



## ASIA PACIFIC ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION

**Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Council (2026-2027) Meeting held on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2026  
on a hybrid format via Online and Physically at Level 1, Amber Hall (Hall E), Jaipur  
Marriot Hotel, Jaipur, India**

### Attended Physically

Dr Onder Aydingoz (Turkey)	President
Dr Kenneth Cheung (Hong Kong)	1st Vice President
Dr Nicolaas Budhiparama (Indonesia)	Immediate Past President
Dr Frederic Joseph F. Diyco (Philippines)	Secretary General
Dr Charanjeet Singh (Malaysia)	Honorary Treasurer
Dr Marinis Pirpiris (Australia)	Member At Large
Dr Hak Sun Kim (Korea)	Member At Large
Dr Jamal Ashraf (India)	Congress Committee Chairman
Dr Yi-Sheng Chan (Taiwan)	Congress President 2027
Dr David Choon (Malaysia)	Chair, Education Committee
Dr Edward Ted Mah (Australia)	Chair, Finance Committee
Dr Raja Bhaskara Kanakeshwar (India)	Chair, Newsletter Committee
Dr Chua Yeok Pin (Malaysia)	Chair, Foot & Ankle Section
Dr Cholawish Chanlalit (Thailand)	Chair, Hand & Upper Limb Section
Dr Lewis Chan (Hong Kong)	Chair, Hip Section
Dr Ismail Hadisoebroto Dilogo (Indonesia)	Chair, Orthopaedic Research Section
Dr Emel Gonen (Turkey)	Chair, Women's Advocacy Section
Dr Susan Liew (Australia)	Chief Delegate, Australia
Dr Nick Russell (Australia)	Chapter Delegate, Australia
Dr Marinis Pirpiris (Australia)	Chapter Delegate, Australia
Dr Arvind Puri (Australia)	Federation Delegate, Australia
Dr Lewis Chan (Hong Kong)	Chapter Delegate, Hong Kong
Dr Harpal Singh Selhi (India)	Chapter Delegate, India
Dr Abhay Elhence (India)	Chapter Delegate, India
Dr Ismail Hadisoebroto Dilogo (Indonesia)	Chapter Delegate, Indonesia
Dr Bintang Soetjahjo (Indonesia)	Federation Delegate, Indonesia
Dr Masahiko Takahata (Japan)	Federation Delegate, Japan
Dr Hak Sun Kim (Korea)	Chapter Delegate, Korea
Dr Syed Abdul Latiff Alsagoff (Malaysia)	Chapter Delegate, Malaysia
Dr Sabarul Afian Mokhtar (Malaysia)	Federation Delegate, Malaysia
Dr Bimal Pandey (Nepal)	Chief Delegate, Nepal
Dr Marcelino Cadag (Philippines)	Federation Delegate, Philippines
Dr Yi-Sheng Chan (Taiwan)	Chief Delegate, Taiwan
Dr Hakan Kinik (Turkey)	Chief Delegate, Turkey



### **Attended Virtually**

Dr Arif Khan (Pakistan)	2nd Vice President
Dr Inho Jeon (Korea)	Chair, Disaster Response Committee
Dr Syed Shahidul Islam (Bangladesh)	Chair, Infection Section
Dr Yat Wa Wong (Hong Kong)	Chair, Spine Section
Dr Sharif Ahmed Jonayed (Bangladesh)	Chapter Delegate, Bangladesh
Dr Md. Abdul Kenan (Bangladesh)	Federation Delegate, Bangladesh
Dr Jianguo Zhang (China)	Federation Delegate, China
Dr Margaret Fok (Hong Kong)	Chief Delegate, Hong Kong
Dr Adam Lau (Hong Kong)	Chapter Delegate, Hong Kong
Dr Azlina Abbas (Malaysia)	Chief Delegate, Malaysia
Dr Khairul Anwar Ayob (Malaysia)	Chapter Delegate, Malaysia
Dr Salik Kashif (Pakistan)	Chapter Delegate, Pakistan
Dr John Andrew Michael Bengzon (Philippines)	Chief Delegate, Philippines
Dr Peter Quiaoit (Philippines)	Federation Delegate, Philippines
Dr Gokhan Kaynak (Turkey)	Chapter Delegate, Turkey

