



2013 ASIA PACIFIC ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION (AUS CHAPTER) NEWSLETTER

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Asso Prof Bogdon Solomon

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Dr Edward T Mah

Secretariat:

Calvary Ortho & Hand Care Centre

53 Gover Street

North Adelaide SA 5006

Ph: 61 8 8361 9888

Fax: 61 8 8361 9122

Secretariat Email:

tedmah@hotmail.com

Hon Secretary Email:

bogdansolomon@mac.com

FROM THE CHIEF DELEGATE AND PRESIDENT ELECT

2012 has been a year of many exiting activities for the APOA (Aus Chapter) and I like to thank many of the committee members for their contributions at the various management meetings. I like to thank Assoc Prof Bogdon Solomon who has worked in the capacity of Hon Secretary whilst Ted Mah will remain the Hon Treasurer, in addition to the role of Chief Delegate. The representation of Australian interest at the central APOA Executive Committee has been strengthen with three of the central committee members coming from the Australian Chapter. They are John Bartlett (Ad Hoc Com member), David McNicol (Second Vice President) and Eugene Sherry (Infection Section Chairman)

In 2012 the Australian Chapter has offered free membership for all Australian Orthopaedic Registrar's Association (AORA) trainee registrars but the take up has remained slow. Further work will need to be done to encourage our trainee registrars to become affiliate members of the Australian Chapter so they could use the free membership as a porter to the many educational, training and Travelling Fellowships that are on offer by the bigger APOA movement.

The Australian Chapter has selected 3 young consultants and one senior trainee to become the Australian Ambassadors to the APOA Congress in New Delhi. They are Anthony Bradshaw, Arvind Jain and Chartar Goyal from Victoria and Gavin Clark from West Australia. They have presented themselves well at the New Delhi Congress and contributed significantly both at the Young Ambassador session and general sessions of the Congress. A brief reports about their experience at the Congress has been included in this newsletter.

APOA (Aus Chapter), AOA and Asia Pacific Committee of the AOA have worked well together to oversee the successful implementation of 5 important activities:

- 1) A Senior Registrar Bursary to allow an appropriately qualified surgeon from the Asia Pacific Region to attend the AOA ASM – this year Dr Kenny Kwan from Hong Kong was chosen.
- 2) Indian Orthopaedic Association - AOA exchange- this year 2 Orthopaedic surgeons from AOA (Sivashankar Chandrasekeran and A/Prof Mellick Chehade) were chosen to visit IOA ASM in Chennai. (Unfortunately Dr Chandrasekeran was unable to attend)
- 3) ASEAN-AOA exchange – Dr Antonio De Castro from Philippines, Dr Banbang Gunawan from Indonesia and Dr Tipachart Punyaratabandhu from Thailand were the ASEAN Travelling Fellows to the Sydney ASM. They have presented papers at the ASM and were well received.
- 4) From 2014 the winner of the best paper at the Australian Orthopaedic Registrars Association (AORA) will attend the Biennial APOA Congress (Thailand in 2014) alternates with AAOS.
- 5) The Asia Pacific visiting professor to involve in the AOA and AORA Annual Scientific Meetings and possibly the ASEAN and IOA Traveling Fellows as well. This year AP Prof was Prof Somsak Leechavengvongs and he was one of the Keynote speakers in the Hand and Upper limb sessions.

The central body of APOA has undergone its internal review in relation to the future directions. Immediate Past President Prof Raza has been instrumental in creating a dialog of change by establishing a committee chaired by D McNicol to review the different models of the future APOA organisation. Unfortunately the issue of a "Federation style APOA" did not reach the final stage of determination at the New Delhi Congress and was deferred for further discussion in future executive and council meeting. D McNicol remained the Chairman of the subcommittee to look into the relationship of National Orthopaedic Associations with APOA and to explore further the possibility of moving towards that concept in the near future.

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FROM THE CHIEF DELEGATE AND PRESIDENT ELECT

The first biennial APOA congress in New Delhi, which is also the Golden Jubilee of APOA movement, was a great success. It was an exemplifying forum for scientific discussion and advancement, as well as an extraordinary cultural extravaganza. There were nearly 1900 registrants from over 40 countries, 10 pre-congress workshops and 26 plenary lectures. Dr A Loeffler has written a report of the New Delhi Congress in this newsletter. The four Young Ambassadors from the Australian Chapter have exposed themselves to the biggest Orthopaedic movement in this part of the world, including over 140 world Orthopaedic leaders.

