



issa

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY ASSOCIATION

Regional Social Security Forum for Asia and the Pacific

21–23 October 2009

Dusit Thani Hotel Manila, Makati City, Philippines



In collaboration with the Philippine Social Security Association

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY ASSOCIATION

**REGIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY FORUM
FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

**Organized in collaboration with the
Philippine Social Security Association**

PROGRAMME

Dusit Thani Hotel Manila

Makati City, Philippines, 21-23.10.2009

www.issa.int

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National Organizing Committee

Chairperson:	Atty. Winston F. Garcia President and General Manager Government Service Insurance System
Vice-Chairperson:	Dr. Rey B. Aquino President and CEO Philippine Health Insurance Corporation
Members:	Sec. Romulo L. Neri President and CEO Social Security System Mr. Jaime A. Fabiana President and CEO Home Development Mutual Fund Ret. B/Gen. Jose V. Nano President Armed Forces of the Philippines – Retirement, Separation and Benefits System Ms. Evelyn F. Tablang Executive Director Employees' Compensation Commission Mr. Sergio O. Valencia Chairman Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office
Conference Coordinator, Chair, Business and Secretariat Sub-Committee:	Ms. May Catherine C. Ciriaco Vice-President Social Security System

Members and Sub-Committee Chairpersons:

- Hotel accomodation:** Ms. Ma. Fe S. Dayco
Senior Vice-President
Government Service Insurance System
- Ms. Aurora Quilandrino
Employees' Compensation Commission
- Finance:** Mr. Florentino E. España, Jr.
Senior Vice-President
Home Development Mutual Fund
- Transportation & Security:** Mr. Edmundo F. Gammad
Assistant Vice-President
Armed Forces of the Philippines – Retirement,
Separation and Benefits System
- Socials and city tour:** Mr. Octavino Q. Esguerra
Senior Vice-President
Philippine Health Insurance Corporation
- Communications:** Ms. Marissu G. Bugante
Vice-President
Social Security System
- Atty. Lauro Patiag
Manager
Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office

Address of the National Organizing Committee

Social Security System
SSS Building
East Avenue, Diliman
PH-Quezon City, Metro Manila
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Tel.: +63 (2) 435 98 69
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Scope and objectives

The geographical area, the size of the population and the diversity of social, economic and cultural characteristics in the Asia and Pacific region are vast. A wide spectrum of challenges faces the region as national initiatives continue to respond to growing social protection needs, especially of the most vulnerable.

By bringing together social security administrators, policy-makers, researchers, and international and regional organizations, the Forum offers a unique opportunity to discuss, to exchange and to learn from recent advances that have been achieved through new ideas, innovations and effective strategies.

The ISSA Secretary General will set the framework for discussions through his report, *Developments and Trends in the Asia and Pacific region*. The Forum sessions will focus on three key themes, namely, governance and the social security reform process, the imperatives of health care, and pension coverage and demographic ageing. The Regional Social Security Summit will conclude the Forum.

Social security developments and trends in Asia and the Pacific

The first plenary session will provide the context for the entire Regional Social Security Forum by identifying and discussing the main emerging social security developments and trends in the Asia and Pacific region based on a report prepared by the ISSA. The report will take into consideration the effects of globalization in the region, internal and external migration, migrant workers, growing informal economies, changes in family structures, and the regional dimension of the financial crisis of 2008.

Governance and the social security reform process

Good governance of social security schemes is essential to ensure that members and beneficiaries receive the promised protection of these programmes. In many instances, social security reforms are implemented simultaneously with improvements in governance. On an institutional level, what are the effective governance strategies and practices that facilitate the success of the reform process? Standards and performance benchmarks, competent and dynamic staff, a responsive ICT architecture, and a system of internal controls and checks-and-balances are seen to be indispensable to ensuring good governance.

On a national level, the reform process often includes the challenge of ensuring that the combination of social security programmes available to the population is able to provide comprehensive protection for its needs, including old age, disability, health care, employment safety, and employment security. Responsible leadership, active

stakeholders, professional bodies and regulators that observe and enforce standards are among the key elements that foster good governance and support the reform of social security programmes.

