



APMLA

ASIA PACIFIC MEDICO LEGAL AGENCIES

E-Newsletter
Volume 4 Issue 2



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Editorial

Festive greetings to all friends and colleagues. Quite a lot has been happening this quarter for the APMLA members, particularly the World Forensic Festival where the APMLA General Meeting and training programme were held. There were so many great sessions to choose from the congress held from 12-18 October 2014 in Seoul, Republic of Korea that it were hard to decide which ones to attend. We were delighted to see many of the members joining us in the General Meeting and the Mass Casualties Management Training Programme that proved overwhelming responses from Asia-Pacific, Interpol, EU and North American participants. The formal presentations and discussion on the medico legal and DVI systems in the Asia-Pacific countries were utterly informative and we look forward to share those information on the website and E-newsletter. We also had a blast during the training, with a buzz during the outdoor exploration of the cutting-age equipments to the hands-on use of the MIM software. It was also once in a life time opportunity to have a privilege excursion into the Incheon airport. You can read more about the AGM Minutes and the training activities on page 8. The photos have already graced the WFF website and some were shown here.

We would like to extend warm congratulations to Dr. Nak-Eun Chung as the elected APMLA Chair for another year. Grateful thanks are extended to the WFF and Korean staff who had dedicated their time and effort to organise the training for us, oh, and the lively and joyous APMLA dinner too.

In this issue you will find news from the ICRC and the IALM. On the academic side please go to page 19 for the ICRC review guidelines on deaths in custody.

Last but not least, the APMLA is growing up—we formally became institutionalised and our members are expanding. You can find the list of the forensic agencies that have been approved by the Committee as formal APMLA members in the AGM Minutes. Those who have not yet sent the application forms please find it on the last page of this newsletter. Dr. Elizabeth Manning is awaiting your application form at elizabeth.manning@vifm.org.

Please continuously support the APMLA network by sharing your local and international news, experience, knowledge on DVI operations and other forensic humanitarian issues via the APMLA.net or the E-newsletter.

Editorial

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Dear APMLA members and colleagues

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to you for your very active participation in the WFF2014 and APMLA workshop in South Korea in October this year. We hope that you found the conference informative and worthwhile. The primary goal of this conference was to bring together global DVI leaders and professionals as well as friends and partners of APMLA from around the world in an open dialogue, under one roof to address the issues regarding the disaster victim identification in Asia-Pacific region. We also wanted to develop possible strategies to address these challenges. I really appreciate the fact that you all shared your knowledge and insight about the roles and responsibilities that accompany the responsibility we all share. Our meeting has convinced me that we will thrive in a collaborative environment.



Our coalition will greatly appreciate your support in ensuring that the cooperative assistance in disaster victim identification will be available to all nations that need it – especially the people living in the Asia-Pacific region. On behalf of all our members and the millions of citizens they represent, I want to thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to discuss this important matter. Your presence helped to make this event a great success and your enthusiasm and positive spirit helped make our time together both productive and fun. I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for their guidance and financial support throughout the process. Their help was vital in making the APMLA workshop such a success.

Currently we are getting a number of collaboration requests from many other organizations. We will make every effort to achieve long-term sustainable relationships with relevant groups. We wish you all the best and hope that you continue to be engaged with the APMLA. We believe your participation is an asset to our organization. Stay tuned for upcoming events by visiting www.apmla.net.



APMLA
Asia-Pacific Medico-Legal Association



Sincerely,
Nak-Eun Chung
Chairperson
Asia-Pacific Medico-Legal Agency

Korean News

In November 2014, the South Korean National Forensic Service (**NFS**) undertook a special mission to investigate Korean tourists reported missing in the Philippines. The Interpol section of the Korea National Police Agency liaised with the Philippines Police to get agreement for the excavation and investigation of the possible burial site of the missing Koreans. Four members of the Korean DVI team, which included Dr Nak-Eun Chung, an anthropologist, an investigator, and an engineer for ground penetrating radar equipment participated in the mission.





ICRC

ICRC News SE Asia and the Pacific

In the year to November 2014, the ICRC has conducted several missions and it has been in contact with key interlocutors and stakeholders in the region.

Malaysia: The ICRC participated in the National Convention of Forensic Medicine and Sciences in Kuantan in September, meeting the relevant Malaysian forensic experts and understanding the current situation for the management of the dead in disasters from the local experts' perspective (such as the recent disaster with MH17 in Ukraine).