Prof David Fang has retired as Editor of the Journal of Orthopaedics after 20 years of distinguished service. He was honored at the 2012 New Delhi Congress and Prof Kenneth Cheung has replaced David and will fill David's big shoe with pride.

APOA (Aus Chapter) finance is sound and secure. Majority of the fund is in fixed term deposit. The raise of the Australian dollars against the US currency has resulted in a reduction of the Australian membership. The yearly APOA Australian Chapter Newsletter has been well supported by the industry and I thank them for their continued support.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that the Australian Chapter was successful in securing Melbourne as the venue for the 2016 APOA Congress. The Congress will be held between 5th to 9th April 2016. We are grateful to be

given the chance to host it because it is only the third time in the 54 year history of the APOA movement that Australia will be hosting the Congress. I am grateful that Dr John Bartlett has accepted the position of Congress Chairman and he will need the help of many of our members to assist with the planning and implementation of what is going to be a very successful and most enjoyable scientific and social event in 4 year's time. I have been elected as President Elect and will take over the Presidency from 2014. I have accepted the challenge with humility and trepidation. As a result the Australian Chapter Management Committee has undergone restructuring and I welcome 2 new National Delegates and Councillors – Graham Mercer, the immediate past president of AOA and Andreas Loeffler, whilst John Batten will replace me as Chief Delegate from 2013. I am very grateful for the commitment, support and assistance given to me by members of the APOA Executives, APOA Councillors and in particular members of the Australian Chapter Management Committee as I'll certainly need their help in order to successfully face many challenges and expected rough journey over the next 4 years.



*Ted Mah
Chief Delegate (2012)
APOA Australian Chapter
President Elect, APOA*

AUSTRALIAN YOUNG AMBASSADOR REPORT



Australian and Cambodian young ambassadors

On the 3-6th of October the Golden Jubilee Congress of the Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Association was held in New Delhi India. We were lucky enough to attend and present at the congress as "Australia Young Ambassadors". The event was an excellent opportunity to learn about the current state of Orthopaedics around the Asia Pacific and also to meet surgeons from each of the 19 different countries represented. The differing and often extreme pathology of the cases presented from many of the countries, including nutritional deficiencies and deformities rarely seen in Australia, made our spectrum of disease seem often mild by comparison. There were many highlights of the trip including visiting the Taj Mahal, riding in rickshaws, shopping for handmade rugs and suits and watching the two first ever attendees from Cambodia sing a national song together at the final event of the conference as part of the annual international Karaoke competition. Each country, with members and their partners, were invited to sing a national song. Some had been practicing for years and others seemingly not at all. The event, however, was a great ice-breaker and provided a great sense of unity.

The conference was filled with good will and positive interactions between all the delegates and there were some excellent invited speakers and plenary sessions. The workshops on the first day were particularly useful and the experience was well worth the long flights and jetlag. We would like to thank the APOA and APOA (Aus Chapter) for the opportunity to attend and for their hospitality at the conference. We hope our experience encourages other young surgeons to join the APOA and participate in future events and congress. The next host country is Thailand in 2014 and we look forward to attending.

*Anthony Bradshaw for other young ambassadors
- Arvind Jain, Chartar Goyal and Gavin Clark*

SHORT REPORT FROM CAMBODIAN YOUNG AMBASSADORS

First of all, I would like to say thank you to Dr Ted Mah who gave me chance to participate the APOA Congress in New Delhi 2012 as this was the biggest congress that I've ever been in my life.

Secondly, I would to express my experiences and my feeling about the Congress by writing this article to all our friends, professors and doctors.

After this meeting, I think it is very important for all Cambodian young ambassadors and doctors who are active in surgery in hospital to see and take part in such congress. In the meeting, many people discussed and talk about the difficult techniques and difficult managements for the patients. These are golden points to take back for our country.

Thirdly, this meeting gave me good opportunity to know all famous surgeons in other countries to share their experiences and good communications.