In addition to examining the prerequisites to social security reform, a keynote speaker will discuss the link between governance and the reform process, which will be further illustrated through country examples. The session will also look at governance lessons from the recent global financial crisis, in terms of risks and opportunities to extend social security coverage and protection to members, to manage and protect fund investments, and to enhance the reform process despite an adverse environment.

Imperatives of health care coverage

In the Asia and Pacific region, as national health care programmes seek to extend access to larger segments of the population, there is a trend towards pluralistic approaches – social health insurance, voluntary community-based schemes, tax-financed health services – that use diverse institutional and financing methods to cover different groups of the population. Policymakers and health care administrators alike are exploring how to link and integrate different methods in order to effectively extend coverage. At the same time, the challenges of sustainability and provision of affordable, quality care persist in many programmes. Analyzing national and regional experiences on these issues are valuable in informing countries that are attempting to (re)design approaches to respond to the growing demand for access to quality health care services.

Pension coverage and demographic ageing

With the exception of a few countries where demographic ageing is already a reality, the population age structure of the Asia and Pacific region is relatively young. Nonetheless, the need to extend pension coverage remains an urgent priority in the region because poverty and rural conditions persist in many countries; the two most populous countries and the top three migrant-sending countries in the world are in Asia; more new workers find jobs in the informal rather than the formal sector for the past many years; more women are participating in the labour force; and more of the poor are women. Mandated pension schemes are responding to this heightened challenge through a number of new strategies. Policy-makers are discussing the affordability of introducing non-contributory schemes or contribution-matching schemes to boost efforts in this area. Discussions during this session will focus on lessons learned, good practices, and the feasibility of proposed alternatives.

Regional Social Security Summit

The objective of this Summit is to promote the important role of social security in society by showcasing the contribution of dynamic social security to cope with current and future socio-economic challenges in Asia and the Pacific. High-level policy-makers will analyse the impact and effects of the 2008 global financial crisis on labour markets, social security funds and the social protection needs of the region.

The ISSA Good Practice Awards for Asia and the Pacific

The ISSA has initiated a Good Practice Awards competition to recognize good practices in the administration of social security.

The ISSA Good Practice Awards will be given out on a regional basis over a three-year cycle at each ISSA Regional Social Security Forum. One Award will be given at each Forum as well as certificates of merit as decided by an international Jury. The winning good practices will also be featured at the World Social Security Forum in Cape Town, South Africa, in 2010.

The third of four Good Practice Awards will be given at the Regional Social Security Forum for Asia and the Pacific.

To view the good practices and for further information on the competition: www.issa.int/goodpractices

Timetable

Tuesday, 20 October 2009

15:00 – 18:00 **Registration of participants**

Wednesday, 21 October 2009

09:00 – 10:15 **Registration of participants**

Coffee service

10:30 – 12:00 **Opening ceremony**

Philippine national anthem

Welcome remarks

Mr. Winston F. Garcia

Chairman

Philippine Social Security Association
and

President and General Manager
Government Service Insurance System
Philippines

Opening speech

Ms. Corazon S. de la Paz-Bernardo

President

International Social Security Association
Geneva

Special choral presentation

Introduction of the guest of honour

Mr. Romulo L. Neri

President and Chief Executive Officer
Social Security System
Philippines

Guest of honour
Mr. Noli de Castro
Vice President
Republic of the Philippines

13:00 – 14:30 *Lunch offered by the Philippine Social Security Association*

14:30 – 17:30 **Social security developments and trends in Asia and the Pacific**

Keynote speaker
Mr. Hans-Horst Konkolewsky
Secretary General
International Social Security Association
Geneva

Panel discussion

Coffee break during the afternoon session

19:30 **Welcome dinner at the Dusit Thani Hotel and Presentation of the Good Practice Award**

Thursday, 22 October 2009

09:30 – 12:30 **Governance and the social security reform process**

Keynote speaker
Ms. Yvonne Sin
Head of Investment Consulting, China
Watson Wyatt Worldwide
Hong Kong, China

