



AGENDA ITEM NO:

TITLE OF THE REPORT: President's Report

OFFICER NAME AND IFLA POSITION: Takano Fumiaki / President of IFLA APR

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To update the Regional Council on the progress and work done by President in Dec 2019 /Aug 2020.

SUMMARY OF THE REPORT (UP TO 100 WORDS)

I promised full support for the continuation of the projects that had been initiated by Mr. Damian. He has done a great job of developing those tasks. What I proposed as a new project is the solicitation of non-member countries in Asia to join IFLAAPR and create the network of internship systems in Asia. We are starting to get a positive response. Due to the corona epidemic, the 2020 World Congress was postponed to 2021, and it took time to re-adjust matters previously set. With the cooperation of each country, a new venue has been decided.

REPORT

1. Background

I became president of IFLA APR from December 2019. In a short period, the Earth has faced many fluctuations. Australia's forest fires have continued to burn like never before, and before they have subsided, the coronavirus outbreak has spread tremendously around the world and is still uncertain. The damage of grasshoppers in Africa and the Middle East has also been overwhelming and has had a significant impact on the food situation in African countries. And in contrast to the dry weather conditions contributing to the Australian forest fires, India, Bangladesh, China, and Japan have experienced unprecedented heavy rainfall damage. It is far beyond the scale of the past.

It can be said that abnormal weather caused by global warming and the imbalance between nature and human society are causing such situations. This crisis has been building for a long time, but now it can be said that its effects have entered the stage of being one step above the crisis stage.

These problems can no longer be dealt with by the power of just one country; I can't do it alone even in my specialty. The need for more countries, disciplines, organisations, and a wide range of generations to work together is urgently upon us to build that platform.

2. Reschedule of the IFLA World and APR Congresses.

Initially, the IFLA World and APR Congresses were scheduled as follows.

2020 World and APR Congress Malaysia Penang by ILAM

2021 World Congress Kenya, Sweden; APR Congress Japan by JLAU

2022 World and APR Congress South Korea by KILA

2023 World Congress Turkey; APR Congress Taiwan by CTLAS

But the congress of 2020 in Penang Malaysia has been canceled due to the corona epidemic, and it was postponed to 2021. We had to defer for one year and started to adjust the schedule accordingly. As a result, the IFLA World schedule was fixed first. Then the table was finalised and coordinated with each APR group as follows below. All schedules are not merely delayed by one year due to the circumstances of each associations; it took time to adjust, but we manage to put together the best sequence through the cooperation of related associations. It will be even more important from now on to find solutions with consideration for these respective positions.



2020 WEB meeting is scheduled

2021 Malaysia Penang: World and APR Congress ILAM

2022 South Korea: World and APR Congress KILA

2023 Kenya, Sweden: World Congress; APR Congress: Japan JLAU

2024 Turkey: World Congress; APR Congress: Taiwan CTLAS

3. Changes due to the Pandemic

Many conferences were postponed due to the influence of the Pandemic. However, some of them were rescheduled online in many countries, as follows, developing new forums for exchanging opinions and holding discussions.

1) East Japan Big Earthquake 2011 Recovery visit symposium

The 2011 Tohoku region of Japan suffered an earthquake and an accompanying tsunami. Exchanges of opinion with residents and researchers, workshops and lectures were planned for March 2019, after seeing the footsteps of the disaster recovery. It was sponsored by Shinshu University, and organised by Professor Uehara, who is chairman of the IFLA APR Climate Change committee and delegate of Japan. We planned to invite Ms. Kotchakorn, chairwoman of the Landscape without Borders committee from Thailand and Mr. Nappy Navarra, delegate of the Philippines. But unfortunately, due to the influence of corona, the symposium was canceled.

2) Symposium in Malaysia

Malaysia is the first country to make a move when the world is stagnant under the influence of the Pandemic. ILAM organised a series of On-Line symposia. On May 3rd, I was invited to join one on "Reforming Landscape Architecture Practice Post Pandemic." I had an opportunity to talk about the theme. This initiative by Malaysia was not only in-house but also in communication with many Asian colleagues which showed the possibilities and encouraged us.

