be done?

- APWoFN, both in each country and collectively need to strengthen the network and collaboration with all stakeholders in a joint movement to prevent, overcome and carry out breeding processes.
- This means that lobbying and advocacy need to be strong. For this reason, there is a need for lobbying and advocacy training as well as continuous outreach to the local and national communities through schools, campuses, religious communities and groups in the society.
- Also, it is important to use media, like social media or TV, etc.

Second Webinar: Climate Change

ONLINE SEMINAR HOSTED BY
ASIA PACIFIC WOMEN OF FAITH NETWORK

**INSPIRED BY OUR FAITHS AND
SPIRITUALITIES TO MOVE FORWARD
WITH CLIMATE ACTION**

☆ **REPORT ON PAKISTAN FLOOD AND CLIMATE CHANGE**
☆ **PLENARY SESSION 1**
RESPONSE TO COP27 THROUGH RELIGIOUS PERSPECTIVES
☆ **PLENARY SESSION 2**
CASE STUDIES OF ACTIVITIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES
~PRESENTATION BY NATIONAL CHAPTERS OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE ASIA

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH, 2022
2:00 PM-4:45 PM (UTC+9))

<REGISTRATION LINK>
[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/MEETING/REGISTRATION/TZYRF-MTPJKSGTWYYOKTOUXLWTEYYYY4V43N6](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8121212121)



CONTACT: TOKYO@RFPASIA.NET



[SPEAKERS]

I. PRE-SESSION
MS. HUMA IKRAMULLAH
(SECRETARY GENERAL OF RFP PAKISTAN)

II. SESSION 1
REV. JAMES BHAGWAN **[KEYNOTE SPEAKER]**
(THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE PACIFIC CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES)
*VIDEO RECORDING
DR. LILIAN SISON
(PRESIDENT OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE PHILIPPINES)
DR. DEEPALI BHANOT
(A MEMBER OF ASIA PACIFIC WOMEN OF FAITH NETWORK, CO-PRESIDENT OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE ASIA)
MS. CHRISTINA LEE
(A MEMBER OF FOCOLARE AND COMMITTEE FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN UNITY & INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF KOREA)
DR. IRA DESIAWANTI MANGILLO
(A LECTURER OF HEBREW SCRIPTURE AT ARTHA WACANA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY, KUPANG – EAST NUSA TENGGARA)

III. SESSION 2
DR. JACQUELINE B. MALLARI
(CHAIRPERSON, RELIGIONS FOR PEACE-PHILIPPINES YOUTH COMMITTEE; DEPUTY TEAM LEADER, RELIGIONS FOR PEACE YOUTH MEDIA TEAM) *VIDEO RECORDING
PROF. LIN MANHONG
(MEMBER OF CHINA COMMITTEE ON RELIGION AND PEACE)
MR. TAKASHI HASHIMOTO
(DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PEACEBUILDING DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE JAPAN)
MS. PHILIPPA ROWLAND
(CHAIR OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE AUSTRALIA)

SPEAKERS' NAMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

[INTERFAITH PRAYER]
HINDU PRAYER BY MS. POOJA MANANDHAR
(SECRETARY-GENERAL OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE NEPAL)
PROTESTANT PRAYER BY REV. JAMES BHAGWAN (RECORDING)
(THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE PACIFIC CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES)

[MC/MODERATORS]
DAW YIN YIN MAW
(SECRETARY-GENERAL OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE MYANMAR)
MS. PHILIPPA ROWLAND
(CHAIR OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE AUSTRALIA)
MS. HAIDI BULLO FLORES FAJARDO
(DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE PHILIPPINES)



Number of participants: About **30** participants

Documentations of Climate Change Webinar



APWoFN Climate Rapporteurs

Elga Sarapung – Indonesia	Suphatmet Yunyasit - Thailand	Haidi Fajardo – Philippines
Common Actions - Build awareness leaders/communities	Sustainability - Develop systematic engagement, promotion	Education needed - Where/How to focus energy as religious people
Information Exchange - writing, essays	Networking - plan to learn & share	Understand market forces – influence decisions
Share rich experience from each country	Develop City Projects - Green & Blue Cities	Faith leaders set example - Solarise places of worship

APWoFN - Facing the Threat of Climate Change Together

Moral Courage & Strategic Action for sake of future generations

- Each country working to our strengths & helping our neighbours
- Each faith encouraging our communities

Unique Roles for Faith Communities

- Trusted Leadership & Connections with Communities
- Places of Worship as Places of Refuge and Provision of Care
- Prayers, Solidarity and Compassion in Action
- ***Respect Integral Ecology / Led by Faith – Informed by Science***
- Rapid Transition to Renewable Energy / End Fossil fuels
- Re-plant trees to repair lungs & carbon sinks of our Planet
- Green our Cities as Healthy Climate-Positive Ecosystems

Documentations of Peacebuilding Webinar



Key challenges for Asia (from the participants of all breakout groups) (1)

- *Challenges from the society (or outside factors)*
- The characteristics of patriarchal society which is upheld by most people in our society;
- The lack of rules (be they laws or regulations) that promote women's participation in peacebuilding and reconciliation;
- Although women in Asia have been playing some roles in these two areas and contributing greatly to the change of the situation, their contribution and achievement have earned very little formal recognition by the society;

Key challenges for Asia (from the participants of all breakout groups) (2)

- *Challenges from within*
- In some countries of Asia, women themselves are not so confident to be at the front when it comes to peacebuilding and reconciliation. Their lack of confidence comes from the lack of proper knowledge and skills of a peacebuilder (e.g. conflict analysis skills, mediation, facilitation and negotiation skills and knowledge on peace dialogue/process) and leadership skills.
- Women in some regions of Asia are also vulnerable

APWoFN's Recommendations for Next Steps (1)

- To increase women's meaningful participation in peace building and reconciliation in Asia, it is crucial to push for 1) more women's representation in the formal peace and reconciliation processes and 2) more issues that concern women have been acknowledged and picked to discuss at the policy-making platforms of all levels.
- For 1) the advancement for more women's representation, this requires a change in rules (laws and regulations in the country) aspect. When we have rules promoting women participation, unfair and oppressive structures will be replaced with a gender-balance one.

APWoFN's Recommendations for Next Steps (2)

- For 2) more acknowledgement of women's need, fear and concern by the conflicting parties and the society, it is important to make sure the women are provided with knowledge and skills to voice out their opinions and experiences appropriately and to have channels for them to air those crucial points.
- *Religions for Peace* as the leading faith-based organization, and APWoFN can design their future works to tackle both 1) and 2) areas. Our suggestion is that *RfP* and APWoFN should frame their future action into two broad categories: women empowerment and dialogue/other form of collaborations engaging ourself, women peace builders in our network with other stakeholders. Our **conceptual strategic plan of action** is placed in the flowchart below.

APWoFN's Recommendations for Next Steps (3)

- For **women empowerment**, *RfP* and APWoFN can organize series of capacity building workshops at both at national and regional levels. The topics to be included in these workshops are, for example, conflict analysis, mediation/ facilitation and negotiation skills, leadership skills, non-violent communication, digital media literacy. The other activity in this category is series of exchange and sharing platforms for women peacebuilder. These platforms will amplify women's voice as well as to help them learn from one another. They can be on and offline.

• Thank you