### **By Invitation – Attended physically**

Dr Augusto Alvarez Rengito (Mexico)	President, FEMECOT
Dr Carlos Joel Gonzalez Castillo (Mexico)	Vice President, FEMECOT
Dr Ram Chadda (India)	Congress President 2026

### **Absent with Apologies**

Dr Frankie Leung (Hong Kong)	Journal Editor
Dr Yasuharu Nakashima (Japan)	Member At Large
Dr Yasuharu Nakashima (Japan)	Chair, Ethics Committee
Dr Ellewelyn Pasion (Philippines)	Chair, History & Archives Committee
Dr Syed Shahid Noor (Pakistan)	Chair, Membership Committee
Dr Yudha Mathan (Indonesia)	Chair, Young Surgeons' Forum
Dr Merter Ozenci (Turkey)	Chair, Knee Section
Dr Peter Choong (Australia)	Chair, Oncology Section
Dr Rajesh Malhotra (India)	Chair, Osteoporosis & Fragility Fracture Section
Dr Yasuharu Nakashima (Japan)	Chair, Paediatrics Section
Dr Enrique C Pasion (Philippines)	Chair, Sports Injury Section
Dr Wael Taha (Saudi Arabia)	Chair, Trauma Section
Dr Mark Moroney (Australia)	Federation Delegate, Australia
Dr Md Mizanur Rahman (Bangladesh)	Chapter Delegate, Bangladesh
Dr Shah Alam (Bangladesh)	Chapter Delegate, Bangladesh
Dr Erfanul Huq Siddique (Bangladesh)	Federation Delegate, Bangladesh
Dr Khairul Azmi Abdyl Qadir (Brunei)	Federation Delegate, Brunei
Dr Sintour Phot (Cambodia)	Federation Delegate, Cambodia



Dr Zhaoming Zhong (China)	Federation Delegate, China
Dr Wong Kam-Kwong (Hong Kong)	Federation Delegate, Hong Kong
Dr Wong Chong-Hing (Hong Kong)	Federation Delegate, Hong Kong
Dr Manish Agarwal (India)	Chapter Delegate, India
Dr Yudha Mathan (Indonesia)	Chapter Delegate, Indonesia
Dr Zairin Noor Helmi (Indonesia)	Federation Delegate, Indonesia
Dr Hirotaka Kawano (Japan)	Chapter Delegate, Japan
Dr Daisuke Sakai (Japan)	Chapter Delegate, Japan
Dr Yasuharu Nakashima (Japan)	Federation Delegate, Japan
Dr Jae-Yoon Jung (Korea)	Chapter Delegate, Korea
Dr Young-Ok Lim (Korea)	Chapter Delegate, Korea
Dr Ghandhi Nathan Solayar (Malaysia)	Federation Delegate, Malaysia
Dr Khin Mg Myint (Myanmar)	Chief Delegate, Myanmar
Dr Myint Thaug (Myanmar)	Federation Delegate, Myanmar
Dr Vijayendra Adhukari (Nepal)	Federation Delegate, Nepal
Dr Mohammad Ali Darwish (Oman)	Federation Delegate, Oman
Dr Badaruddin Sahito (Pakistan)	Chapter Delegate, Pakistan
Dr Gen (R) Sohail Hafeez (Pakistan)	Chapter Delegate, Pakistan
Dr Abdul Aziz Al Jurayyan (Saudi Arabia)	Chief Delegate, Saudi Arabia
Dr Hamza Alrabia (Saudi Arabia)	Federation Delegate, Saudi Arabia
Dr James Hui (Singapore)	Chief Delegate, Singapore
Dr Wong Hee Kit (Singapore)	Chapter Delegate, Singapore
Dr Fareed Kagda (Singapore)	Federation Delegate, Singapore
Dr Poon Kein Boon (Singapore)	Federation Delegate, Singapore
Dr V. Swarnakumaar (Sri Lanka)	Chief Delegate, Sri Lanka
Dr Ruey Mo Lin (Taiwan)	Chapter Delegate, Taiwan
Dr Cheng-Hung Lee (Taiwan)	Federation Delegate, Taiwan
Dr Kun- Hui Chen (Taiwan)	Federation Delegate, Taiwan
Dr Charoen Chotigavanich (Thailand)	Chief Delegate, Thailand
Dr Saranatra Waikakul (Thailand)	Chapter Delegate, Thailand
Dr Onder Kalenderer (Turkey)	Federation Delegate, Turkey
Dr Mehmet Demirhan (Turkey)	Federation Delegate, Turkey
Dr Saeed Al Thani (United Arab Emirates)	Chief Delegate, United Arab Emirates
Dr Ali Al Belooshi (United Arab Emirates)	Federation Delegate, United Arab Emirates
Dr Vo Van Thanh (Vietnam)	Chief Delegate, Vietnam