Thailand: The ICRC also conducted a follow up mission in Thailand in September, meeting representatives of the Central Institute of Forensic Science and the Royal Thai Police, to discuss current activities for the management of the dead in disasters and the identification of human remains

South Korea workshops: The ICRC participated in the IAFS Meeting in Seoul, Republic of Korea in October, through the provision of an ICRC Workshop for the Management of the Dead in in Conflict and Catastrophes. The ICRC also participated in the Asia Pacific Medico Legal Association (APMLA) workshop and annual meeting. The ICRC sponsored the attendance at this meeting of national experts from Timor Leste, Papa New Guinea, Fiji, the Philippines, Myanmar and Cambodia.

Figure : ICRC Training in Dili, Timor Leste





ICRC

Timor Leste: The ICRC conducted a two-day workshop at Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste (CVTL) in Dili, Timor Leste in November with the participation of 18 persons from several agencies (CVTL, PNTL, FFTL, Bomberos, Ministry of Health, Civil Protection, MDMD)



China: The ICRC is also organizing dissemination sessions for the management of the dead during the ICRC Health in Emergencies for Large Populations Course (HELP) in Shenzhen, China.

Indonesia: In Indonesia, the ICRC is working together with the DVI Police, National Society (PMI), and government agencies to improve the capacity response, review national guidelines and plan training activities for the management of the dead in disasters.

Andres Patino

ICRC Regional Forensic Advisor

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ICRC

ICRC South Asia News

Afghanistan

During 2014, the ICRC held four workshops throughout Afghanistan for Afghan Red Crescent volunteers and contracted drivers in the proper and dignified collection and transport of casualties related to the conflict. ICRC Regional Forensic Coordinator, Cheryl Katzmarzyk delivered presentations and engaged the participants in a recovery exercise as part of a capacity building exercise in Management of the Dead. The workshops were held in Kabul, Jalalabad and Kandahar



Figure : The Afghan Red Crescent volunteers and contracted drivers participated in the ICRC workshop



Pakistan

The 9th Management of the Dead Course in Pakistan, organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross, was held in Islamabad from November 24 to 28. It was well attended by many disaster response stakeholders, including representatives from the Pakistan Red Crescent Society, National Disaster Management Authority, Pakistan Army, Civil Defense, Islamabad Capital Police, Deputy Commissioner's Office, Rescue 1122, AAPNA Institute of Public Health, Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences, Capital Development Authority- CARES, Federal Government Polyclinic, Punjab Forensic Science Agency, Falah-e-Insaniyat, Pawinda Water Rescue, Al Khidmat Foundation, and the Edhi Foundation. The course was held in a multidisciplinary training environment that emphasized the common objectives of a mass fatality response. It included a combination of presentations and case studies by national stakeholders, table-top and field exercises to illustrate key aspects of Management of the Dead



ICRC

The ICRC also delivered the 3rd Management of the Dead Course in Bangladesh from December 7 to 11th. Participants included representatives from the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Fire Service & Civil Defense, Bangladesh Border Guard, Bangladesh Coast Guard, Deputy Commissioner's Office, Anjuman Mufidil Islam and other organizations. The training included presentations from organizations involved in responding to situations of mass casualties and multiple exercises on the recovery, transport and identification of the dead.

New Regional Coordinator appointed

It is with pleasure that the ICRC announces a third Regional Forensic Coordinator position in Asia. Ms. Shuala Martin Drawdy joined the team in November. She is based in Colombo, Sri Lanka and will be covering Sri Lanka, India, Nepal and Bangladesh. Cheryl Katzmarzyk will remain as the Regional Forensic Coordinator for Pakistan and Afghanistan

Cheryl Katzmarzyk
Regional Forensic Coordinator International
Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)



Figure : Ms. Shuala Martin Drawdy recently joined the ICRC in November as the Regional Forensic Coordinator



APMLA

ASIA PACIFIC MEDICO LEGAL AGENCIES

Minutes of the APMLA Annual Meeting Friday 17 October 2014, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Time: 17.30 – 18.30 pm

Venue: Grand Ballroom 105 (1F)

Quorum: Established

Items:

1. Opening and welcome Chair Dr Nak-Eun Chung

Dr Nak-Eun Chung welcomed attendees and said it was very pleasing to see so many attendees.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Dr Bhupinder Singh from Malaysia. There were no other apologies.

3. Minutes of previous meeting Kuala Lumpur Malaysia 6 October 2013

The minutes from the previous meeting in Malaysia had been circulated to members and were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

4. Business arising from minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. Correspondence

No correspondence had been received.

6. APMLA Constitution

Dr Nak-Eun Chung advised that the APMLA Constitution (as circulated and agreed on earlier) had been registered in Republic of Korea. Accordingly APMLA institutional membership forms had been sent out and made available at this meeting.