3) Landscape Architect without borders activities

Ms Kotchakorn, Chairwoman of Landscape Architect without Borders made a wonderful VDO. The title is "REMAINING A POST-COVID WORLD WITH 14 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS ACROSS ASIA-PACIFIC". 14 APR member organisation delegates contributed. It is the first attempt to send a strong message of unity to the world and spread the network of our profession. I am glad that these kinds of movements started voluntarily from the younger generation.

4. An invitation to non-member countries

1) Purpose

IFLA APR is currently composed of 14 organisations from our region. However, there are still more than 25 countries (including island countries in the South Pacific) that have not joined yet. Now that we are confronting global warming and extreme weather, etc., we should work together as much as we can and if possible, we should not leave any country behind.

The islands of the South Pacific are facing a significant phase due to sea-level rise, many developing countries are working towards a plan for the future; it is very important that Landscape Architects participate from the initial stages. However, in many countries Landscape Architects as important professionals, and the existence of its global organisation IFLA is not known. It is important to work together to maintain a sustainable earth.



2) Process

What kind of organisations are in non-member countries, and where can we contact them?
The following work began without knowing where to find this information.

Step 1: Identify

This list comprises non-member countries:

East Asia: Mongolia, North Korea.	2 countries
Southeast Asia: Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam.	4 countries
South Asia: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan.	5 countries
Central Asia: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz, Tadjikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan.	5 countries
Oceania: Micronesia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Vanuatu, Palau, East Timor, and more	10 countries

More than **26** countries

Step 2 Contact

As a second step, we started contacting embassies of each country in Tokyo, to tell them of our intentions, ask for their interest, and then send them an invitation officially in writing. The content of IFLA activities and the role of IFLA APR was communicated.

Step 3 Reaction

Embassy activities are slowing down due to the influence of corona, and all the reactions are yet to come, but we have the following to report:

A: The following countries are showing a keen interest and interviews and opinions exchanged with ambassadors (Tonga, Palau) has started: Tonga, Palau, East Timor, Samoa.

4 countries

B: The following countries are showing interest, and we found a contact person; the meeting will be arranged soon: Laos, Vietnam, Myanmar, Vietnam, Cambodia, Bhutan, Maldives, Turkmenistan.

8 countries

C: Waiting for a reply from the embassy:

East Asia: Mongolia, North Korea,	2 countries
South Asia: Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan,	3 countries
Central Asia: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz, Tadjikistan, Uzbekistan	4 countries
Oceania: Micronesia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Island, Vanuatu	5 countries

14 countries



Detail information with countries that have responded positively

- **Kingdom of Tonga:**
I was able to meet Mr. Ambassador, T. Suka Mangisi, directly. He is very interested in IFLA's activities and is interested in joining.
The extreme weather, sea level rise, earthquakes, tsunamis, and marine pollution associated with global warming have been serious issues and they have shown a strong interest in global efforts. After being contacted with the home country, he will act as a key person for the ambassador himself and will introduce human resources in related fields.
We are in the process of coordinating them to participate as an observer at the IFLA APR virtual meeting on August 21st.
- **Republic of Palau:**
We had an online meeting with Ambassador Mr. Francis M. Matsutaro. This country has the same interests as Tonga and the Ambassador will lead the project himself. His son studied Urban Design at the University of Hawaii, attended an international conference on global warming on behalf of Palau, and met the right people. He will introduce people in related fields. In December, there was talk about the Ocean World conference to be scheduled for PALAU, and if so we would like to participate in it. Ambassador Matsutaro will return to Palau in December after finishing his term in Japan. Perhaps he can continue to have an impact on activity in his home country.
- **East Timor, Timor-Leste:**
A wonderful community project was undertaken there, managed by former president Damian Tang. IFLA is already known in Project Sidara, so it seems that deployment from that network is possible.
- **Turkmenistan:**
A web meeting is scheduled for 1st week of August
- **Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia:**
Tamotsu Kiyohito's personal network already has a potential KEY person, and we're starting to get in touch. Some of them have participated in the IFLA Conference in Thailand as individual members so far, so it is highly possible.