The meeting was called to order at 1000 hours (India Time, GMT+5:30) with Dr Onder Aydingoz, APOA President, in the chair.

<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>Welcome by the President</b></p>																								
	<p>The Council meeting commenced with a formal welcome address by the President, Dr Onder Aydingoz. He greeted all attendees present both in person and via Zoom. He expressed his privilege in serving the APOA and noted his great responsibility of leading the Association.</p> <p>Dr Onder Aydingoz extended a warm welcome to the newly elected members of the Executive Committee (Exco) and Council, recognising their dedication and important role in supporting the Association’s continued growth and strategic directions.</p>																								
<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>Apologies &amp; Proxies</b></p>																								
	<p>A proxy has been received from Dr Rajesh Malhotra appointing Dr Jamal Ashraf as his proxy. No other proxy was received.</p>																								
<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>Executive Committee Members, Council Members, Standing Committee Chairs and Section Chairs</b></p>																								
	<p>Dr Frederic Diyco formally introduced the Executive Committee members, Council Members, Standing Committee Chairs and Section Chairs (as per attached) for the 2026–2027 term.</p> <p><b><u>Executive Committee Members for the 2026–2027 Term</u></b></p> <table data-bbox="263 1541 1276 2004"> <tr> <td>Onder Aydingoz (Turkey)</td> <td>President</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr Kenneth Cheung (Hong Kong)</td> <td>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr Arif Khan (Bangladesh)</td> <td>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr Nicolaas Budhiparama (Indonesia)</td> <td>Immediate Past President</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr Frederic Joseph F. Diyco (Philippines)</td> <td>Secretary General</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr Charanjeet Singh (Malaysia)</td> <td>Treasurer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr Frankie Leung (Hong Kong)</td> <td>Journal Editor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr. Marinis Pirpiris (Australia)</td> <td>Member At Large</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr. Hak Sun Kim (Korea)</td> <td>Member At Large</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr. Yasuharu Nakashima (Japan)</td> <td>Member At Large</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr. Jamal Ashraf (India)</td> <td>Congress Committee Chair</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr. Yi-Sheng Chan (Taiwan)</td> <td>Congress Chairman 2027</td> </tr> </table>	Onder Aydingoz (Turkey)	President	Dr Kenneth Cheung (Hong Kong)	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Dr Arif Khan (Bangladesh)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Dr Nicolaas Budhiparama (Indonesia)	Immediate Past President	Dr Frederic Joseph F. Diyco (Philippines)	Secretary General	Dr Charanjeet Singh (Malaysia)	Treasurer	Dr Frankie Leung (Hong Kong)	Journal Editor	Dr. Marinis Pirpiris (Australia)	Member At Large	Dr. Hak Sun Kim (Korea)	Member At Large	Dr. Yasuharu Nakashima (Japan)	Member At Large	Dr. Jamal Ashraf (India)	Congress Committee Chair	Dr. Yi-Sheng Chan (Taiwan)	Congress Chairman 2027
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### **APOA Standing Committee Chairs for the 2027–2028 Term**

Dr. In-Ho Jeon (Korea)	Chair, Disaster Response Committee
Dr. David Choon (Malaysia)	Chair, Education Committee
Dr. Ellewellyn Pasion (Philippines)	Chair, Ethics Committee
Dr. Edward Ted Mah (Australia)	Chair, Finance Committee
Dr. Syed Shahid Noor (Pakistan)	Chair, History & Archives Committee
Dr. Merter Ozenci (Turkey)	Chair, Membership Committee
Dr. Raja Bahskara (India)	Chair, Newsletter Committee
Dr. Bedri Karaismailoglu (Turkey)	Chair, Young Surgeons' Forum

### **APOA Sub-Specialty Sections**

Dr. Chua Yeok Pin (Malaysia)	Chair, Foot & Ankle Section (APF&AS)
Dr. Cholawish Chanlalit (Thailand)	Chair, Hand & Upper Limb Section (APHULS)
Dr. Abhay Elhence (India)	Chair, Hip Section (APHS)
Dr. Syed Shahidul Islam (Bangladesh)	Chair, Infection Section (APIS)
Dr. Rajesh Malhotra (India)	Chair, Knee Section (APKS)
Dr. Manish Agarwal (India)	Chair, Oncology Section (APOS)
Dr. Ismail Hadisoebroto Dilogo (Indonesia)	Chair, Orthopaedic Research (APORS)
Dr. Zairin Noor (Indonesia)	Chair, Osteoporosis & Fragility Fracture (APOFFS)
Dr. Yasuharu Nakashima (Japan)	Chair, Paediatrics Section (APPS)
Dr. Yat Wa Wong (Hong Kong)	Chair, Spine Section (APSS)
Dr. Yi-Sheng Chan (Taiwan)	Chair, Sports Injury Section (AP SIS)
Dr. Wael Taha (Saudi Arabia)	Chair, Trauma Section (AP TS)
Dr. Emel Gonen (Turkey)	Chair, Women's Advocacy Section (WAVES)

Dr Frederic Diyco requested the Chairs of the Sections to keep the Secretariat updated on their elections and elected representatives so that proper records could be maintained and the information on the website could be updated accordingly.

Dr Frederic Diyco presented the list of national delegates for the Federation Members and chief delegates of the Chapters and highlighted that the list was not totally complete. He requested that the respective representatives to submit written updates to the Secretariat to ensure accurate and comprehensive representation within the Association.

Representatives from associate scientific member society – FEMECOT (Mexico) - were warmly welcomed and introduced: Dr Augusto and Dr Carlos Gonzalez. The meeting was informed that FEMECOT represents 66 societies and approximately 5,000 orthopaedic members, highlighting the Association's wide-reaching regional collaboration.



<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Confirmation of the Minutes of the 3rd APOA Council (2025–2026) Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026</b></p>
	<p>The minutes from the 3<sup>rd</sup> APOA Council meeting have been circulated to all Council members via email. The minutes were approved on the proposal of Dr Kenneth Cheung and seconded by Dr Marinis Pirpiris.</p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Matters arising from the Minutes</b></p>
	<p>There were no matters arising from the minutes.</p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>Report on APOA Congress 2025, Jaipur, India</b></p>
	<p>Council received a report on the APOA Congress 2025, Jaipur, India. Council commended the exemplary efforts of the local organising team, led by Dr Ram Chadda and Dr Harpal Singh, who has delivered a well-executed and excellent-organised event. The engaging scientific sessions and social activities have received positive feedback from the attendees.</p> <p>In terms of attendance, the organisers reported 902 regular registrations and two on-site registrations. It was noted that approximately 121 visa refusals had led to a significant drop in the number of participants.</p> <p>Regarding finances, the organisers had guaranteed a sum of at least USD 100,000 for APOA. The congress accounts were expected to be finalised within the next four to six weeks.</p> <p>Looking forward, a strong recommendation was made to establish a centralised system to consistently collect attendee data, including email addresses, on a yearly basis. This system would enable more accurate audience analysis and facilitate direct communication with the attendees, thus strengthening engagement and supporting strategic planning for future Congresses.</p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>Report on APOA Congress 2027, Taipei, Taiwan</b></p>
	<p>Dr Yi-Sheng Chan presented an update on the planning and organisation of the APOA Congress, scheduled to be held from 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2027 at the Taipei Marriott Hotel, Taipei, Taiwan.</p> <p>The Congress will be a combined event, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Taiwan Orthopaedic Association (TOA) and the APOA Congress. As part of the anniversary celebrations, joint sessions have been planned on certain Congress days, offering a unique</p>



	<p>opportunity for cross-collaboration between APOA members and TOA members, thus fostering stronger regional connections.</p> <p>Dr Chan confirmed that all the APOA sessions will be conducted entirely in English to ensure accessibility for the international audience and to facilitate seamless scientific discussions among delegates.</p> <p>Dr Chan added that to streamline administrative processes and ensure financial transparency, the finances, sponsorships, and registrations for APOA and TOA would be managed separately. This approach will allow each event to maintain independent financial oversight while avoiding potential confusion in accounting or reporting. However, APOA delegates will be automatically welcomed to attend the TOA sessions.</p> <p>Dr Chan briefed Council on the ongoing preparations including logistics for accommodation, transportation, and on-site coordination. The Congress aims to provide a platform for high-quality scientific exchange, to celebrate TOA’s milestones and to strengthen the collaborative spirit within the Asian Pacific orthopaedic community.</p>
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>Young Ambassador Programme 2026</b></p>
<p><b>8.1</b></p>	<p><b>Report</b></p>
	<p>Council received a report that the Young Ambassador Programme at the APOA Congress 2026 successfully hosted 14 ambassadors. This number was not a strict limit. The APOA’s policy selects one young ambassador from each country depending on the applications. It was noted that the programme has generated considerable interest, exemplified by the receipt of 61 applications from India alone.</p> <p>The core objective of the programme is to providing seeding for a fellowship that could potentially last a lifetime. The broader aim is to advance collaboration and engagement amongst the young fellows across the Asian Pacific region.</p>
<p><b>8.2</b></p>	<p><b>Status</b></p>
	<p>Dr Jamal Ashraf emphasised that the Young Ambassador Programme is a prestigious initiative, with selected candidates recognized as “rising stars” within the Asia-Pacific orthopaedic community. He reiterated that APOA is strictly an academic society and, thus, the programme must remain entirely free from regional politics. Ambassadors are expected to focus solely on clinical and academic collaboration, as well as the development of lifelong professional friendships. The fellows are united and cohesive when traveling together, thus</p>



	<p>highlighting the programme’s effectiveness in fostering meaningful cross-cultural connections and collaboration.</p>
<b>8.3</b>	<b>Selection Process</b>
	<p>A discussion ensued on the selection of candidates. Concerns were raised that allowing the Federation Members to recommend their own candidates could introduce bias, suggesting that APOA-led selection might ensure the most suitable candidates are chosen.</p> <p>However, Council agreed that flexibility is necessary given the diversity of the Asian Pacific region. Some national orthopaedic societies may advertise and nominate their own candidates, and this is acceptable provided that the availability of this fellowship is widely made known to all eligible young surgeons in the respective countries. For the other countries, APOA can continue to assist in the selection process. The overarching rule remains as one young ambassador per country.</p>
<b>8.4</b>	<b>Future Integration and Alumni Engagement</b>
	<p>To ensure that young ambassadors continue to contribute to APOA beyond their initial involvement, several integration strategies were proposed. First, an alumni network was suggested to maintain long-term engagement. Drawing inspiration from the Australian programme 2025, Dr Jamal Ashraf recommended creating a custom “past young ambassador” lapel pin for both current and former ambassadors, to be worn at subsequent Congresses as a symbol of identity and continuity.</p> <p>Second, the hosting of special gatherings, such as special dinners or dedicated meet-ups for past and present ambassadors at future Congresses, was proposed to strengthen alumni connections.</p> <p>Third, while the scientific quality of ambassador presentations was praised, attendance at previous sessions was noted to be low. Dr Onder Aydingoz suggested that for the APOA Congress 2027 Taipei, young ambassadors can be allocated a more prominent session to showcase their work and to increase programme visibility.</p> <p>Fourth, to actively nurture the next generation of APOA leadership, it was strongly suggested that a young ambassador be appointed to every committee within APOA. Dr Onder Aydingoz suggested that the chair of the Young Ambassador Programme be given a seat in Exco and thus this will provide this group with a continuous voice. However, it was noted that this would require an amendment to the APOA constitution. Dr Onder Aydingoz said that this could be discussed at the next Exco and Council meetings.</p>



	Finally, greater collaboration between the Young Ambassadors and the existing Young Surgeons Forum was recommended, including integrating past ambassadors into the forum's faculty and operations to reduce confusion between the two groups.
<b>9</b>	<b>Ad Hoc Scientific Committee</b>
	Council re-appointed Dr Denny Lie and Dr Arvind Puri as the Chair and Co-Chair for the Ad Hoc Scientific Committee respectively. It was noted that this Committee will continue to function on an ad hoc basis until a constitutional amendment is made to formalise its status.
<b>10</b>	<b>Fellowship Subcommittee</b>
	Council appointed Dr Nicolaas Budhiparama as the chair of the newly established Fellowship Subcommittee, which will operate under the Education Committee.
<b>11</b>	<b>Trauma Section</b>
	Dr Wael Taha provided an update on the forthcoming activities of the Trauma Section , including the revival of educational webinars, the development of a structured trauma course, and the eventual introduction of an APOA Trauma Diploma. The Trauma Section Committee will discuss and decide on the latter with the Education Committee and Exco.
<b>12</b>	<b>Permanent Professional Conference Organiser (PCO)</b>
	<p>Following discussions on the need for a permanent Professional Congress Organiser (PCO), Council noted that APOA has secured and engaged a central PCO, Serenas, a company based in Turkey. As the agreement was only recently finalised, Serenas will initially take on an observational and supportive role at the APOA Congress 2027 Taipei. Full operational responsibility will commence at the APOA Congress 2028 Antalya and thereafter, Serenas will manage four consecutive APOA Congresses.</p> <p>Council also noted that Serenas was selected based on its ability to provide a substantial financial guarantee, ensuring stable financial support for APOA's secretarial expenses, an area identified as a critical organisational need. Importantly, it was emphasised that any additional net income or profit generated from the Congresses will continue to be directed to APOA. To ensure transparency, the Congress Committee Chair, Dr Jamal Ashraf, has committed to circulate a detailed communication outlining the PCO arrangement to all councillors, subject to formal approval by the Exco, well in advance of the next Council meeting.</p>



<b>13</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>
	There being no other matters, Dr Onder Aydingoz thanked all the attendees for their valuable contributions and active participation at the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 1130 hours (India Time, GMT+5:30) with a vote of thanks to the chair.

**Minutes prepared by APOA Secretariat:**

Ms Molly Kong Yoon Moi

Ms Lena Teh Poh Leng

**Minutes vetted by:**

Dr Frederic Joseph F. Diyco, APOA Secretary General

**Minutes approved by:**

Dr Onder Aydingoz, APOA President