

The First General Assembly of the Asian Federation of Organizations for Cancer Research and Control (AFOCC)

On September 22, 1973 in Shima, Miye Prefecture, Japan with about 60 participants representing 14 countries in Asia, the establishment of the Asian Federation of Organizations for Cancer Research and Control was proposed right after the Inauguration Speech of Dr. K. Oota. Dr. K. Shanmugaratnam (Singapore) was elected as Chairman and Dr. T. Hirayama as Secretary. Dr. D.J. Jussawalla expressed his views about the necessity of the formation of a Federation to promote cancer research and control in Asia and proposed as follows:

1. note with concern that cancer has become as serious public health problem in Asia,
2. feel a pressing need for greater collaboration between Asian workers and organizations devoted to the campaign against cancer, and
3. resolve unanimously that an AFOCC be formed to promote all aspects of the campaign against cancer in Asian countries, and that the draft constitution (appended) be adopted.

The Constitution of the AFOCC was discussed Article by Article. The group unanimously adopted the following Constitution which was finalized after intensive discussion lasting full two hours.

On December 5th, 1979 in Bombay, India, the 4th Asian Cancer Conference chaired by Dr. D.J. Jussawalla was successfully held and the name of the Federation (Article I: 1) was proposed to be the Asian and Pacific Federation of Organizations for Cancer Research and Control (APFOCC) and unanimously agreed.

On September 16th, 1987 in Seoul, Korea, the 8th APFOCC chaired by Dr. J.P. Kim was held and newly made Federation Flag with logo mark was unanimously approved by the members of the General Assembly.

CONSTITUTION

Article I: NAME, STATUS AND HEADQUARTERS

1. The name of the organization shall be the Asian Federation of Organizations for Cancer Research and Control (hereinafter called AFOCC)
2. The AFOCC is a non-political, non-sectarian and non-profit organization.
3. The office of the AFOCC shall be, for the time being, in Tokyo

Article II: OBJECTIVE

The objective of the AFOCC is to promote research and all other aspects of the campaign against cancer in Asian countries.

Article III: ACTIVITIES

In order to achieve its objective the AFOCC may:

1. assist in the exchange of information among member organizations and individual workers.
2. facilitate the exchange of workers between Asian countries,
3. collaborate with other organizations devoted to any aspect of the campaign against cancer, and/or
4. engage in such other activities as may be required to attain its objective.

Article IV: MEMBERSHIP

The AFOCC is composed of organizations in Asia that are engaged in any aspect of the campaign against cancer. Constituent organizations are admitted to the AFOCC by the General Assembly. Membership is open to:

1. full members of the UICC (Union Internationale Contre le Cancer/International Union Against Cancer) in Asia,
2. associate members of the UICC in Asia, and
3. other organizations in Asia approved by the General Assembly.

Article V: ORGANIZATION

The work of the AFOCC shall be carried out by:

1. the General Assembly, which consists of one delegate from each of the member organizations and is the supreme governing body of the AFOCC. Meetings of the General Assembly are held approximately once every two years, immediately preceding a scientific meeting. One-fourth of delegates shall constitute a quorum at meetings of the General Assembly.

2. the Executive Committee, which is elected by the General Assembly and conducts the affairs of the AFOCC. The Executive Committee consists of five members – a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and three members. No more than two members of the Executive Committee may be from any one country. The Executive Committee shall elect one of its members to act as Secretary/Treasurer. The Chairman shall represent the AFOCC whenever necessary; he may delegate his duties to the Vice-Chairman. Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected for a term of approximately two years; they may be elected for additional terms. Three members, including the Chairman or Vice-Chairman, shall constitute a quorum at meetings of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee has powers to fill casual vacancies and to appoint subcommittees.

Article VI: FINANCES

The expenses of the AFOCC shall be met by subscriptions and contributions of member organizations and by any grants or donations that are accepted by the Executive Committee.

Article VII: AMENDMENTS OF THE CONSTITUTION

Proposals for amendments of the Constitution may be submitted in writing to the Secretary not less than four months before a meeting of the General Assembly. These proposals shall be mailed by air to all delegates at least three months before the meeting. A two-thirds vote of delegates present at the meeting of the General Assembly is necessary for adoption.

Article VIII: DISSOLUTION

The dissolution of the AFOCC requires the approval of two-thirds of delegates at the meeting of the General Assembly. In the event of dissolution the Assembly shall designate one or more trustees charged with the liquidation of the AFOCC's assets. The net assets shall be donated to one or more non-profit organizations engaged in the campaign against cancer.

The General Assembly elected following members of Executive Committee.

Dr. K. Ota (Japan) (Chairman)
Dr. D.J. Jussawalla (India) (Vice-Chairman)
Dr. T. Hirayama (Japan)
Dr. Sadarto Pringgoutomo (Indonesia)
Mr. F.K.E. Yin (Singapore)

