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**APASWE’s President’s Report**

**For IASSW Board Meeting in Dublin, Ireland, July 2018**

1. **The Election and Made Up of the New Board**

Electing new board and committee members is an active and ongoing traditional process that peaks during election time. Board members and committee elections are one of the most important duties that boards have. Duly, on 28th October 2017 in Shenzhen, China, a new board and committee members were elected. Special thanks to the previous team lead by ex-President Dr. Fentiny Nugroho for their valuable services during their term. With a new leadership lineup, it is hoped that the continuation of previous board and committee members’ legacy will continue to serve the organization effectively. The new board and committee members are as follows:

 **President:**  Professor Dr. Zulkarnain Hatta (Malaysia)

 **Secretary:** Dr. David Rose (Australia)

 **Treasurer:** Professor Dr. Haruhiko Sakaguchi (Japan)

 **Committee Members**: Professor Dr. Adi Fahrudin (Indonesia)

 Dr. Viktor Virag (Japan)

 Dr. Tracie Mafile'o (New Zealand)

 Ms. Gowry Vasudevan (Sri Lanka)

 Dr. Fentiny Nughoru (Immediate Past

 Presient)

1. **Preliminary Planning**

The new Board embarked on preliminary planning of its 4-year term. Instead of planning for a 4 year timeframe, it took a different strategy by mapping out a year to year activity. It was decided that from the time it took office late 2017 to late 2018, the main activity for the organization will be a webinar series (see below). Initially planning of the webinar started in December of 2017. Additionally, APASWE is planning to organize a seminar during the APSW conference in Bangalore, India, in September 2019.

1. **Webinar Series**

Based on the proposal by Dr. Mafile'o and assisted by Dr. Virag, the proposal with the theme of “Indigeneity in Asia and Pacific Social Work” will be launched after the Dublin Conference. The major rationale of the project is to increase the exchanges of ideas amongst members in the region that will further the social work field in general and social work education in particular. Furthermore, webinars are a cost effective means of professional development for educators and practitioners alike. The series will be a joint venture with ARIISW, Shukutoku University that will use an app called Zoom. The app can at any one session accommodate more than 50 participants all over the region and beyond, as long as there is good internet connection. Schedule for the first four series has been set up.

1. **CIO – Check It Out!**

APASWE publishes online newsletter through APASWE’s website every month called Check It Out! (CIO). Although it was delayed during the early stage of the Board’s transition, it is back on track now. CIO mainly contains country reports, news, and messages. Throughout the shared country report/article, members are been connected to various programs and activities in advancing social work and social work education in particular. The news also consist of information on conferences, social work day, meetings, and collaborations. CIO is organized by Ms. Varathagowry Vasudevan and Dr. Mohd Haizzan Yahaya (Assistant to President) in discussion with the President.

1. **President's Meeting and Conferences**

The President’s meetings and conferences invitation are based on his capacity as President of APASWE. The interaction during these conferences and meeting is one of the best ways in improving the organization’s relationship with members. Below are the lists of meetings attended by the President:

- Jakarta (2017)

- Tokyo (2018)

- Zagreb (2018)

- Beijing (2018)

APASWE also was one of the sponsors in a conference organized by Universitas Bengkulu, Indonesia, 2017.

### Finally, the President would like to thank APASWE’s Executive Board and Committee members - Dr. David Rose, Professor Dr. Haruhiko Sakaguchi, Professor Dr. Adi Fahrudin, Dr. Viktor Virag, Dr. Tracie Mafile'o, Ms. Gowry Vasudevan, Dr. Fentiny Nughoro (Past Immediate President), Dr. Haizzan Yahaya and Ms. Kana Matsuo for their efforts and valuable contribution over the year.

### The work is an on-going process with lots of improvements to be made so that APASWE will be seen as both relevant and important for the region. APASWE will keep working for the advancement of social work education in the Asian Pacific Region. The challenges ahead of the organization are to make our paying members feel a sense of belonging through benefiting from our activities.

Prepared by:

Professor Dr. Zulkarnain A. Hatta,

President of APASWE

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