At this stage, we are starting to get in touch with seven countries. We look forward to further dialogue with the rest of the world. If you are a member and would like to know someone individually, please cooperate.

Countries plan to contact universities

Countries where there is information on universities related to Landscape Architecture other than the embassy and contacts are being coordinated: Mongolia, Vietnam, Laos, Pakistan, Bangladesh, 5 countries



5. Creating a network of the Internship programme in Asia Pacific Region

1) Purpose

As we all know, it is very important to gain a variety of experiences when we are young. In particular, different cultures and different natural environments would provide us with an important framework to be a good landscape architect. IFLA APR will provide an online platform where design firms can register details, and prospective applicants can select offices to apply for. Through this programme, we would like to achieve the following objectives:

- Experience different cultures and nurture mutual understandings
- Build a wider landscape community among people with different backgrounds
- Explore landscape designs/ideas that originated in Asia and the Pacific region
- Provide opportunities for hands-on experience and to understand cultural wisdom and knowledge

We are currently facing unprecedented challenges, including bushfires in Australia and the spread of Coronavirus all over the world, floods in India, Bangladesh, China, Japan, as well as global warming and climate changes. The scales of these challenges are exceeding our capacity as landscape architects. However, we should always remember to help each other and step forward together. We wish that this platform would nurture such a spirit among applicants.

Another objective that I would like to mention here is finding landscape designs unique to Asia and the Pacific region. Recently, younger generations with international experience have returned to their home countries and started to develop their own landscape languages, which are internationally highly recognised.

We can further push this current by encouraging applicants to build broader connections and be inspired by others and other cultures. We will send a letter to all of the delegates of each member country to get the names of firms or organisations which are willing to support this programme.

List of Japanese companies that had expressed interest in the internship programme

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Yoshiki Toda Landscape & Architect Co., Ltd | Yoshiki Toda |
| 2. E-Design | Hiroki Kutsuna |
| 3. LANDSCAPE PLUS LTD | Tatsuya Hiraga |
| 4. Studio on site | Hiroki Hasegawa |
| 5. Lose co., ltd. Tokyo Office | Kiyohito Tamotsu |
| 6. Takano Landscape Planning co, LTD | Norihiro Kanekiyo |
| 7. Other: Consultants Environmental Design Institute | Saori Yokomichi |

I am hoping to receive more office participation in the internship programme. Please refer to the Annex 1 - sample form for expression of interest.

This programme will be jointly coordinated and link to the network of YLAA which was initiated by the IFLA APR Immediate-Past President, Damian Tang,



About eight months have passed since I became President of APR. Fortunately, former President Damian Tang remains as a chair of the Finance and Business Planning committee and continues with the following projects which he had started:

- IFLA AAPME 2020,
- Moving toward Legal Entity Setup,
- Business Development Plan for Webinars and Digital Future
- Hosting (congress) guidelines for IFLA APR/AAPME Awards Partnership
- YLAA engagement and the way forward

Assoc. Prof. Mike Barthelmeh also continues his work as Honorary Secretary and Prof. Kuang-Yu Wang as the Treasurer. I would like to thank both for supporting my duties as a new president.

We also like to thank the chairs of the committees and task forces, and members of ILAM who coordinated the schedule, and all the other members involved.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS (MOTIONS TO VOTE):

This report has no motions to vote. It recommends that the Council approves and adopts the report.

7. APPENDIXES (ATTACHED):

Annex 1 – Sample Form – Expression of Interest in Internship Programme

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Annex 1: Sample Form – Expression of Interest in Internship Programme

Detail condition of the internship programme is basically up to each firm

If firms/offices are interested, please provide the following details.

Name of Organisation

Address

HP Address

**Contact Person
Name**

Email Address

Phone Number

Conditions:

Internship Period

Work Hours

Types of Work



Financial Support

Language

Required skills

Accommodation arrangements

Photos (Office building, workspace, etc.)