



[From the Secretary General](#)



[From the JOGR](#)



[AOCOG 2017](#)

[KSGO - AOFOG Young Doctors](#)

[Future Activities](#)

AOFOG NEWS



From the President

Dear members of the AOFOG family. Greetings and welcome to the first AOFOG Newsletter for the 2017 - 2019 term.

Shortly after the new Executive Board and Council was formed, the Secretary General and I wrote to all National Society Presidents

and Secretaries stressing the importance of communication and teamwork. Communication is a 2-way street and we would like to receive information and feedback from National Societies so that appropriate activities can be planned to match your needs.

In July, we also wrote to all Committee Chairs laying out clearly the framework for their activities to ensure smooth implementation. As has been said many times before, the standing Committees form the “backbone” of our activities. Having said that, the present Executive Board has gone a step further and identified specific Executive Board members that each Committee Chair can turn to for advice and assistance in organising their activities.

At our recent Executive Board and Action Plan Meetings in September, it struck me that this Executive Board was probably one of the youngest in terms of age. Nevertheless, I was impressed with the commitment exhibited by everyone and I hope this enthusiasm is maintained over the 2 years and translates into meaningful activities for the Federation.

As you are aware, the Secretariat is now in Colombo and our Secretary General Dr Rohana Haththotuwa has been working tirelessly to effect a smooth transition. There is still some way to go yet but I believe the end is in sight. We would like to thank Prof Sumpaico and Ms Rita Fe Tanig in helping with this transition.

Despite the difficulties, we have had a busy 5 months since the AOFOG Congress in Hong Kong in June and these have been detailed in the report by our Secretary General.

As 2017 draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to



President
Ravi Chandran
(Malaysia)



President Elect
Kazunori Ochiai
(Japan)



Vice-President
Pisake Lumbiganon
(Thailand)



Immediate Past President
Joo-Hyun Nam
(Korea)



Secretary-General
Rohana Haththotuwa
(Sri Lanka)



Deputy Secretary
Jaydeep Tank
(India)



Treasurer
Tsung-Hsien Su
(Taiwan)



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



Council Representative
John Tait
(New Zealand)



Newsletter Editors
Dr Kurian Joseph,
Dr Jaydeep Tank

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)



thank everyone who has committed their time and effort to the AOFOG cause and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Let's look forward together to a more productive 2018!

Ravi Chandran

From the Secretary General

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Three months have passed since the new AOFOG Council took office under the leadership of Dr. Ravi Chandran. I decided to keep you updated on the many activities that took place since then.

Registration of AOFOG: As you are aware, it was decided at the last meeting of the new Council to transfer the Secretariat and Bank Accounts of the Federation and Secretariat, to Colombo, Sri Lanka. In order to open the Bank Accounts in Sri Lanka the Federation needs to be registered with the Registrar of Companies, Sri Lanka which is now in process through a Law Firm.

Secretariat Office: I am happy to inform you that we have rented a fully furnished office room in the building of the Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. The office is in operation 5 days of the week from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. We are yet to get a separate telephone line. The office was officially opened by Prof Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran, Past President FIGO & Past Deputy Secretary General AOFOG on the 10th of Sept 2017 in the presence of the President, Council Members & Members of the SLCOG.



Executive Assistant: Ms Asoka Casiechetty has been recruited as the new executive assistant from the 1st of Sept 2017. She is a graduate with many years of experience in secretarial and administrative work and she is getting to know the Executive Board, Committee Chairs and the members fast and also the workings of the AOFOG. You are most welcome to contact her regarding any secretariat matter at secretariat@aofog.net



Action Plan Meeting: With the appointment of new Committee Chairs to the several committees, it was necessary to have an APM to plan the future activities. Hence, an APM along with an Executive Board meeting was held on the 30th of Sept 2017, in Penang, Malaysia. We are extremely appreciative of our President, Dr. Ravi Chandran, who



single handedly worked very hard amidst his busy schedule in registering all participants, interacting with them on many details, organising many aspects of the Board/APM Meeting such as catering, time coordination, logistics and accommodation including a half day City tour.

At the Executive board meeting many matters related to administrative manual, awarding of Fellowships, treasury matters, journal matters & many more were discussed. It also decided to develop a new web site which the Deputy Secretary General Dr. Jaydeep tank will be attending to.



The APM was successful with almost all committee chairs participating and presenting their plans for future activities, which were discussed with the Executive Board members. It was emphasized to the Committee Chairs to conduct activities in different countries apart from their home country, and to consider developing countries where ever possible and to obtain the assistance from developed countries to carry out the activities.

We would appreciate very much if you would let us know if your country requires any activity done to enable us to direct it to the committee concerned to implement it. Kindly also let the secretariat know the

dates of your Annual Conferences early, to enable us to organise a workshop or a session in the conference or send speakers for any of the workshops or sessions you have planned. We have already been invited by FOGSI, RANZCOG, JSOG, OGSB to participate in their conferences and different committees have organised sessions in these conferences.

It was pointed out by the Editor in Chief Prof Kiyoko, that there is an increase in inappropriate writing and suggested to have workshops or sessions on scientific writing at the annual conferences of the member countries where we could discuss this issue and try to reduce inappropriate writing.

AOCOG 2017: A summarized report of AOCOG 2017, 25th Asian Oceanic Congress in Obstetrics & Gynecology which was held from 15th to 18th June in Hong Kong will be given as a separate news item.

Intensive course in Obstetric Emergencies (iCOE) has been conducted by Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society Of Malaysia(OGSM) , in association with the AOFOG.

Chittagong: iCOE was conducted in Chittagong, Bangladesh with the Obstetric & Gynaecology Society of Bangladesh, Chittagong branch, on the 16th& 17th of Sept 2017 at the Chittagong Medical Faculty. The faculty from OGSM included 5 doctors and a nursing sister under the leadership of OGSM President Dr. Thaneemalai Jeganathan and the AOFOG was represented by me. 28 trainees participated. There were 14 lectures and 8 breakup sessions and each session was divided into 3 groups where every participant had the opportunity to learn & practice the skill. There was a precourse assessment and the same assessment was carried out post course.

The entire programme was very intensive, with no time to rest and all the trainers and the trainees worked hard with commitment without a real break between sessions. Trainees not only gained knowledge and skills from the course but also learnt team work, record keeping & the importance of keeping to time. Everyone enjoyed the programme and



it was overall a success as shown by the marked improvement in the post course test. I wish to thank the OGSM team for conducting the course maintaining high standards and OGSB for their local hospitality.

Mongolia. Next iCOE programme was held on the 4th & 5th Oct 2017, in Selenge Aimag General Hospital Mongolia, 400 km away from Ulanbataar, Northern most point of Mongolia. The Faculty from the OGSM had 5 members and the AOFOG was represented by the President Dr. Ravi Chandran. There had been 17 participants for the course and 7 for the Training of the Trainers.



The programme had been very successful and appreciated by everybody in spite of the very cold weather and traveling difficulties.

Laos: Next iCOE training course is planned to be held in Vientiane, Laos from 14th the 18th of Nov 2017.

AOFOG participation at Conferences of Member Societies

SLCOG Golden Jubilee Congress 2017:

AOFOG was associated with FIGO & SAFOG in the SLCOG Golden Jubilee Congress which was held in Colombo from the 2nd to the 6th August 2017 in Colombo to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the SLCOG. President Dr. Ravi Chandran was a special invitee at the opening ceremony of the congress where the President of Sri Lanka was the chief Guest. Also Dr. Ravi Chandran was the Chief Guest at the Congress Banquet.



AOFOG conducted a plenary symposium on 'Minimally invasive Surgery - Tips & Tricks', Chaired by Dr. Ravi Chandran & Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa. Prof Masaki Mandai, Prof James Hsieh and Dr. Kurian Joseph were the speakers in the session which was well attended and greatly appreciated by the audience

WHO Maternal Death Surveillance & Response (MDSR) Technical Working Group (TWG).

Prof Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran stepped down from the WHO MDSR TEG and requested them to appoint AOFOG to the group. Ms Natalie Roos from the TWG invited AOFOG to join the group and appoint a representative. The President appointed me as the AOFOG representative. We sent a questionnaire to all the member societies to find the back ground information about the present status of MDSR among all our member countries and I am thankful to everyone for joining in the survey. This information will be presented at the WHO MDSR TWG meeting scheduled for the 8th& 9th of November 2017 in Geneva.

MDSR has shown to contribute to a reduction in Maternal mortality in countries where it is being practiced. So after the November meeting we will try to plan out how AOFOG could assist countries who wish to implement MDSR.

Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH)

A project proposal is being drafted on, “ Improving Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH) in the Asia Oceania” region with the assistance of Prof Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran. We hope to finalise it soon.

Finally I wish to request you to kindly inform the secretariat,

1. Changes in the Office Bearers in your National Society, Council members, contact details
2. The dates of your Annual Conference
3. Any activity you would like AOFOG to carry out in your country
4. How your Society could assist AOFOG in carrying out academic activities in your country

Further I would like to kindly request all the member societies to kindly disseminate all the relevant information you receive from the AOFOG to your membership who are members of the AOFOG through your society. If you are finding it difficult to send them to the membership, AOFOG Secretariat could assist you to send them to your membership if you could kindly send us the contact details of the membership.

Also I would like everyone to respond to the mails without delay even acknowledging receipt will be greatly appreciated.

My Contact details are e-mail: rohana@aofog.net , rohana@ninelwellscare.com

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Looking forward to working together

Rohana

**Dr.Rohana Haththotuwa
Secretary General AOFOG**

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

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.



AOCOG 2017

It was a great privilege for the O&G Society of Hong Kong to host the 25th Asian and Oceanic Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (AOCOG) on 15-18th June this year. This opportunity was particularly precious as it arrived 30 years after we last hosted this meeting in 1987.

The Congress was themed ‘Unity and Sharing: for a better future in women’s health’. To tie in with this theme, the Congress was preceded by the Young Gynaecologists Award (YGA) Fellowship program, involving 24 distinguished YGA Fellows from 18 National Societies. During the program, they had the opportunity of attachment in one O&G sub-specialty service of their choice in Hong Kong, as well as to pay visit to various health organisations including the Maternity and Child Health Clinic, Chinese Medicine clinic and the Shenzhen Hong Kong University Hospital in mainland China. This program was rated a great success by the YGAs. It is hoped that through the interaction and sharing of experience, they will bring home not only the practical knowledge but also insights and friendship that would benefit their future career.

The pre-Congress Workshop was another day worth mentioning. With the help of the Committee Chairs of AOFOG, a total of 9 workshops were arranged and they were all well attended.

The President’s lecture by Professor Joo-Hyun Nam has marked the start of the 3 days’ Congress. Other plenary speakers include Professors Sabaratnam Arulkumaran, Rohit Bhatt, Mat Brännström, Khalid Khan, Ikuo Konishi, Dennis Lo, Hextan Ngan and Chittaranjan Narahari Purandare. In addition, various international associations have organized named Symposia that have enriched our scientific program, including the

Asian Society of Gynecologic

Oncology (ASGO), Asian Gynecologic Oncology Group (AGOG), Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction (ASPIRE), Asia Pacific Urogynecological Association (APUGA), International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO), World Health Organisation (WHO), South Asia Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (SAFOG) and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG). We have also invited other distinguished international and regional experts to cover different areas that are pertinent to the clinical practice of the audience.





The Congress has attracted over 1,100 delegates, from over 40 countries to attend. I sincerely hope the attendees have enjoyed their time in Hong Kong. Lastly, I would like to thank the Executive Board Members, Committee Chairs and the sister societies of AOFOG for their support, guidance and collaboration.

Dr T N Danny Leung

President, AOCOG 2017

KSGO-AOFOG Young Doctor Invitation Program

The Korean Society of Gynecologic Oncology (KSGO) successfully finished 1st KSGO-AOFOG Young Gynecologic Oncologists Invitation Program. The program had been designed in hopes to broaden the perspectives of young medical professionals of AOFOG member countries. It provided applicants good opportunities to have diverse experiences in advanced medicine in excellent university hospitals and to network with other professionals in the field of gynecologic oncology. AOFOG advertised this program to the member societies to receive applications.

The program took place November 3-8th, 2017 in Seoul, Korea. During the period, each participant made educational visits to the five distinguished hospitals (Seoul National University Hospital, Asan Medical Center, Samsung Medical Center, Seoul St. Mary's Hospital, Ewha Medical Center). Thereafter, participants attended the KSGO Annual Symposium and social events on November 9-10th, 2017.

The awardees were doctors from Indonesia (Pungky Mulawardhana), Laos (Sisouvanh Xayavong), Malaysia (Micheal Lim and Mohamad nasir Shaiffee) and Singapore (Weng Yan Ho). They very much enjoyed both training program in individual hospitals and friendship with Korean colleagues making wonderful memories.

An MOU is being considered between the KSGO and AOFOG to explore the possibility of continuing this programme on an annual basis.



Future Activities

17th - 21st January 2018 - 61st All India Congress of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (AICOG) - Bhubaneswar, India. <http://www.aicog2018.org>

23 - 25 February 2018 SOGP 17th Biennial International Conference. <http://new.sogp.org/conference>

17 - 18 March 2018 57th Annual Congress of TAOG, Kaohsiung, Taiwan. Contact: taogintl@gmail.com

22 - 24 March 2018 RCOG World Congress. <http://web.rcog2018.com/client/sites/view/SP4cb78>

11 - 13 April 2018 FIGO Regional Conference Middle East / Africa <http://figodubai2018.com>

10 - 13 May 2018 70th Annual Congress of the JSOG, Sendai, Japan. Contact: jsog70@mac.jp

1 -3 June 2018 FOGSI Women's Health Summit. Contact: drjaydeetank@me.com

7th June 2018 - Council Meeting AOFOG - Kathmandu, Nepal

26 -29 July 2018 Malaysian International Scientific Congress of O&G, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Contact: secretariat@miscog2018.org

10th - 14th October 2018 - XXII FIGO World Congress of Gynaecology and Obstetrics - Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. <https://figo2018.org>

Contact us at

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