7. Membership applications

A total of 16 membership applications were received from the following institutions and approved by the Executive Committee:

- Central Institute of Forensic Science, Thailand
- Department of Forensic Medicine, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka
- Department of Forensic Pathology, Tongji Medical College, Wuhan, China
- Department of Legal Medicine, Keio University, Japan
- Forensic Pathology Department, Port Moresby General Hospital, Papua New Guinea
- Forensic Science Service, Fiji Police Force, Fiji

- National Bureau of Investigation, Manila, Philippines
- National Forensic Service, Seoul, South Korea
- National Institute of Forensic Medicine, Malaysia
- National Police, Timor Leste
- North Colombo Teaching Hospital, Sri Lanka
- Phnom Penh Health Department, Cambodia
- Police Medical Department, Indonesian National Police, Indonesia
- University of Medicine, Mandalay, Myanmar
- Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine, Australia
- Yenepoya University, Mangalore, India

8. Election of Executive positions

In accordance with the Constitution two of the Executive Committee members stood down, these were Professor Stephen Cordner (Australia) and Dr Panjai Woharndee (Thailand).

APMLA Chair Dr Nak-Eun Chung (Korea) remains Chair until the 2016 AGM.

Dr Anton Castilani (Indonesia) continues as an Executive Committee member.

Dr Mohd Shah Mahmood (Malaysia) accepted a nomination for the Deputy Chair position and as there were no other nominations was appointed to this role.

Dr Panjai Woharndee (Thailand) was nominated for the role of Secretary/Newsletter Editor and accepted the nomination. As there were no other nominations Dr Woharndee was appointed to this role.

Dr James Kalougivaki (Fiji), Dr Porntip Rojanasunan (Thailand-not in attendance but advised acceptance earlier if nominated), Dr Mario Iino (Japan) and Dr Vina Vishkanya (India) also accepted nominations.

9. Other Business:

There were some discussions about the geographic area eligibility for Asia Pacific Medico Legal Agencies (APMLA) membership with the Committee advising that while Middle Eastern nations and African nations were not eligible for membership institutional representatives from these regions are welcome to attend meetings and to receive the APMLA Newsletters.

The ICRC was thanked for supporting the travels of many representatives of forensic medical institutions in the South and South East Asia and Pacific regions to attend.

Dr Miyata (Japan) asked a question about the eligibility of the Japanese Red Cross. This question was taken on notice and was later clarified with Dr Miyata as per the APMLA Constitution below, and that therefore hospitals providing these services would be the appropriate organisations to apply.

6.2.2.4 Members shall be organisations, agencies or government entities that provide forensic medical services or in relation to countries where there is no such entity, individual clinicians who provide forensic medical services through a non-government organisation or the private sector

Dr A. Edirisinghe advised that APMLA members would be welcome to apply to attend training in the medico-legal investigation of sexual violence being run in Sri Lanka in 2015 (at no charge). More details on this will be provided in the APMLA newsletter.

The CIFS is hosting a forensic anthropology training course by the EAAF in Bangkok in February 2015 and will make details known to APMLA members through the newsletter.

ICRC Forensic Coordinator for SE Asia Andres Patino encouraged the APMLA to undertake practical activities such as sharing training, knowledge and resources.

APMLA members were encouraged to use the APMLA newsletter and website as vehicles for letting their colleagues know about the relevant activities and events of interest to other members.

Dr Chung was thanked for his great work as the Founding Chair of the APMLA in getting the Constitution registered, establishing the APMLA website, organising and hosting the APMLA one day programme and dinner and most especially for organising the DVI exercise and MIM DVI software demonstration at the Incheon airport.

10. Next APMLA Meeting

There was some discussion about the date and venue for the 2015 APMLA meeting, with the possibility of it being held at the AFSN meeting in Beijing in October 2015 as one option. It was further proposed by Professor Cordner that AMPLA annual meetings should always include a training activity. The Committee agreed to get back to members with a date and place in the next APMLA newsletter.



Assumption of Situation:

1. Oct. 5th 2014, a plane gets blown while attempting to land.
2. Passenger Status: Total 250 people from 15 different countries (230 passengers + 20 cabin crew)



Field Set-up:

- An emergency headquarters will be established at the scene of the accident,
- The scene is first processed by emergency response team,
- Investigation of the scene, examination and excavation of the bodies, and collection of the evidence are processed accordingly.
- Korea DVI set up the temporary morgue nearby the airport for follow up management and takes part in victim managements.