Panel discussion

Coffee break during the morning session

13:00 – 14:30 *Lunch offered by the Philippine Social Security Association*

14:30 – 17:30 **The imperatives of health care services**

Keynote speaker

Mr. Soonman Kwon

Professor

Seoul National University

Republic of Korea

Panel discussion

Coffee break during the afternoon session

Friday, 23 October 2009

09:30 – 12:30 **Pension coverage and demographic ageing**

Keynote speaker

Mr. Christian Aspalter

Professor

Beijing Normal University, Hong Kong University

The People's Republic of China

Panel discussion

Coffee break during the morning session

13:00 – 14:30 *Lunch offered by the Philippine Social Security Association*

14:30 – 17:30 **Regional Social Security Summit for the Asia and the Pacific**

Ministers, high-level officials, representatives of major international organizations will participate in the panel of this Summit.

Coffee break during the afternoon session

17:30 – 18:00 **Closing session**

19:30 **Closing dinner and traditional dance show**

Social programme

Wednesday, 21 October 2009

19:30 Welcome dinner at the Dusit Thani Hotel Manila and presentation of the Good Practices Award

Friday, 23 October 2009

19:30 Closing dinner and traditional dance show

Saturday, 24 October 2009

09:30 Ayala Museum tour

General information

Information available on the ISSA Website

The ISSA General Secretariat has published information on the Regional Social Security Forum for Asia and the Pacific on the ISSA Website (*www.issa.int*) Detailed information and documents are available and updated on the ISSA's extranet (*www-issanet.issa.int*), which participants can access using an e-mail address and a password.

Forum venue

The Regional Social Security Forum for Asia and the Pacific will take place at:

Dusit Thani Hotel Manila
Makati Commercial Center
PH-Makati City, Metro Manila
Philippines
Tel.: +63 (2) 867 33 33
Fax: +63 (2) 867 38 88
E-mail: *wynces.demesa@dusit.com*
Website: *www.dusit.com*

Facilities available at the Forum venue

- Postal, fax, telephone and e-mail service
- Restaurants
- Business centre and Internet (wireless and broadband)

Working language of the Forum

The working language of the Forum is English.

Opening session

The Forum will be officially opened on Wednesday, 21 October 2009 at 10:30 a.m.

Registration of participants and distribution of documents

Participants are requested to register at the registration and documentation desk at the Forum venue. Registration will take place at the following hours:

Tuesday, 20 October 2009	15:00 – 18:00
Wednesday, 21 October 2009	09:00 – 10:15

Participants are requested to present their *participant's card* which will be sent to each registered participant in advance of the Forum by the General Secretariat of the ISSA. The registration and documentation desk will remain open throughout the Forum.

Upon registration, participants will receive a briefcase containing a name badge, information concerning the Forum and the social programme.

Documentation for the Forum will be available on the ISSA extranet, www-issanet.issa.int. To facilitate distribution of documents, participants registered for the Forum should obtain the working documents by printing them directly from the Forum extranet page. This page is regularly updated and will provide all the necessary information about the Forum programme.

Hotel reservations

The National Organizing Committee (NOC) has negotiated special rates at the hotels mentioned on the next page. Hotel reservations will be made by the NOC in accordance with the choice and preference indicated by the participants.

HOTELS	ROOM TYPE	RATES 1 (PHP) ^(a)	RATES 2 (PHP)
Dusit Thani ***** <i>Forum Venue</i> Ayala Center PH-1223 Makati City Philippines Tel.: +632 867-3333 Fax: +632 893-2479 E-mail: paolo.bautista@dusit.co Website: www.Dusit.com	Nett	Single	Twin
	De Luxe	5,300.00	5,800.00
	Single / Twin		
	Dusit Club Room	7,300.00	
	Junior Suite	8,300.00	
	Grandroom Suite	9,500.00	
Hotel Intercontinental ***** <i>Within the area of the Forum venue</i> Ayala Center PH-1 Makati City Philippines Tel.: +632 793-7000 Fax: +632 752-7777 E-mail: manila@interconti.com Website: www.intercontinental.com/manila	Single or Double Occupancy		
	De Luxe	5,300.00	
	Club Room	7,600.00	
	Junior Suite	8,600.00	

^(a) PHP = Philippine Peso. Approximate exchange rate in September 2009 is USD1.00 = PHP47.00.

Dusit Thani

Hotel offers complimentary buffet breakfast everyday.

Hotel Intercontinental

Hotel offers complimentary breakfast and evening cocktails everyday.

Note: Changes regarding hotel reservations should be communicated immediately to:

Ms. Maria Fe S. Dayco

Senior Vice President

Actuarial & Treasury Group

Government Service Insurance System

4th Floor, GSIS Building, Financial Center

PH-Manila

Philippines

Tel.: +632 891 6386 / +632 976 4656

Fax: +632 891 6386

E-mail: fdayco@gsis.gov.ph

Under no circumstances can the General Secretariat of the ISSA assume responsibility for questions concerning hotel reservations.

Transportation between the airport and hotels

The National Organizing Committee will arrange complimentary transport for all participants between the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminals 1 and 2 and their hotels upon arrival and departure.

Participants are requested to send in advance the relevant flight information (day, arrival and departure hours, and flight numbers) to Ms. Maria Fe S. Dayco by e-mail to fdayco@gsis.gov.ph or by fax to +632 891 6386.

Passports and visas

A valid passport is mandatory for entry into the Philippines. Visa requirements are posted on the ISSA Extranet (www-issanet.issa.int). Participants are requested to consult the competent authorities in their home countries concerning entry visa requirements. For more information, please visit the following Website: http://dfa.gov.ph/?page_id=66.

Please consult the following link for consulates of the Philippines around the world: <http://www.dfa.gov.ph/protocol/dipconlists.htm>.

Customs regulations

The import of personal effects and merchandise which is for personal use of travellers is allowed. Regarding personal luggage, please consult the following Website: http://www.philippineconsulate-sf.org/aboutus_pr_customs.htm.

Health regulations

Participants are requested to consult the authorities in their home countries concerning the regulations currently in force. Health certificates are required from visitors coming from or travelling through infected areas, in accordance with World Health Organization requirements.

It is advisable not to drink tap water. Bottled water is available in all shops.

Sickness or accident

In case of sickness or accident during the Forum, the participant should immediately notify a member of the General Secretariat of the ISSA and/or the National Organizing Committee. Participants are advised to ensure that they have adequate insurance coverage, either at their own expense or at the expense of their nominating organization, for sickness, accident, temporary disability, death and third party risk covering the entire duration of the Forum and the journey to and from the Forum venue. Neither the ISSA nor the host organization accept responsibility or liability for such contingencies.

Currency

The unit of currency in the Philippines is the Philippine Peso (PHP). There are banknotes of 1,000, 500, 200, 100, 50 and 20 pesos and coins for the following denominations: 10, 5 and 1 peso and 50, 20, 10 and 5 cents.

Payments in hotels can be made in national currency or foreign currency (US dollars (USD) and Euros (EUR)).

Credit cards, namely Visa, American Express and Master Card are widely accepted in the Philippines. Incidental purchases or payments such as in restaurants outside hotels, shopping (excluding duty free shops) and taxi fares can be paid in local currency.

The exchange rate (September 2009) is approximately:

USD1.00 = PHP47.00

EUR1.00 = PHP70.00

Climate

Very warm and humid: the annual average temperature is of 22° Celsius, with a minimum of 18° Celsius; rains can occur at anytime of the year. Protection against the sun is recommended.

Local time

Local time in the Philippines is 8 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT +8).

Electric current

The standard power supply in the Philippines is 220 volts a/c but 110 volts a/c is also available in major hotels.

Promoting and developing social security worldwide
Promouvoir et développer la sécurité sociale à travers le monde
Promover y desarrollar la seguridad social en el mundo
Soziale Sicherheit weltweit fördern und entwickeln
Развиваем и поддерживаем социальное обеспечение во всем мире
دعم و تطوير الضمان الإجتماعي عبر العالم
促进和发展全球社会保障

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