Furthermore, I think it is my first time as a young ambassador to stand and face to big audients at the conferences.

Finally, I'm very hopeful that APOA will be bigger and bigger. I hope Cambodia will be a member of this movement.

Many Thanks

*Sok Meng
Cambodian Young Ambassador*



*Cambodian Young Ambassadors
(Sok Meng and Kog Savong with Ted Mah)*

A CHANCE TO STRENGTHEN CLINICAL AND RESEARCH TIES TO ASIA

ASM Asia Pacific Guest Professor, Somsak Leechavengvongs believes there can be more collaboration between Australia and Asia pointing to the opportunities presented by the large number of clinical cases and cadaveric studies in Thailand and the potential for strong resident and fellow exchange programs.

Professor Leechavengvongs is the Chief of the Upper Extremity and Reconstructive Microsurgery Unit at the Thai Ministry of Public Health and he has a strong research interest in hand surgery, brachial plexus injury and flap coverage.

Thailand has one of the highest rates of motorcycle injuries and deaths in Southeast Asia. Motorcycle accident rates double every four years and 11,000 motorbike riders or passengers die annually. Tourists are also affected. Visitors use motorbikes to whisk from beach to beach, mostly not wearing helmets and often adopting less desirable local motoring habits.*

Professor Leechavengvongs offers a ray of help to the bike accident victims who have lost function in their upper limbs due to nerve damage. "We've been able to modify a technique to enhance the function of patients, especially those with upper arm type brachial plexus injury. The other area

of research we're focused on is to relieve the pain these patients can experience. Pain that often has more effect on the person's quality of life than the motor deficit caused by the nerve injury.

The recent visit to Australia at the AOA ASM was a great opportunity for me to both learn and build collaboration between our countries. More understanding and knowledge of the cultural, religious and belief systems of the different peoples that make up our vibrant region can only help our overall delivery of appropriate medical care and treatment to Orthopaedic patients.

We have a vibrant Orthopaedic medical community in Thailand and it's important we do all we can to encourage young Thai Orthopaedic surgeons to pursue clinical research, publish in international journals and build collaboration with Orthopaedic surgeons in other Asian countries, particularly Australia.



PROFESSOR SOMSAK LEECHAVENGVONGS

KEY PRESENTATIONS BY PROFESSOR LEECHAVENGVONGS

Adult BPI Reconstruction:
My Approach

Flap Coverage for Upper and
Lower Limb Injuries

Reconstruction of Shoulder
Function: Nerve Transfers vs
Nerve Grafting

* Thailand Motorcycle Safety Foundation Report 2012.

2016 APOA CONGRESS MELBOURNE APRIL 5 - 9



John Bartlett

Dear Colleague,

Australia has been fortunate in winning the bid to host the 2016 Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Association Congress to be held in Melbourne April 5 - 9 at the new Convention Centre.

We are grateful to the Australian Orthopaedic Association Board who

have been very supportive and indeed will be involved in the Congress.

Great support both moral and financial has been received from the Victorian State Government Minister The Honourable Louise Asher MLA; Federal Government Minister The Honourable Martin Ferguson MHR; Lord Mayor of Melbourne Robert Doyle; Qantas and the Medical Industry.

April 5 - 9 (Tuesday - Saturday) has been chosen, as it will be after AAOS and Easter but before the Cape Town Combined Meeting; ESSKA and EFORT.

The APOA which was formed in 1962 as the Western Pacific Orthopaedic Association currently embraces 19 Countries and more than 100,000 Orthopaedic Surgeons. Asia is clearly the most rapidly advancing Region on Earth and this momentum will continue leading to a rising demand for Orthopaedic services. Hence there is a need for such a Congress to share research and education in all aspects of Orthopaedics. At the start of this "Asian Century" the April 2016 Congress in Melbourne will be a show case to the world of the advances made and opportunities to come. These will include the interaction of Academics, visiting Surgeons and Industry to improve Orthopaedic health in the growing markets of Asia.

There will be Pre and Post Congress Tours available and a wonderful Social Program to ensure a great experience for all visitors.

The Scientific Program guarantees to disseminate the latest developments in Research, Technology and advances in patient care - all tempered by wisdom.

Delegates will leave this Congress wiser with many good memories of the international friendship.

Australia Chapter will co-host the 2016 APOA Congress with the New Zealand Chapter.

Please plan ahead; mark the date and participate.

John Bartlett
2016 APOA Congress Chairman

2012 ANNUAL REPORT APOA PAEDIATRIC ORTHOPAEDIC SECTION OF APOA

1. The 8th combined congress of the Spine & Paediatric Sections, APOA was held in 1st – 4th June 2011 in Gifu Japan.

- Total attendee, 414 (11 countries)
- Lectures, 4 (paediatric)
- Symposium, 3 (paediatric)
- Free papers, 124 (paediatric)

2. Paediatric Orthopaedic Traveling Fellowship to Taiwan and Japan in 2011, ending in Gifu, Japan. They visited Kaoshiung Medical University (Prof. YC Tien) for 5 days and Nagoya Municipal Hospital (Dr. I Wada) and Meijer Hospital (Dr. N Kawakami) in Nagoya city for 4 days.

- Dr Aryadi from Indonesia
- Dr Reuban Soh from Singapore
- Dr Wang Dahui from China

3. Summary of the 17th Council meeting of APOA Paediatric Section (3rd June 2011 in Myakka Hotel):

- 3.1. Welcoming address by chairman Dr Makoto Kamegaya.
- 3.2. Minor changes of the old constitution were made. Further amendments will be made at next board APOA meeting in India.
- 3.3. The next combined meeting in Kuching, Malaysia in August 2013 was introduced by Dr. Saw Aik.

4. 3rd POSNA-ASEAN Paediatric Orthopaedic Course:

This meeting was held in Jakarta, Indonesia on 21 -23, July 2011. Prof. Ucok Sidebar organised this meeting and invited 12 foreign guest speakers, including 5 POSNA people. Prof Ken Kuo devoted much time and effort to bridging the relationship between POSNA and ASEAN. The theme “Current Perspectives in Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgery” was successfully communicated.

5. APOA Council meeting in Kuching on 11th December 2011 : Saw Aik represented Kamegaya to the meeting

- 5.1. Presented a report on Paediatric Orthopaedic section
- 5.2. Request for allocation of USD 15,000 for another Traveling Fellowship immediately before APOA main congress in India. Suggest 3 fellows cover 2 countries in South Asia region. Approved.

6. Invitation to Pakistan:

The First Paediatric Orthopaedic Conference of Pakistan Orthopaedic Association was held in Lahore on 14-17 March 2012. Prof. Javed Iqbal was a main organiser. Dr. Kamegaya was invited to the meeting as the Chairman of the Pediatric section with honor. It was well organised and ended, a great success.

6.1. Traveling Fellowship in other Asia region - In progress

7. Future aspects for the APOA Paediatric Traveling Fellowship:

- 7.1. Identify problems and solutions for traveling fellowship arrangements.
- 7.2. Consider requesting for Paediatric Orthopaedic Traveling Fellowship 2013 coinciding with combined meeting in Kuching.

*Prepared by Saw Aik,
Secretary, APOA Paediatric Orthopaedic Section*

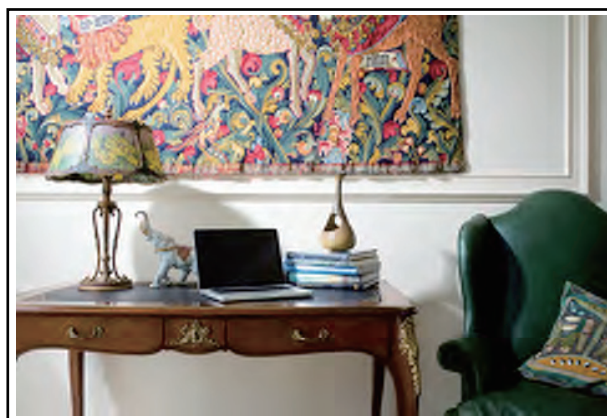
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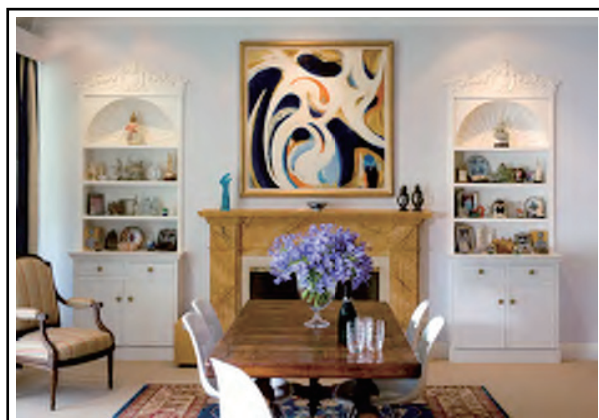
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HISTORY AND FUTURE OF APOA



Graham Mercer

APOA had its origins in the WPOA, the latter being formed in 1962 and Australia's membership of that group, largely driven by Sir George Bedbrook, Orthopaedic surgeon and expert in spinal injuries from Perth, who was well known in Asia Pacific and prominent in the rehabilitation field. This culminated in the Seventh Triennial Meeting being held in Perth in 1982, attracting for the first time many Australian Orthopaedic Surgeons to WPOA, joining Professors Bill Cumming and Ron Huckstep with strong connections in Asia Pacific.

Professor Bob Bauze was also involved in the conduct of WPOA/ Zimmer Travelling Fellowships, in both directions, which continued for about 15 years.

However, the financial success of WPOA became challenged by perceived relevance, ASEAN Orthopaedic Association had become a more important regional grouping, the moving of administration between chapters and associated loss of corporate knowledge and the moving on of stalwart supporters and drivers such as S F Lam from Hong Kong and Democracies Tablan from Philippines.

Under the Presidency of Professor Bob Bauze, 1998-2001, the secretariat moved to Adelaide, governance and fiscal management issues were addressed, good communication between Council Members established - the culmination of expertise, financial and otherwise, of Professor John Leong of Hong Kong (President 1992-1995) and Professor Kamal Bose from Singapore (President 1989-1992)- instituting constitutional change and stronger control through a Management Committee of the APOA Executives.

In 2000, WPOA Council proposed admission of China, India, Pakistan and Bangladesh chapters to the Association and to change the name to APOA. The first APOA Congress was held in Adelaide in 2001 and again attracted many Australians to that meeting. The Secretariat was again moved after the 2001 APOA Congress, progressively again, recreating the earlier insecurities of the WPOA.

The last 2 years (2011-12), under the Presidency of Professor Taqi Raza from India, have seen again recognition and constructive discussion of perceived 'weaknesses' in current the structure of APOA and correspondingly the relevance of APOA. These include: -

- Poor central part time secretariat
- Fragmented 'Club' mentality
- Insecure/poor financial base
- Lack of engagement of core membership of National Organisations
- Lack of engagement of Presidents of National Orthopaedic Associations on a regular basis
- Lack of a strategic plan.

Through the effort of Prof Raza, several meetings of Executive of APOA and International President Forums have identified a 'sound financial base' as the fundamental core of an APOA moving forward.

How to do this?

By recruiting National Organisations rather than individual members- a la EFFORT model - empowers a sound financial base and supports a constant centralized secretariat- perhaps either levying on a membership basis directly or indirectly i.e. as soon as a National Organisation accepts it wishes to be part of APOA, all its members become APOA members.

There may be a need to accept a differential levy for more 'well off' countries than those not 'so well off'.

This would need then to be 'value added' i.e. reduced registration to biannual meetings, journal subscription etc. This is the genesis of the concept of APOA becoming a Federation of Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Associations.

Such a Federation need to have a secretariat in a permanent location and registered with statutory requirements of fiscal responsibility and governance.

This debate is now well advanced with achievable and agreed outcomes.

Most Australian Orthopaedic surgeons see the importance in Australia's relationship with Asia, but many do not easily understand the culture and some feel intimidated by it- this is changing. There is increasing migration from Asian Countries, a large cohort of international students from Asia and many of Australian doctors including Orthopaedic surgeons are Australian graduates of Asian origin or are migrants from Asia.

Cooperation as partners within Asia Pacific is sought by community leaders; including Orthopaedic surgeons and membership of the AOA in a Federation of Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Associations would be a contribution to that cooperation.

I thank Bob Bauze for much of the background information gathered over his many years of leadership and direction in the Asia Pacific Region.

Graham Mercer

Immediate Past President AOA

National Delegate and councillor, APOA (Aus Ch)

SHORT REPORT FROM T PUNYARATABANDHU, ASEAN TRAVELLING FELLOW

The 2012 AOA ASM in Sydney was a very interesting meeting. The hospitality is perfect and nothing to compare. For ASEAN Fellows, this is the good time to know each other and exchange knowledge. The APOA session is very informative and good for discussion. I also have a change to make new collaboration

with Australian and Pacific Islands doctors. The overall meeting is excellent. There are something that I would like to suggest. The planning and contact before the meeting is not well organized. I received less information about how to prepare, what to do, the duration of traveling, etc. It should be perfect for the fellows if we have an opportunity to visit the a few hospitals.

I would like to send my deeply gratitude to AOA and APOA (Aus Chp) and your staffs to make the Asean-AOA fellowship happen.

Thipachart Punyaratabandhu, MD
Bangkok, Thailand



ASEAN Travelling Fellows (Drs Banbang Gunawan, Antonio De Castro and Thipachart Punyaratabandhu) and Prof Somsak Leechavengvongs

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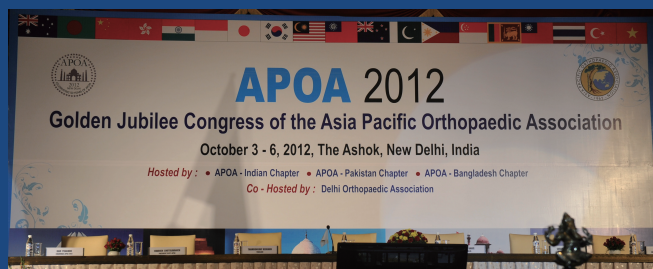
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2012 APOA GOLDEN JUBILEE CONGRESS, NEW DELHI



Ceremony Podium

The 50th anniversary of the Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Association was commemorated in style. The 17th Congress of APOA was held in New Delhi and co-hosted by the Orthopaedic Associations of India, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

The conference was held in the somewhat run down Ashok Samrat, an ageing government hotel, but any deficiencies in décor was more than compensated by the warm welcome of our hosts.



B Baaze being Honoured at the Congress

The meeting attracted nearly 1900 registrants from 40 countries. The biggest groups were from the host countries and from Japan. There were 25 delegates from Australia. Young ambassadors came from Cambodia, Japan, Bangladesh and from Australia.

The program was ambitious and varied. There were 10 pre-congress workshops on topics like spinal fixation, pelvic fractures, uni-compartmental knee and other joint replacements. The scientific presentations were numerous with 26 plenary lectures, 321 invited lectures and 484 free papers. All this required great organisation in 10 parallel meeting venues.

The faculty was comprised of 142 overseas speakers and 74 local Indian experts, and experts they are as their numbers of cases presented dwarf those seen in Western countries. In addition there were 58 members of APOA Council, the governing body of APOA.

The orthopaedic industry supported the meeting with a lively display of local and international products. Many delegates frequented the trade exhibits, as it is interesting to see how products and prices vary around the world.



Council Meeting

The social program entailed various dinners, including the traditional singing performances of delegations from the various countries. There was a cultural and acrobatic performance. The Presidents Dinner was hosted at a distant site, reminiscent of Las Vegas, with a high tech performance of a modern Indian show.

Professor Raza and his team should be congratulated for organising an international meeting of such variety and scale. Old friendships were renewed and many new ones formed as delegates from different backgrounds were able to learn from each other. India is a country of contrasts and whilst some of it is poor, there are also state of the art hospitals offering best orthopaedic care.

Thailand will host the meeting in 2014 and the 2016 meeting will be in Melbourne, Australia. The 50th anniversary congress will be hard to beat.

Andreas Loeffler

National Delegate & Councillor (Aus Chapter)



VIP's at the Congress



Young Ambassadors Receiving Their Certificates



Having a Good Time



Australian Delegates in Indian Costumes



NZ, Aus, Malaysian & Indian Delegates



President Raza Handing over APOA Flag & Presidential Medal to President Chotigavanich

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