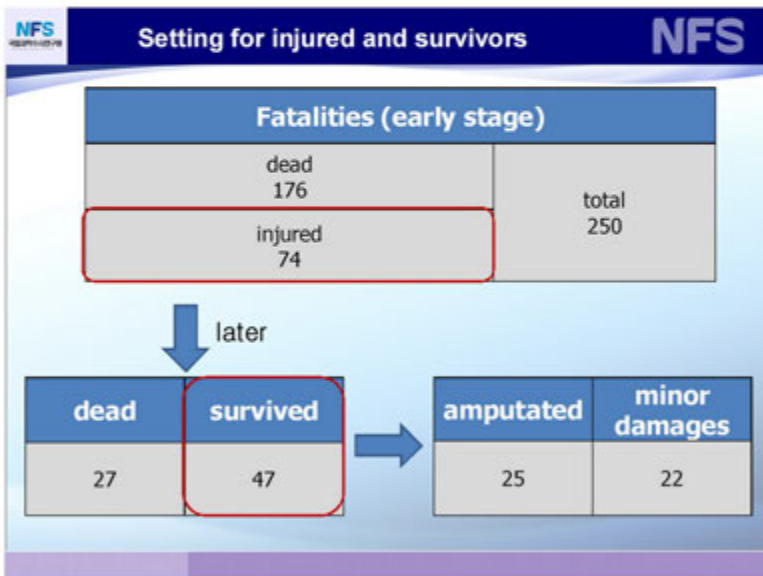
Commissioning Procedure of Korea DVI & International DVI:

1. A passenger list for each country will be sent to the DVI team of the corresponding country including a brief description of the accident by an emergency headquarters.
2. Based on the passenger list,
3. The DVI team of the corresponding country collects AM data based on the list of passengers.
4. Each DVI team joins the international-corporate DVI team for further identification.
5. Perform the identification work.
6. Take follow-up measures, such as repatriation of the bodies, after positive identification of the victims.

Setting for injured and survivors:

1. Among 74 injured: 27 people died during hospital care.

Overall, 47 people survived (25 complete amputation + 22 minor damage).



2. Collect DNA samples from buccal swap or blood (consent form is required for each victim); this is necessary for reconstructing bodies found at the scene.

Setting for unidentified victims:

Death toll	
early 176	total 203 person
later 27	

Status of Postmortem (PM) specimens	
large bodies	120 case
parts of bodies	150 case
human remains	400 case

PM Data (the data listed below will be used as a substitute of real data);

1. Physical information; Based mainly on accident occurred in Daegu and Icheon (possibly Gimhae case).
2. Dental record; Based mainly on accident occurred in Daegu and Icheon (possibly Gimhae case).
3. Fingerprints; Based mainly on Icheon case (if more fingerprints data is needed, consult on police agency and collect data from our colleagues)
4. Personal effects data; Entirely from Daegu case.
5. DNA data; From Daegu and Icheon case (Daegu case has 15 loci + amelogenin while Icheon case has loci of 17 + amelogenin).

AM Data (the data stated below will be used as a substitute of real data);

All data except personal effects will be based on the case from Daegu and Icheon. The information regarding personal effects will be entirely from Daegu case.

Things to consider:

1. Installation of temporary morgue; all kinds of the scene excavation system, the filming equipment and the facilities for the corpse will be placed at Incheon airport.
2. A situation room and General Victim Identification Center will be established at Human Resource Developmental Center and Incheon International Airport Corporation located near Incheon International Airport.

Victim Identification Process;

1. Virtual PM data is prepared in advance.
2. Virtual AM data is prepared in advance and sent to the corresponding countries.
3. Each DVI unit with their given AM data joins the international corporate DVI unit.
4. Establishment of AM data.
5. Establishment of PM data.
6. Screening of unidentified victim using MIM system.
7. Reconciliation process by experts from various countries.
8. Confirmation of identification and transfer of bodies.
9. Repatriation of bodies.
10. Overall analysis and discussion.

***Including a Certificate form of identity, a consent form and several other kinds of forms are required to process the human remains, personal effects, sample collection and/or cremation.

*During the training program, all sorts of the supplement, equipment and even security tags in the temporary morgue must be inspected closely.

*"New Horizon in
Forensic Sciences"*

WORLD FORENSIC FESTIVAL

October 12 (Sun)~18 (Sat), 2014
COEX, Seoul, Korea



WORLD FORENSIC FESTIVAL

October 12 (Sun)~18 (Sat), 2014
COEX, Seoul, Korea







These Guidelines for investigating deaths in custody¹ were published by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in 2013. They provide a comprehensive yet concise working document on the topic. The Guidelines are

"intended to serve detaining authorities, investigating authorities, practitioners, and others as a source of reference for the standards and procedures to be followed when a death occurs in custody. They reflect international law, as well as policy and best practices in the areas addressed. They may be used for various purposes, such as:

- *drafting or updating relevant domestic legislation*
- *providing training and building capacity*
- *ascertaining whether the authorities have met minimum standards and procedures following a death in custody."*

The Guidelines begin by outlining the general investigative framework. They articulate the following standard: if there are reasons to believe that the death in custody was due to 'homicide or negligence' a judicial investigation is required. This would appear to be a mandatory minimum standard for all countries.

There is an interesting section in chapter 2 outlining the rules and standards in international human right law related to the deaths in custody. Of course the Guidelines also emphasise the central role of "a proper autopsy".

The autopsy should be part of a planned and organized approach to investigating deaths in custody. The main elements of such a plan are set out in chapter 3. This chapter also sets out in considerable detail the preservation and investigation of the death scene. It was particularly valuable to be reminded

- that an autopsy in connection with death in custody should be regarded as an urgent post-mortem (being undertaken as soon as possible),
- of the importance of obtaining details of any resuscitative attempts,
- that the body should be treated with respect at all times,
- of the crucial importance of granting complete independence to the personnel carrying out the autopsy examination,
- and the importance of the proper documentation of investigative findings

A useful check list, which owes a debt to the Minnesota Protocol², is also included in the guidelines. An important section on looking after the needs of the next of kin concludes the chapter 3.

It is extremely pleasing to see a chapter dedicated to preventing deaths in custody. It first elaborates the factors contributing to deaths in custody and then outlines the several vital preventive measures, unfortunately not always implemented, such as

- placing the detainees only in official detention centres,
- granting prompt accesses to doctors and lawyers,
- allowing competent authorities to make unannounced visits to the detention centres

The ICRC guidelines on investigating deaths in custody also provide a list of international legal sources relevant to this topic in a summarized form and web links to related UN texts as annexures.



ICRC

References:

1. <<https://www.icrc.org/eng/assets/files/publications/icrc-002-4126.pdf>>
2. <<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/instrree/executioninvestigation-91.html>>



دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
DUBAI POLICE



23rd Congress of the International Academy of Legal Medicine

19 - 21 January 2015

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Dubai International Convention & Exhibition Centre

International Academy of Legal Medicine Congress Dubai 19-21 January 2015

The 23rd Congress of the International Academy of legal medicine will be held in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates from 19 to 21 January, 2015. See www.ialmdubai.ae for programme details

IALM president, Professor Santo Davide Ferrara, Chair of the Organising Committee, Lt. Gen. Dhahi Khalfan Tamin and Congress President, Prof. Fawzi Benemran have planned a comprehensive programme for the three-day meeting. The Congress will be held at the Dubai World Trades Centre

Workshops will be held on post-mortem angiography, trends in forensic medical education, violence against women and forensic anthropology ancestry estimation. Session topics include child trafficking, age estimation, torture and clinical medicine, death investigation systems, forensic autopsy and imaging and forensic paediatric pathology among other topics.

ASIA PACIFIC MEDICO LEGAL AGENCIES MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Job Title:

Role:

INSTITUTION DETAILS

Institution Name:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

Web site:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

Government Ministry

Institution Head:

Email:

FORENSIC MEDICAL SERVICES PROVISION

Number of Forensic Pathologists:

Please indicate if these doctors also do forensic medical work

Such as examination of victims of violence: Yes:

No :

Number of forensic clinicians :

Number of forensic nurses:

Number of mortuary technicians:

Number of forensic anthropologists:

Number of forensic Odontologists:

Number of autopsies per annum:

Number of patients examined:

Tick forensic medical services provided:

Identify forensic medical training priorities:

- Autopsies and medico-legal reporting
- Forensic radiology
- Examination of victims of violence including sexual assault
- Forensic odontology
- Forensic anthropology
- Toxicology
- Molecular biology (DNA profiling)
- Appearing as an expert witness in court

ADDITIONAL INSTITUTIONAL NOMINEES

Name:

Job Title:

Email address:

Name:

Job Title:

Email address:

Name

E-mail:

Job title:

ASIA PACIFIC MEDICO LEGAL AGENCIES MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name:	Email:	Job title:
Name:	Email:	Job title:

HOSTING TRAINERS

Would your institution be interested in hosting short term training placements by forensic clinicians and mortuary technicians?

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SIGNATURE

I authorize the application for membership of the APMLA and verify the information provided on this form.

Name :

Date:

Signature of applicant: