



# ANNUAL REPORT **2019**

ASEAN  
FEDERATION  
OF ACCOUNTANTS





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ASEAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS ANNUAL REPORT 2019

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**MESSAGE** FROM  
**AFA President**

### **Preparing the ASEAN Accountancy Profession for the Future**

As the saying goes, “Time flies when you are having a good time”. My term as AFA President has come to an end. I am both humbled and honoured to have represented Singapore to serve as AFA President for the past two years. AFA has afforded me the invaluable opportunity of meeting many wonderful people in ASEAN, some of whom I have now become good friends with. I was also privileged to witness the rapid and new economic developments in the region. I must say the speed of growth in ASEAN is extremely remarkable and this makes ASEAN a very attractive investment hotspot with immense potential!

ASEAN is poised to be the fourth-largest economy in the world by 2030, after the European Union, the United States and China. ASEAN’s GDP is expected to grow by more than 5% per year. As the ASEAN region continues to experience exponential growth, so does the demand for quality accountancy services. Against this backdrop, high quality financial reports are fundamental to building trust in capital markets. Having a strong governance environment and legal framework are also essential. In providing a true and fair view of financial performance and position, they help to enhance the attractiveness of ASEAN businesses as investment opportunities in the international arena.

Over the last two years, AFA member bodies have stepped up efforts to co-develop the accountancy profession in ASEAN. The efforts were driven by AFA’s three main strategic priorities, namely, support adoption and implementation of international standards, position AFA as a regional thought leader in discussion of issues relevant to the accountancy profession and build the capacity of the ASEAN professional accountancy organisations (PAOs).

### **2018-2019: A Journey Towards Building Regional Capacity and Global Endeavours**

The strategic priorities seek to uplift the professional standards of the accountancy profession in ASEAN, so as to support the region’s booming economy, as well as to keep pace with the rapid and disruptive changes that are reshaping the global accountancy profession.

I am pleased to share that AFA celebrated many achievements and successes as a regional accountancy body in recent years. In 2018, I had the privilege, as AFA’s first President to speak at the World Congress of Accountants (WCOA) – the “Olympics of Accountancy Profession” in Sydney, attended by more than 5,000 accountants from around 118 countries.

There were also several bilateral and trilateral collaborations among AFA member bodies. These included 10 capacity-building workshops in ASEAN conducted by Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants (ISCA); tripartite collaboration between Lao Chamber of Professional Accountants and Auditors (LCPAA), Malaysian Institute of Accountants, and World Bank on IFRS transition in Lao PDR, and an ethics workshop co-organised by Brunei Darussalam Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Institute of Indonesia Chartered Accountants, just to name a few. These helped to expand capacities and build new capabilities in ASEAN to support the growing demand for accountancy services.

Besides building regional capacity, AFA also worked towards obtaining global recognition as the regional accountancy body of ASEAN and advocating public interest issues. For example, AFA participated in International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) PAO Development Committee Meeting in Manila in 2018 and co-hosted several events with international partners, such as IAI-AFA-IAESB International Conference in Bali and the IFAC Developing Accountancy Capacity in Emerging Economies Conference in Kuala Lumpur in 2019.

In November 2019, AFA reached a significant milestone when the IFAC announced that it had approved AFA's application to become the first new regional organisation under IFAC's newly established framework for strategic relationships. Under this framework, IFAC and AFA can look forward to collaborating on common strategic interests in the near future.

At the same time, AFA celebrated LCPAA's successful admission as an IFAC Associate member. This is an important milestone not only for LCPAA in being recognised as a credible professional accountancy organisation that meets international standards, but also AFA, in realising our collective aspiration to raise the professional standards of the accountancy profession in ASEAN.

### **2020-2023: Our Plan for the Future of the ASEAN Accountancy Profession**

During our strategic retreat hosted by Myanmar Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA) in Bagan in September 2019, AFA Council had a fruitful discussion which yielded useful suggestions on how AFA should build on its success. Moving forward, AFA will continue to play the advisory and leading role on matters relating to the ASEAN accountancy profession. This will be supported by AFA member bodies to bring about dynamic development, stability and prosperity.

### **Passing the Baton**

Thank you for your unwavering support throughout my term as AFA President. I wish to take this opportunity to express my most sincere appreciation to my fellow Office Bearers 2018-2019: Wan Tin and Prof. Chan Yoke Kai; Executive Director Aucky Pratama, AFA Secretariat and Council members. I look forward to working with the new leadership team led by President Wan Tin and Deputy President Suphot Singhasaneh, to build an innovative and resilient ASEAN for us all and for future generations.

Thank you.

### **KON YIN TONG**

President (2018-2019)

*This message was first published as an article in the AFA Connect Edition 04 (December 2019)*





## MESSAGE FROM AFA Deputy President

**T**HE rise of ASEAN as an economic region continues to bring many opportunities for ASEAN PAOs to collaborate and develop the accountancy profession in their respective countries. For Myanmar, the last decade has brought significant progress, one that needs to be supported by a strong accountancy profession, to create an accountable economic ecosystem and sustainable business environment. I am delighted to see how AFA and the AFA member organisations have supported MICPA in our continuous efforts in building a strong accountancy profession in Myanmar.

Our four-year journey under the AFA Strategic Plan 2016-2019: Building Regional Capacity, Supporting Global Endeavours finally culminates in 2019. In this period, we have put our focus on shared priorities, in adoption and implementation of international standards, regional thought leadership on SMEs and SMPs issues, and capacity building of ASEAN PAOs. As a growing profession in the region, we recognise the limited collective capacity available and accessible to both the ASEAN PAOs and accountants. Knowledge and experience sharing become an important avenue for the developing PAOs, such as MICPA, to learn from our “big brothers” the more developed ASEAN PAOs.

Reflecting on our progress in 2016-2019, I believe the role of a regional body such as AFA is becoming more important, especially in facilitating cooperation between stakeholders and carrying the collective voice of the region in global discussion on topics relevant to the ASEAN accountancy profession. Understanding that we share similar culture unique to our region is an important asset in our collaboration to build the capacity of ASEAN PAOs.

For MICPA, we aspire to continue our effort to be recognised as an IFAC Associate. As the only PAO in the region currently yet to be either an associate or member of IFAC, we look to leverage our membership with AFA and network with the AFA member organisations to work on our capacity to be a stronger PAO with capacity to continuously meet the IFAC SMOs.

2019 has been a great experience for me, in my position as the AFA Deputy President. It was a privilege to serve under the leadership of President Kon Yin Tong, together with Treasurer Prof. Chan Yoke Kai. I look forward to working with the AFA Office Bearers 2020-2021, to build on what President Kon has achieved in his term and implement the AFA Strategic Plan 2020-2023, for a better ASEAN accountancy profession.

Thank you.

### **WAN TIN**

Deputy President (2018-2019)



## MESSAGE FROM AFA Executive Director



**M**OST will remember 2019 for the global political turbulence (e.g. Brexit, US-China trade war, Hong Kong protests), rise in climate change issues (e.g. Amazon fire or Greta Thunberg's inspired Fridays for Future), or perhaps the big question mark over how an egg broke Instagram. For AFA and the ASEAN accountancy profession, 2019 has been an important milestone in our continuous collective efforts in further enhancing the capacity of ASEAN accountants and getting the recognition from local, regional, and international partners and stakeholders.

Engagement and collaboration are two key words that illustrate what have been the Federation's main achievements for the year. AFA and our member organisations welcomed participation from and engagement with various stakeholders, such as IFAC and the IAESB at the IAI – AFA – IAESB International Conference 2019 in Nusa Dua, Bali on April. IFAC President, Dr. In-Ki Joo, leader and members of the IAESB are joined by representatives of PAOs from all ASEAN Member States in discussing the latest on accountancy education. As an accredited ASEAN CSO, we also supported the hosting of the 1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN CPA Conference in October, a platform for promoting the ASEAN CPA initiative. Finally, together with ISCA Financial Reporting Committee, we successfully conducted the ISCA FRC – AFA Financial Reporting & Business Conference 2019 in Singapore, a celebration of the 21<sup>st</sup> AFA Conference.

Recognising the importance for contributing to regional research capacity on issues relevant to the profession, in 2019, we continue with our research initiative. Based on the success of the AFA Research Grant 2016, which resulted in publication of AFA Research Report 2018, we introduced the AFA Research Grant 2019. Conducted by a group of Malaysian researchers, we look forward to sharing the research findings and publish the report in 2020.

A major milestone for AFA in 2019 was the recognition as an IFAC Network Partner. Following a long process, we are delighted to be recognised as a partner for IFAC in development of the profession in the ASEAN region. It is a realisation of our aspiration, to be the recognised umbrella body for the ASEAN accountancy profession.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our President (2018-2019), Kon Yin Tong, for his leadership and service to the Federation. Under his term, AFA has certainly made significant progress, one that we look forward to continuing under President Wan Tin's term in 2020-2021.

Terima kasih.

**AUCKY PRATAMA**  
Executive Director



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**AFA**

2019



### **ASEAN Federation of Accountants (AFA)**

AFA was organised in March 1977 to serve as the umbrella organisation for the recognised national Professional Accountancy Organisations (PAOs) of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member states.

#### **ASEAN CSO**

AFA is an accredited Civil Society Organisation of the ASEAN, recognised under the ASEAN Charter since 1994.



#### **IFAC Network Partner**

AFA is a recognised IFAC Network Partner since 2019



#### **VISION**

Globally recognised as the organisation that represents the accountancy profession in the ASEAN region.



#### **MISSION**

Develop and promote the accountancy profession in the region in support of the socio-economic enhancement of the ASEAN member states.





**A**S a regional body for the ASEAN accountancy profession, AFA continues to aspire to become the voice of ASEAN accountants in the collective global development of the profession. AFA values its relation and collaboration with various partners and stakeholders. At a global level, AFA recognises the important role of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), together with the IFAC member organisations in serving the public interest through enhancement of the relevance, reputation, and value of the global accountancy profession.



In building the collective capacity of the ASEAN accountancy profession, AFA focuses on strengthening the capacity of the AFA member organisations. The Federation recognises the value for the member organisations to become a member of IFAC and continuously fulfilling the requirements of the IFAC Statements of Membership Obligations (SMOs). Almost all of the AFA member organisations are either an IFAC Member or Associate, with recognition of LCPAA as the latest IFAC Associate in 2019. The SMOs serves as a parameter for the level of maturity of the member organisations and a tool in identifying common priorities, opportunities, and challenges of the AFA member organisations.

In September 2019, the IFAC Board has approved the acknowledgement AFA as an IFAC Network Partner. It is a culmination of a long and at times – challenging journey, one that further strengthen AFA and IFAC’s spirit for collaboration. This is an acknowledgment of AFA’s role as IFAC’s partner in development of the accountancy profession in the ASEAN region (Southeast Asia) and contribution to a stronger global accountancy profession.



AFA and IFAC are now focusing on identifying opportunities for collaboration in areas of common strategic interest, as highlighted in the IFAC Network Partner Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two organisations. Both organisations are looking into further strengthening of AFA’s role as the focal point for stakeholders on matters relating to the ASEAN accountancy profession, promoting regional integration through promotion of high quality professional standards, reduction of development gaps and enhancement of cooperation between AFA member organisations, stimulating the regional research capacity on topics relevant to ASEAN SMEs and SMPs, and leveraging technology to facilitate information and knowledge sharing on the ASEAN accountancy profession.



 **Kon Yin Tong** | PRESIDENT

Kon Yin Tong is the President of the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants (ISCA) and serves as Chairman of the ISCA Executive Committee. He has been a member of the Nominations Committee since 2016. He was previously the Vice-President as well as a member of the Executive Committee from 2016 to 2018.

Yin Tong has been in the public accounting profession for more than 30 years and has personally been hands on in many client engagements, including cross-border assignments. As Managing Partner of Foo Kon Tan LLP, his areas of practice include those in litigation support and dispute resolution, including acting as expert witness and as assessor to the Court. Yin Tong has been a Board member of the Singapore Accountancy Commission since 2013. Yin Tong is also the Chairman of Sport Singapore and audit committee chair of the Energy Market Authority. Previously, he was audit committee chair of the Singapore Totalisator Board, and a Board member of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority from 2006 to 2011.

Yin Tong is a first-class honours graduate from the London School of Economics.

 **Wan Tin** | DEPUTY PRESIDENT

Wan Tin is the Managing Partner and Founder of JF Group. In February 2017, he was elected as the Chairman of MICPA which is a primary member of AFA and has worked for development and advancement of the accounting profession in Myanmar.

During his tenure in MAC and MICPA, he has played an important role in drafting the new MAC law, the new Myanmar Companies Law and the new MICPA Constitution and participated in discussions on and implementation of the 5-year Capacity-Building Project undertaken by IFAC and ACCA with funding from the Department for International Development (DFID) (UK), which paves the way for application for IFA associate membership in December 2019. Also he has actively participated in and contributed to Myanmar Accounting and Auditing Standards Setting, Drafting of the new MAC Law and of the new Myanmar Companies Law, held workshops, seminars, and meetings with International Organizations and International Professional Bodies to gather information on and discuss professional issues as well as made recommendations and proposals to the Regulatory Bodies to adopt more appropriate policies that support professional development and activities that benefit members and protect their interests.

Moreover, he also serves as a member of the Access to Finance Working Committee and has provided input on updating the Public Sector Development Framework and Action-Access to Finance.

 **Prof. Chan Yoke Kai** | TREASURER

Professor Chan Yoke Kai held senior and management roles in various universities. He is currently an Advisor to the accountancy programme at the Singapore University of Social Sciences. Prof Chan is currently a Council Member of ISCA and a past President of CIMA (Singapore Branch). He had also been a faculty member of both the National University of Singapore and the Nanyang Technological University.

He is currently a Board Member of the Global Research Board of CIMA and a Member of the ACCA Education Global Forum. Professor Chan is a member of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC)'s new International Panel on Accountancy Education (IPAE). He is among seven of the panel members from Asia Pacific and is the only representative from ASEAN.

Professor Chan is a Fellow Member of the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants (FCAS) and a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (FCCA), Certified Public Accountant Australia (FCPA), Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (FCMA) and a Chartered Global Management Accountant (United Kingdom) (CGMA).

In recognition of Professor Chan's contribution to the accountancy profession, ISCA presented him with a Silver Medal Award in 2008.

 **Aucky Pratama** | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AFA's Headquarter is the AFA Permanent Secretariat, established in Jakarta with the support of Ikatan Akuntan Indonesia.



AUCKY PRATAMA



WAN TIN



KON YIN TONG



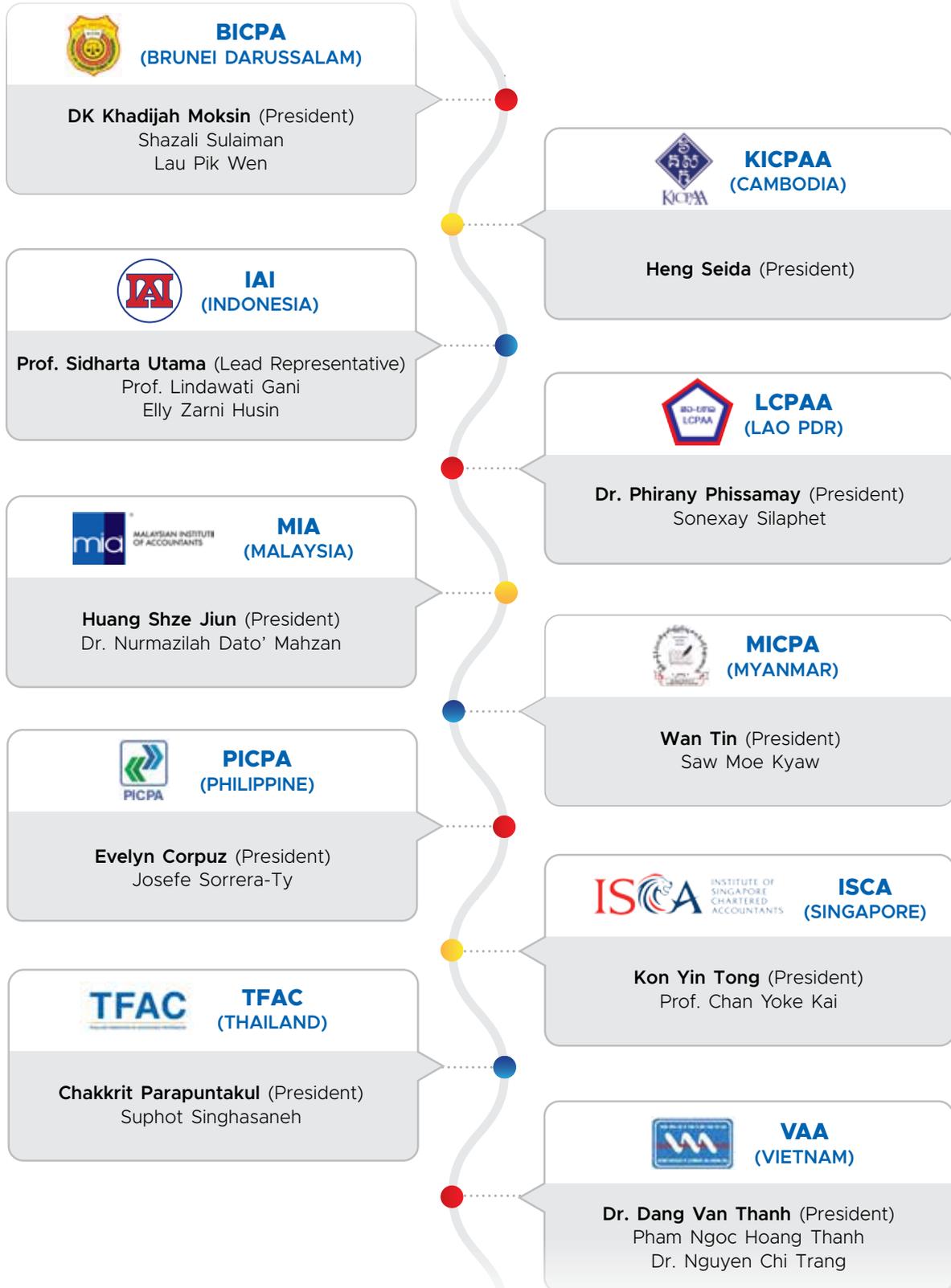
PROF. CHAN YOKE KAI



2016-2019

## AFA COUNCIL MEMBERS 2019

AFA Council Members are official representatives of the ten AFA Primary Members. Each AFA Primary Member is represented by a maximum of four representatives.



## AFA PRIMARY MEMBERS

AFA Primary Members are the recognised national Professional Accountancy Organisation of the ASEAN member states created under a specific statute or regulation of that particular state, or in the absence thereof, the recognised national organisation of accounting professionals in said state.

### BRUNEI DARUSSALAM Brunei Darussalam Institute of Certified Public Accountants (BICPA)

Unit 3, First Floor, Block A,  
Regent Square Simpang 150, Kiulap BE1518  
Bandar Sri Begawan  
Brunei Darussalam  
[www.bicpabrunei.com](http://www.bicpabrunei.com)



### CAMBODIA Kampuchea Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Auditors (KICPAA)

VTRUST Tower, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
St. 169, Sangkat Veal Vong  
Khan 7 Makara, Phnom Penh  
Cambodia  
[www.kicpaa.org](http://www.kicpaa.org)



### INDONESIA Ikatan Akuntan Indonesia (IAI) Institute of Indonesia Chartered Accountants

Grha Akuntan, Jl. Sindanglaya No. 1  
Menteng, Jakarta 10310  
Indonesia  
[www.iaiglobal.or.id](http://www.iaiglobal.or.id)



### LAO PDR Lao Chamber of Professional Accountants and Auditors (LCPAA)

349/2 Khumphenmeung Road  
Thongsangnang District  
Vientiane Capital  
Lao PDR  
[www.lcpaa.la](http://www.lcpaa.la)



### MALAYSIA Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA)

Dewan Akauntan Unit 33-01, level 33 Tower A,  
The Vertical, Avenue 3  
Bangsar South City  
No. 8, Jalan Kerinchi, 59200  
Kuala Lumpur  
Malaysia  
[www.mia.org.my](http://www.mia.org.my)



### MYANMAR Myanmar Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA)

No. 1/19, Thakhinmya Garden Street  
Ahlone Township, Yangon 11121  
Myanmar  
[www.oagmac.gov.mm](http://www.oagmac.gov.mm)



### PHILIPPINES Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA)

PICPA Building, 700 Shaw Boulevard City  
of Mandaluyong, Manila  
Philippines  
[www.picpa.com.ph](http://www.picpa.com.ph)



### SINGAPORE Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants (ISCA)

60 Cecil Street  
ISCA House  
Singapore 049709  
[www.isca.org.sg](http://www.isca.org.sg)



### THAILAND Federation of Accounting Professions (TFAC)

133 Sukhumvit 21 Road (Asoke-Montri)  
Khlong Toei Nua, Watthana,  
Bangkok 10110  
Thailand  
[www.tfac.or.th](http://www.tfac.or.th)



### VIETNAM Vietnamese Association of Accountants and Auditors (VAA)

192 Giai Phong Road, Thanh Xuan District  
Hanoi  
Vietnam  
[www.vaa.net.vn](http://www.vaa.net.vn)





# AFA ASSOCIATE MEMBERS 2019

AFA Associate Members are the recognised bodies of accounting professionals of any ASEAN member states, or international recognised bodies of accounting professionals from other countries which are friendly to and supportive of the objectives of AFA – even though they may be outside the territorial jurisdiction of ASEAN.

## CPA Australia

Level 20  
28 Freshwater Place  
Southbank, VIC 3006  
Australia  
[www.cpaaustralia.com.au](http://www.cpaaustralia.com.au)



## Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CA ANZ)

33 Erskine Street  
GPO Box 9985  
Sydney, NSW 2000  
Australia  
[www.charteredaccountantsanz.com](http://www.charteredaccountantsanz.com)



## The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

The Adelphi  
1-11 John Adam Street  
London  
England WC2N 6AU  
[www.accaglobal.com](http://www.accaglobal.com)



## The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)

ICAEW South East Asia Limited  
3, Temasek Avenue  
Centennial Tower #34-00  
Singapore 039190  
[www.icaew.com](http://www.icaew.com)



## The Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA)

No. 15, Jalan Medan Tuanku  
Kuala Lumpur, 50300  
Malaysia  
[www.micpa.com.my](http://www.micpa.com.my)



## The Japanese Institute of Certified Public Accountants (JICPA)

4-4-1 Kudanminami Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo 102-8264  
Japan  
[www.hp.jicpa.or.jp](http://www.hp.jicpa.or.jp)



## The Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT)

140 Aldersgate Street  
London  
England EC1A 4HY  
[www.aat.org.uk](http://www.aat.org.uk)



## Institut Akuntan Publik Indonesia (IAPI) Indonesian Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Office 8 Building  
12<sup>th</sup> Floor Unit 12i-12j, SCBD Lot 28  
Jakarta 12190  
Indonesia  
[www.iapi.or.id](http://www.iapi.or.id)



## Institute of Management Accountants (IMA)

60 Paya Lebar Road  
#06-19 Paya Lebar Square  
Singapore 40905  
[www.imanet.org](http://www.imanet.org)



## INTRODUCTION OF NEW AFA ASSOCIATE MEMBER



The Association of  
Accountants and  
Financial Professionals  
in Business

### About IMA® (Institute of Management Accountants)

IMA®, named the 2017 and 2018 Professional Body of the Year by *The Accountant/International Accounting Bulletin*, is one of the largest and most respected associations focused exclusively on advancing the management accounting profession. Globally, IMA supports the profession through research, the U.S. CMA® (Certified Management Accountant) and CSCA® (Certified in Strategy and Competitive Analysis) programs, continuing education, networking, and advocacy of the highest ethical business practices. IMA has a global network of more than 125,000 members in 150 countries and 300 professional and student chapters. Headquartered in Montvale, N.J., USA, IMA provides localized services through its four global regions: The Americas, Asia/Pacific, Europe, and Middle East/India. For more information about IMA, please visit [www.imanet.org](http://www.imanet.org).



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REPORT OF THE  
**AFA** **COUNCIL**

## AFA COUNCIL MEETING

### 128<sup>th</sup> AFA Council Meeting

 Bali Nusa Dua Convention Centre, Nusa Dua  13 April 2019



Under the bright tropical sun of Bali, the AFA Council and member organisations met for the 128<sup>th</sup> AFA Council Meeting. The meeting was held in the same week as the International Accounting Education Standards Board (IAESB) Meeting and the jointly hosted IAI-AFA-IAESB International Conference 2019, highlighting AFA's recognition on the importance of working with key stakeholders such as IFAC, IAESB, and IAI as the hosting PAO.

AFA's focus on strengthening its relationship with key stakeholders was further emphasised through involvement of both IFAC President, Dr. In-Ki Joo and former Chair of the IAESB, Anne-Marie Vitale at the meeting. In his remarks, Dr. Joo acknowledged AFA's important role in development of the accountancy profession in the ASEAN region and IFAC's desire to continue both organisations' strong relationship. In particular, he highlighted the importance for the region in working with IFAC on protecting public interest and rebuilding trust towards the profession especially in the disruptive era. Meanwhile, Anne-Marie shared her role as the Chair of the International Accountancy Education Transition Advisory Group, responsible for assisting with developing the model going forward for development of the accounting education standards.

Further highlighting the importance of sharing from and between member organisations, ISCA Deputy Director (Technical), Lim Ju May presented Singapore IFRS convergence journey, and Singapore-specific application challenges (IFRS 9, IFRS 15). The meeting also acknowledged sharing from Dr. Teerachai Arunruangsirilert of TFAC, who is also the Chair of ASEAN CPA Coordinating Committee, on the latest update on implementation of the ASEAN MRA on Accountancy Services.



Recognising the important role of the AFA Working Committee, the meeting approved new term for the Committee leadership. Representatives of IAI, ISCA, MIA, PICPA, and TFAC are continuing the Committee's work in serving as a platform for AFA in focusing on its key priorities.

A major milestone for AFA was the first strategic discussion conducted as part of the meeting. It was an important first step in the Federation's journey in establishing the AFA Strategic Plan 2020-2023. The Council focused on a review of the AFA Strategic Plan 2016-2019, recognising AFA's major

achievements for the period, value propositions to partners and stakeholders, and potential challenges and opportunities that will continue to be considered for the coming period. The discussion served as the basis for further deliberations throughout 2019.





2016-2019

## 129<sup>th</sup> AFA Council Meeting

**One Farrer Hotel, Singapore** | **25 November 2019**

Final meeting for the year was hosted by ISCA in Singapore, back-to-back with the ISCA FRC-AFA Financial Reporting & Business Conference 2019, a celebration of the 21<sup>st</sup> AFA Conference. The Council took the opportunity to congratulate LCPAA for their appointment as an IFAC Associate. It is a culmination of a long development journey and a statement of progress for the PAO. AFA is committed to work with the member organisations in becoming a member of IFAC and fulfilling the IFAC SMOs.



Further highlighting the importance of the ASEAN region and AFA at the centre of the development of the profession, AFA welcomed the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) as its latest Associate Member. Presented by IMA's Senior Director for Southeast Asia and Australasia, Dr. Josh Heniro, IMA's proposal was responded positively by the Council. AFA looks forward to working with IMA in advancing the management accounting profession in the region.

Continuing with commitment to facilitate sharing from and between AFA and relevant stakeholders, the meeting invited Nick Talbot, CEO of the International Valuation Standards Committee (IVSC) who presented a brief information about IVSC and the latest update on International Valuation Standards. Lee Zhen Ni, Senior Manager, Professional Qualification of ISCA also presented ISCA's initiatives on financial forensic accounting and infrastructure advisory.



A major highlight of the meeting was approval of the AFA Strategic Plan 2020-2023. The plan focuses on successful outcomes, strategic thrusts, and the related action plans for the period, highlighting linkage between strategies, priorities, and activities identified as the AFA Strategic Map. The plan was a result of a year-long discussions, absorbing AFA and the member organisations' aspirations for the profession in the region for the next four years. The plan recognises AFA's aspirations to work closer and collaborate with partners and stakeholders (internal and external) on shared strategic interests in the region.

AFA Council Meeting

## AFA EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

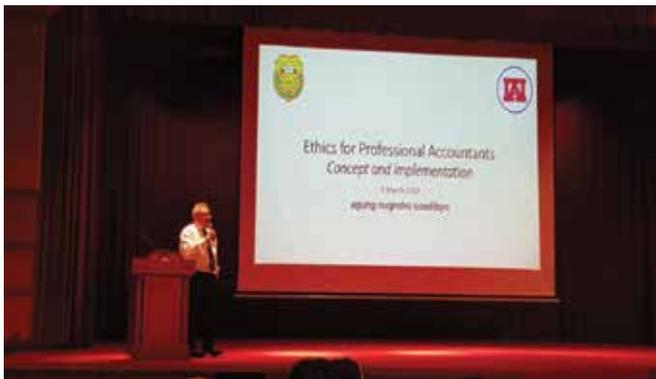
### BICPA CPD Activity on Ethics for Professional Accountants

**Rizqun International Hotel, Bandar Seri Begawan** | **6 March 2019**

AFA together with IAI and host BICPA conducted a one-day (8 CPD hour) CPD activity on ethics for professional accountants, looking at the evolution of ethics as a concept and set of standards and its real-world implementation particularly in the ASEAN region. The session was delivered by Agung Nugroho Soedibyo (Member, IAI Professional Certification Board), an experienced practitioner with more than 40 years of professional experience with multiple large accounting firms in Indonesia.



Held at the Rizqun International Hotel, the session was attended by around 60 participants, most are members of BICPA. It was a first collaboration between BICPA and IAI, a realisation of AFA's aspiration to facilitate cooperation between the ASEAN PAOs, as a platform for knowledge and resource sharing and mutual capacity building.



The session looked at the Code of Ethics issues by the IESBA, particularly the new and revamped Code effective in June 2019. Included in the discussion was information on the NOCLAR and revised independence provisions relating to long association. The session also looked at hot ethics are being implemented in today's technology driven business environment, acknowledging its importance as a disruptive force affecting how the accountancy profession is providing its services to the stakeholders.

### IAI – AFA – IAESB International Conference 2019

**Bali Nusa Dua Convention Centre, Nusa Dua** | **11-12 April 2019**

More than 200 participants from 15 countries attended the IAI – AFA – IAESB International Conference 2019 in Nusa Dua. The Conference was co-hosted by AFA, IAI and IAESB, focusing on competencies of the future and the role of accounting education standards in equipping professional accountants to face new challenges in the disruption era. The Conference discussed the topic from three key areas: opportunities and challenges for professional accountants in the digital age and the growing





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importance of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) skills, importance of professional scepticism in the face of recent accounting misbehaviours and how one can become a better sceptic, and the need for enhancement of accounting competencies through CPD.

Among the key contributors to the conference, sharing their views on the theme and different topics are Dr. In-Ki Joo (President, IFAC), Kon Yin Tong (President, AFA 2018-2019), Anne-Marie Vitale (former Chair, IAESB), Prof. Ainun Na'im (Council Member, IAI), Dr. Nurmazilah Dato' Mahzan (CEO, MIA), and Chun Wee Chiew (Board Member, IAASB). Other contributors came from different backgrounds, local, regional and international, such as IAESB board members, PAOs, practitioners, and Government representatives.



In his remarks, AFA President highlighted how disruptions change the way we do business, the way we live, including how accountants are providing their services. The accountancy profession cannot afford to remain complacent and need to remain relevant in today's world characterised by the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

A reflection of the conference's strong focus on technology, participants actively participated in the discussions through the use of the event application, developed by IAI. In addition to Q&A and general information about the event, the application was also used to gather participants' feedback via an online survey.

The conference was a realisation of AFA's objectives to support adoption and implementation of international standards and provide a development platform for PAOs and accountants in the region.

## IAI Aspiring Professional Accountants International Seminar

 **Universitas Udayana, Denpasar** |  **12 April 2019**

AFA President was invited by IAI to participate at the IAI Aspiring Professional Accountants International Seminar, held at the Universitas Udayana, one of the biggest universities in Bali. With the theme of *becoming the next generation of professional accountants*, the seminar focused on building accounting students' awareness of the latest trends affecting the profession and aspiring them to become the future of the profession.

President Kon participated in the morning session of the seminar, introducing AFA to the participants, sharing his experience in becoming a professional accountant and talking about future competencies of the profession. The session was facilitated by Prof. Lindawati Gani in front of about 150 participants, mostly consisted of third year accounting students of the university.



Participants actively engaging in the discussion, asking questions on matters such as their next step in becoming a professional accountant, the merit of further education vs obtaining a chartered accountant designation, and the role of accountants, specifically auditors, in dealing with accounting scandals. AFA's participation is part of the Federation's efforts in building public awareness towards AFA and its activities (branding).

The afternoon session was dedicated to the international context on the topic. Participants witnessed sharing from IFAC President, Dr. In-Ki Joo and former IAESB Chair, Anne-Marie Vitale, facilitated by Prof. Sidharta Utama of IAI and former member of IAESB.



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum of Entities Associated with ASEAN

**ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta** | **29 April 2019**



AFA as an accredited Civil Society Organisation of the ASEAN participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum of Entities Associated with ASEAN, hosted by the ASEAN Secretariat. The forum is a platform for ASEAN in interacting with entities associated with the association in the political-security, socio-cultural, and economic communities.

In his welcoming remarks, H.E. AKP Mochtan, Deputy Secretary-General, Community and Corporate Affairs of the ASEAN highlighted the importance for ASEAN to continue with their efforts in maintaining strong communication and coordination with the many stakeholders in the region, particularly

entities associated with the ASEAN. He recognised the important role that the entities can play in building communities' awareness toward the ASEAN objectives and plan, and how they will affect ASEAN as a single community. H.E. Ambassador Phasporn Sangasubana, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Thailand to ASEAN in her opening remarks shared with the entities Thailand's priorities for its term as the Chair of the ASEAN in 2019.

Represented by Executive Director Pratama, AFA participated in an interface session with the Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN of the ASEAN Economic Community, DSG Aladdin D. Rillo, and a breakout session with the ASEAN Sectoral Bodies on economy led by Bhornbhat Punngok, representing the Chair of the ASEAN Senior Economic Officials' Meeting (SEOM). Among the issues raised were on how the entities can contribute to the ASEAN initiatives and how to better coordinate the many initiatives and activities of ASEAN and entities associated with the organisation.





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## VAA Conference & 6<sup>th</sup> National Delegate Congress AFA (2019-2024)

State Audit Office of Vietnam, Hanoi DATE 25-26 May 2019

VAA hosted the VAA Conference in Hanoi, conducted as part of commemoration of VAA's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, focusing on the topic of future and prospects of accounting profession. Invited by VAA, AFA President, Kon Yin Tong, delivered a presentation on behalf of AFA, focusing on development trends of accounting profession in ASEAN. President shared with more than 200 participants, mostly members of VAA, about AFA, its priorities and activities, impacts and challenges of Industry 4.0 on the accounting profession, education, future competencies of professional accountants, and AFA as an ASEAN resource centre.



The conference was graced by the presence of prominent and senior leaders of relevant stakeholders in Vietnam. Among those who attended and participated at the conference were Prof. Dr. Vuong Dinh Hue, Deputy Prime Minister of Vietnam, Dr. Ho Duc Phoc, General State Auditor of Vietnam, Vu Thi Mai, Deputy Minister of Finance of Vietnam, and Dr. Dang Van Thanh, President of VAA as the host.

In conjunction with the conference, President was also invited to attend the 6<sup>th</sup> National Delegate Congress of VAA (2019-2024). With participation from 320 out of 10,000 eligible members of VAA, the congress was an important part of VAA's continuing role as the recognised PAO in Vietnam. Presided by the Board of Chairman, VAA members participated in the general election to vote for the next leadership of VAA.



In his speech, President congratulated VAA for their role in development of the accountancy profession in Vietnam and in contributing to AFA in the collective development of the profession in the region. Under the leadership of Dr. Dang Van Thanh, VAA continues to play its role as a member of AFA and also IFAC, working hand-in-hand with fellow PAOs and relevant stakeholders in the region.



Prior to the conference and congress, President also participated in a delegation welcomed by senior leaders of the Ministry of Finance of Vietnam, led by Mr. Dinh Tien Dung, Minister of Finance of Vietnam. Among the delegates were representatives of ISCA and representatives of MIA led by their President, Huang Shze Jiun.

The participants discussed the latest on the profession in the region, expectations and possible collaborations in Vietnam, and how the Vietnamese stakeholders can contribute to the regional development of the profession.

## PICPA Annual Planning Conference Financial Year 2019/2020

 **Baguio Country Club, Baguio** |  **29-30 June 2019**

AFA Executive Director (ED) was invited as a resource speaker by PICPA, to speak at the PICPA Annual Planning Conference for Fiscal Year 2019/2020. Held in Baguio, the conference focused on the theme of *reinforcing for the future, together, today*. The theme embraces the rapid changes transforming the business landscape, from industries dominated by machine-led production to today's Fourth Industrial Revolution, which is characterised by great leaps in technology. PICPA recognised the need for the profession to prepare for the future by learning the new competencies required in navigating disruption. ED was invited to speak on capacity building PAO, looking at benchmarking opportunities on experience



of other PAOs in the region. In his presentation, ED shared with almost 200 accountants – PICPA members from different chapters from all over the Philippines, AFA's progress and initiatives for the period. He also highlighted several development and capacity building initiatives of the AFA Primary Members, such as the use of technology as a platform for PAO in providing better value to their members, ISCA's Quality Assurance Framework and MIA's Practice Review. The participants were enthusiastic to discuss how PAO can play a more effective role in working with the relevant Government bodies in ensuring the quality of public practice in the Philippines.

Among the other speakers sharing their expertise were Honourable Noe G. Quinanola, Chairman of the Board of Accountancy, who shared an overview and directions of the accountancy profession and the role of PICPA, and Dr. Cesar Mansibang, past National Director of PICPA, who shared the importance of linking the Board of Accountancy's plans with PICPA's five-point of thrust.



As part of the event, PICPA held the PICPA dinner and induction ceremonies for the new leadership of the Institute (and its chapters) for Financial Year 19/20. Replacing the departing National President Ma Asuncion Golez is Evelyn Corpuz, National President Financial Year 19/20. AFA congratulated President for her impeccable leadership and contribution to AFA and look forward to continuing both organisations' long history of cooperation under her leadership.

## ROC CPA Visit to IAI – AFA Secretariat

 **AFA Secretariat, Jakarta** |  **1 July 2019**

AFA Secretariat together with IAI welcomed a visit from delegation of CPAs from the Republic of China/Taiwan (ROC). The delegation consisted of representatives of the National Federation of CPA Association of the ROC and the Taiwan Provincial CPA Association, a non-government institution organised by CPAs in Taiwan. The purposes of





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the visit are to foster potential working partnership with AFA, provide potential business matching opportunities with SMPs in Indonesia, Taiwan, and the ASEAN region in general, and explore areas for collaboration and affiliation.

Leading the delegation of 12 were Hwang Yih Ray, Chairman of the National Federation of CPA Association of the ROC, Tien Chien Lung, Chairman of the Taiwan Provincial CPA Association, Kuo Tsung Ta, Committee Chair of the Taiwan Provincial CPA Association, International and Cross-strait Service Committee, and Tai Hsing Cheng, Committee Chair, The National Federation of CPA Associations of the ROC, International Affairs Committee.

IAI, AFA, and the Taiwan delegates shared brief information about each organisation's activities, investment and economic environment in the region, and how SMPs practice their business in each country. In the area of collaboration and affiliation, AFA Executive Director shared examples of potential for collaborations on sharing of information on accountancy practices and capacity building of accountants in the ROC and the ASEAN region.



### AFA President Visit to IFAC Office

**IFAC Office, New York** | **15 July 2019**

AFA President visited the IFAC office in New York and participated in an AFA and IFAC conference call, discussing the latest proposal on the simplified framework for organisational relationships. Joining the call from Singapore and Jakarta respectively were AFA Treasurer and Executive Director.

Represented by Alta Prinsloo, Executive Director, Quality and Development and Adrian Lim, Technical Manager, Quality and Development, and IFAC President, Dr. In-Ki Joo, joining the call from Seoul, IFAC reiterated its commitment to strengthen its partnership with regional organisations and development partners in developing the accountancy profession.

AFA applauded and reiterated its support to IFAC's effort in proposing the simplified framework, one that would better facilitate identification and coordination of shared objectives, interests, and activities between IFAC their partners and stakeholders.



### AFA Meeting with Representatives of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in India

**J.W. Marriott Hotel, Jakarta** | **26 August 2019**

AFA was invited by IAI to meet with representatives of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) in Jakarta. Led by Prafulla P. Chhajed, President and Atul Kumar Gupta, Vice President of ICAI, with delegates consisted of primarily ICAI members based in Indonesia. Among the representatives of IAI were



Council members, Isnaeni Achdiat and David Sijabat. The meeting was also attended by representatives of CPA Australia (Indonesia).

The meeting sought to explore possibilities of mutual cooperation between particularly ICAI and IAI, on areas such as member management, technical research, CPD, professional accountancy training, and monitoring of audit quality. ICAI also shared some of its key initiatives such as ICAI's digital e-Learning and Unique Digital Identification Number for securing certificates attested by practicing Chartered Accountants.

ICAI also extended invitation to IAI and AFA to attend the upcoming ICAI International Conference, scheduled to be held in Mumbai on 6–7 December 2019. They also requested IAI and AFA's support to promote the World Congress of Accountants, to be held in Mumbai on 18–21 November 2022.

## IAI Aspiring Professional Accountants Festival (APAFest) 2019

 Indonesian Stock Exchange, Jakarta  4 September 2019

IAI hosted its annual IAI Aspiring Professional Accountants Festival (APAFest) 2019 at the Main Hall of the Indonesian Stock Exchange. More than 1,500 accounting students from all over Indonesia participated in various activities conducted as part of the event, such as: career fair, APA Championship, National APA Award and APA Best Paper competition, and IAI's Chartered Accountant (CA) scholarship selection.

IAI APAFest 2019 is part of the Institute's continuous efforts in preparing the next generation of Professional Accountants in Indonesia. This program is in line with the Government of Indonesia's strategy to create a leading generation of high-quality human resources, serving as a catalyst for advancement of the country's economy and achievement of Indonesia's potential as one of the largest market in the world.

Officially opened by Prof. Mardiasmo, President of the IAI National Council, some of the prominent speakers sharing their thoughts and experiences with the young accountants were Prof. Ainun Naim, a Council Member of IAI, Helmy Yahya, former CEO of TVRI, and Dasrul Chaniago, Chair of the CFO Club Indonesia.



As a supporter of the event, AFA, represented by Executive Director Pratama, moderated a session focusing on the topic of successful accountants. Chair of the CFO Club Indonesia shared his experience in becoming one of the youngest CFOs in Indonesia and how his accountancy background has prepared him for his journey. Representing the Finance Profession Supervisory Centre of the Ministry of Finance, Andar Ramona Sinaga as the counterpart in this session also shared some the Indonesian Government's initiatives to help accountants in Indonesia in reaching their full potential.



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## IAI International Tax Conference 2019

 **Grand Hyatt, Jakarta** |  **17 September 2019**

In the effort to raise public awareness to these issues and provide a platform for discussion among relevant stakeholders and the accountancy profession, IAI through its IAI Taxation Accountants Compartment conducted the IAI International Tax Conference 2019. This was the sixth event conducted by IAI, supported by the Bureau van Dijk (a Moody's Analytics Company). The event took the theme of *The Current Issues of International Taxation and Digital Economy Era*. AFA was one of the supporters for this conference.

Opened by the President of the National Council of IAI, Prof. Mardiasmo, the conference focused on four sessions looking at tax and customs challenges in the digital economy, improving tax and customs certainty in Indonesia, how to resolve the transfer pricing dispute in Indonesia, dan how to utilise Big Data to increase tax and customs compliance in Indonesia.

The event also witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between IAI and the Directorate General of Customs and Excise, aimed at enhancing public awareness and obedience on customs and excises in Indonesia.



## Indonesia MOF Finance Profession Expo 2019

 **Dhanapala Ballroom, Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia, Jakarta** |  **8 October 2019**

AFA was invited by IAI and the Ministry of Finance of Indonesia's Financial Profession Development Centre to participate at the Ministry of Finance of Indonesia' Finance Profession Expo 2019. The event brings together more than 2,000 registered participants, consisted of leaders and practitioners of the Indonesian finance professions, major accountancy, valuation, and actuary firms, universities, and the next generation of accountants in Indonesia.

Opened by Secretary General of the Ministry of Finance, Hadiyanto on behalf of the Minister of Finance of Indonesia, the two-day event provides participants with valuable opportunities to build network and learn about the latest trends in the professions. Through this event, the Financial Profession Development Centre as the main regulatory body for the professions aspires to create an ecosystem that can nurture the next generation of finance professionals.

In the main panel session, looking at the role of finance profession in the Indonesian economy, Prof. Lindawati Gani of IAI shared IAI's





key initiatives in developing future professional accountants in Indonesia. The panel highlighted the potential demand for professional services in the finance industry that needs to be responded by the professional bodies.

The event was also an opportunity for the three accountancy bodies (IAI, IAPI, and IAMI), together with the Ministry of Finance, to promote the 1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN CPA Conference 2019 (Bali, 16-17 October 2019). AFA was a supporting organisation of the event.

## 1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN CPA Conference 2019

 Inaya Putri Nusa Dua Hotel, Nusa Dua  16-17 October 2019



Implementation of the ASEAN MRA on Accountancy Services as a regional Government initiative of the ASEAN member states has had its successes and challenges. As at October 2019, four years after the MRA was signed, 3,770 accountants in the region have registered themselves as ASEAN CPAs under the initiative. The figure is relatively low compared to for example, the collective membership figure of the AFA Primary Members (more than 220,000 accountants as at December 2018).

The 1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN CPA Conference 2019 was held as a realisation of ASEAN Governments' aspiration to work with a larger group of stakeholders, in further

promoting the MRA, specifically the ASEAN CPA designation. The conference was held to provide a platform for Government officials, business leaders, professional bodies, and accountants in the region to network and discuss the future of the profession, including how to contribute to the successful implementation of the MRA.



More than 300 participants, including more than 50 from the ASEAN member states, attended the conference as an important milestone for the ASEAN CPA journey. Following the formal officiating of the conference, in her keynote, the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Dr. Sri Mulyani Indrawati shared Indonesia's journey in establishing its state finance accountability. She highlighted the important role of professional accountants, in public and private sector, in building public's trust towards both the profession and the overall financial reporting environment in Indonesia.

Day 1 of the conference witnessed the launching of the ASEAN CPA logo, a culmination of the ASEAN member states' journey in bringing together their aspirations for a regional recognition of qualified





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professional accountants. The logo illustrates the different colours of the ASEAN member states and how together they create a unified colour of the ASEAN CPA.

Day 2 focused on professional accountancy bodies' experience in developing the profession in Indonesia and the ASEAN region. AFA, represented by AFA Council Member, Prof. Sidharta Utama (IAI) shared a brief history about AFA, its key initiatives and activities, and aspiration to work with stakeholders in the region in developing the accountancy profession. Led by Prof. Djoko Susanto, AFA President (1994-1995), the discussion highlighted the importance of collaboration between the accountancy bodies, and also with relevant partners and stakeholders in the region. In the second panel of the day, Agung Nugroho Soedibyo, a Council Member of IAMI highlighted the need for accountancy bodies and the private sector to be involved in the ASEAN CPA discussion, particularly to promote the initiative to businesses in the region.



The conference was concluded with official handing over of the conference hosting from Indonesia to Dr. Teerachai Arunruangsirilert, then Chair of the ASEAN CPA Coordinating Committee. The 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN CPA Conference is scheduled to be hosted in the Philippines in 2020. The conference was jointly organised by the Financial Profession Development Centre of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia, ASEAN Secretariat, the three Indonesian professional accountancy bodies (IAI, IAPI, IAMI) and AFA.



## MIA International Accountants Conference 2019

**Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur**

**22-23 October 2019**

MIA successfully hosted the MIA International Accountants Conference 2019, the Institute's premier annual conference and the largest accountancy event in the country. Attended by more than 3,300 delegates from 21 countries all over the world, the conference had more than 80 speakers spread over 20 sessions of various topics. AFA was one of the proud supporters of the conference.



Taking the theme of *Trust and Sustainability in a Digital Economy*, the conference was officiated by then Y.B. Senator Dr. Radzi Md. Jidin, Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Malaysia. In his keynote, the (then) Deputy Minister stressed the importance of data and evidence-based policy making and the role of accountants in gathering accurate and reliable data, even more so in a digital economy.

Day 1 of the conference presented various discussions on topics such as trust and sustainability in a digital economy, navigating the AI-augmented workplace, tax reforms: ensuring sustainability for long term growth, sustainability skillsets, trust and security in Big Data, harnessing analytics to maximise business performance, and <IR> enabling integrity and delivering trust. Some of the speakers sharing the stages were Dr. Nurmazilah Dato' Mahzan (MIA), Kevin Fitzgerald (Xero Asia), Prof. Yeah Kim Leng (Sunway Univ), Dr. Keeratpal Singh (Axiata), and Datuk Zaiton Mohd Hassan (Pembangunan Msia Bhd).



Continuing the success of day 1, day 2 of the conference brought together names such as Sharifah Raudhah AlQudsy, Sreen Teoh (AirAsia BIG), Prof. Dato' Dr Mohd Azmi Omar (INCEIF), Dato' Wong Wing Seong, (BDO Malaysia), Dato' Abdul Aziz Abu Bakar (ICDM/Affin Bank), Dr. Veerinderjeet Singh (Axcelasia Inc), and the highlight of the day, Gary Guller, the first one-armed man to summit Mt Everest & successfully complete the gruelling 6-day 250 km Marathon de Sables in the Sahara. Panelists were involved in various discussions focusing on blockchain revolution, the profession's responsibility in combating climate change, the role of women in enabling corporate culture, and finance in the age of AI and 4.0.

## AFA & World Bank Visit to the ASEAN and ACPACC Secretariat

 **ASEAN Secretariat and ACPACC Secretariat, Jakarta**

 **4 November 2019**



AFA continues to strengthen its communication with the World Bank, particularly on exploring potential development collaboration in the region. The Bank is currently working on a proposal for development activities in selected ASEAN countries, focusing on support for development of enabling regulatory frameworks over financial reporting in both the public and private sectors and build related implementation capacity through regional partnership with stakeholders in the region. The activity looks to draw on the International Development Association (IDA) funding and is envisioned to leverage the knowledge and experience of

more advanced countries within ASEAN to assist in closing the development gap in the target countries through peer exchange, knowledge transfer and regional cooperation.

Recognising AFA's role as the regional body for the ASEAN accountancy profession, the Bank requested AFA's assistance to meet with key stakeholders in the region, specifically the ASEAN Secretariat and the ASEAN CPA Coordinating Committee (ACPACC) Secretariat, both based in Jakarta. The objective of the visits is to seek preliminary inputs from the stakeholders for the proposed development activities and understand how the activities can contribute to the ASEAN's initiatives including but not limited to, the ASEAN MRA on Accountancy Services (ASEAN CPA). The Bank is also seeking potential implementation partner(s) for the project and have identified AFA, the ASEAN Secretariat, and ACPACC as potential stakeholders to be involved in the project. The Bank was represented by Senior Financial Management Specialists Christopher Fabling and Bonnie Ann Sirois.





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Both the ASEAN and ACPACC Secretariat responded positively to the proposal and highlighted the important role that AFA and the ASEAN PAOs can play in working with the Bank to achieve the common objective of enhancing the region’s financial reporting capacity.



### ACCA – IAI – AFA Regional Joint Conference 2019

**Le Meridien Hotel, Jakarta** | **7 November 2019**

AFA together with IAI and ACCA Indonesia, in collaboration with CFO Club Indonesia, co-hosted the ACCA-IAI-AFA Regional Joint Conference 2019. The event was part of the three organisations’ collaboration in building awareness towards current issues relevant to the profession in Indonesia. This year’s conference focuses on the topic of managing talent – evolving career opportunities and future competencies. Around 80 invitees, participants, leaders of key stakeholders in Indonesia, and representatives from businesses and universities attended the one-day conference.

In his keynote, David Sidjabat, National Council Member of IAI highlighted the importance for the accountancy profession to respond to changing demands that come from the industry. PAOs in particular needs to ensure their members are equipped with the right future competencies.

The conference was divided into three discussions; managing finance talent in the age of disruption from Human Resources’ (HR) perspective, the future of competencies and learning in finance function from PAOs’ point of view and preparing the future CFOs as described by those in the position. Several of the resource persons mentioned internationally recognised professional qualification as a key component for finance professionals of the future. They see the qualifications as a recognition of quality and assurance of what the individuals can potentially deliver to their stakeholders, particularly their employers.



AFA Events and Activities

## IESBA – ISCA – AFA Webinar on Code of Ethics

 ISCA Office, Singapore  20 November 2019



ISCA and AFA together with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA) co-hosted a joint webinar on key changes to the Code of Ethics. This is a first collaboration of such nature between AFA and the international standard setting body, in line with one of AFA's priorities to promote adoption and implementation of international standards in the ASEAN region.

Opened by AFA and ISCA President, Kon Yin Tong, the presentation was delivered by IESBA members, Sylvie Soulier and Caroline Lee. The presentation highlighted key changes to the latest Code, looking at differences in implementation by those in

business and public practice. Attended by more than 208 accessing participants, some of which involve group participations, participants showed interest on things such as the architecture of the Code, key changes to independence requirements in the Code, non-compliance with laws and regulations (NOCLAR), professional judgment and scepticism.

## ISCA FRC – AFA Financial Reporting & Business Conference 2019 (21<sup>st</sup> AFA Conference)

 One Farrer Hotel, Singapore  26 November 2019

AFA together with ISCA co-hosted the ISCA Financial Reporting Committee (FRC) – AFA Financial Reporting & Business Conference 2019, in conjunction with the 129<sup>th</sup> AFA Council Meeting. It was also a celebration of the 21<sup>st</sup> AFA Conference, the Federation's biennial major event, held back-to-back with the departing AFA President's final Council Meeting.

With the theme of *rising to the challenges of financial reporting*, the conference aims to share with audience the latest financial reporting issues in Singapore, adoption of IFRS in ASEAN countries, and some of the latest key trends in the region such as innovation, investment, and implications of global issues such as the US-China trade war and Brexit to the ASEAN region. The event was attended by around 180 participants, consisted of Singapore business leaders and accountants, and representatives of the ASEAN PAOs.



Morning sessions of the conference were curated by the ISCA FRC, focusing on various IFRS implementation issues based on the Singapore business environment such as SPPI test in IFRS 9, real property valuation for





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financial reporting, and the new leases standards. One of the panel sessions also sharing with participants the areas of focus and ways to avoid common pitfalls in financial reporting.

During the Q&A session, participants actively posed questions to the speakers through Pigeon-hole, an online interactive Q&A platform used in the conference. Some of the questions receiving the most votes from participants were on valuation (differences between market and fair value), determination of discount rate of leases, accounting for crypto assets, and the use of codification framework in Singapore.

In the afternoon, moderated by Simon Tay of MIA, four representatives of ASEAN countries:

Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar shared their IFRS adoption journey, highlighting the key challenges and opportunities arise from the experience. Participants recognised similarities between the countries, and appreciated the apparent differences such as stakeholders' maturity and capacity, and the availability of accountants and other supporting professions needed to support implementation of IFRS.



The conference was also privileged with sharing from prominent speakers such as Kishore Mahbubani, Distinguished Fellow Asia Research Institute of the National University of Singapore, Wilson Koh, Group Treasurer of Grab, Darren Tan, CEO of OCBC, and Nick Talbot, CEO of IVSC.

A major event in the conference was the official handover ceremony from departing AFA President, Kon Yin Tong (ISCA), to incoming AFA President, Wan Tin (MICPA). President Wan Tin, together with Deputy President Suphot Singhasaneh (TFAC), will be serving their role for the period of 2020-2021. In his acceptance speech, Wan Tin highlighted the importance of collaboration between the AFA member organisations in developing the ASEAN accountancy profession. He expressed his appreciation for Yin Tong's leadership and his commitment to continue the AFA Office Bearer 2018-2019's legacy, particularly in working towards the AFA Strategic Plan 2020-2023.



## IAI National Seminar: A Celebration of IAI 62<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary

 TVRI, Jakarta |  5-6 December 2019



Celebrating its 62<sup>nd</sup> anniversary, IAI hosted the IAI National Seminar on 5-6 December 2019. Taking place at the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of the historic TVRI (Television of the Republic of Indonesia), the seminar took the theme of *Akuntan Indonesia Unggul, Indonesia Maju* or *Excellent Indonesian Accountants, Advanced Indonesia*. The two-day seminar focused on topics relevant with the aspiration to support the development of human resources and economic transformation towards a Golden Indonesia 2045. This is in line with the Government of Indonesia's priority programs for 2019-2024, focusing particularly on development of the human resources and economic transformation.



First day of the seminar highlighted the importance of democratisation of economy and digital economy in particular as drivers for economic transformation. On the other hand, the profession also recognised the importance for developing villages as key element contributing to a stronger Indonesian economy. Whilst the second day take up the important role of micro, small and medium enterprises and Shariah economy in carrying Indonesia towards industrial revolution 4.0. It highlights the strategic role that professional accountants play in safeguarding the stability of the national financial management.

A highlight of the two-day seminar was an inspiring sharing from the then President Director of TVRI, Helmy Yahya, an accountant with many talents, a public figure, and an inspiration for many.



As part of the celebration, IAI also hosted a fundraising gala dinner and an accountant night, broadcasted live on national television. With the symphony of entertainments as the background, IAI presented the IAI Akuntan Award 2019 to prominent accountants whose achievements have been recognised not only by the profession, but also a wider group of stakeholders. The awards were bestowed to Prof. Mardiasmo, Prof. Moermahadi Soerja Djanegara, Adiperdana, and a former minister of the Republic of Indonesia, Ignasius Jonan.





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## Developing Accountancy Capacity in Emerging Economies Conference

**Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur** | **10-12 December 2019**

IFAC, MIA and the Confederation of Asian and Pacific Accountants (CAPA) in partnership with the UK Department for International Development (DFID), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Global Fund, INTOSAI Capacity Building Committee (CBC) and the World Bank co-hosted the Future-Ready Accountancy Profession: Developing Accountancy Capacity in Emerging Economies Conference in Kuala Lumpur.

AFA was a proud knowledge partner of the conference, together with the Arab Federation of Accountants and Auditors (AFAA) and the South Asian Federation of Accountants (SAFA).



In their welcoming remarks, both Huang Shze Jiun, President of MIA and Dr. In-Ki Joo, President of IFAC highlighted the important role of the accountancy profession in establishing and upholding public's trust towards Public Financial Management (PFM). This message continued to be underlined throughout the three-day conference.

Day 1 of the event focused on initiatives in developing accountancy capacity in fragile and conflicted affected states. It looked at among others, the role of accountants and donors in state building in fragile and conflict affected states, how fragility affect countries, PFM in fragile and conflict affected states, role of the accountant general and auditor general in addressing PFM reform challenges, measuring PFM reform progress using the PEFA framework, and sharing or experience in building accountancy capacity in fragile and conflicted affected state.

Day 2 of the conference served as a forum for the participants to talk about a future-ready accountancy profession. The discussion began with an overview of the status of adoption of the international standards, based on data collected through the IFAC Member Compliance Program. Some of the resource persons also shared about the accountancy profession's role in public transparency and accountability, adoption and implementation of accrual-based accounting standards as a key element of quality reporting, monitoring the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, technological trends affecting the accountancy profession, the role and impact of financial management information systems on donor funded development programs, and important role of accounting technicians in servicing the economy and the public sector.



AFA Events and Activities

AFA, represented by Executive Director Pratama, participated in a session on digitalisation of accounting services and the role MSMEs as the engine of ASEAN economies. ED highlighted AFA's research activities (AFA Research Report 2018 and AFA Research Grant 2019) as example of initiatives focused at contributing to regional though leadership capacity on SMEs and SMPs issues. Particularly with the 2019 Grant, he highlighted AFA's recognition of the importance of technology as a driver of change, affecting the practice of SMEs and SMPs in the ASEAN region.

Last day of the event was delivered as a leadership governance workshop, looking at PAO leadership and governance practices. Main discussions at the workshop focused at principles and practices of operating an effective PAO Board/Council and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or equivalent, looking at examples, key principles and practices and challenges of operating an effective PAO Board and CEO. Among the ASEAN representatives in the panel were Huang Shze Jiun, Dr. Nurmazilah Dato' Mahzan, CEO of MIA, and Elly Zarni Husin, Executive Director of IAI.





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# AFA STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2023

## AFA Strategic Meeting

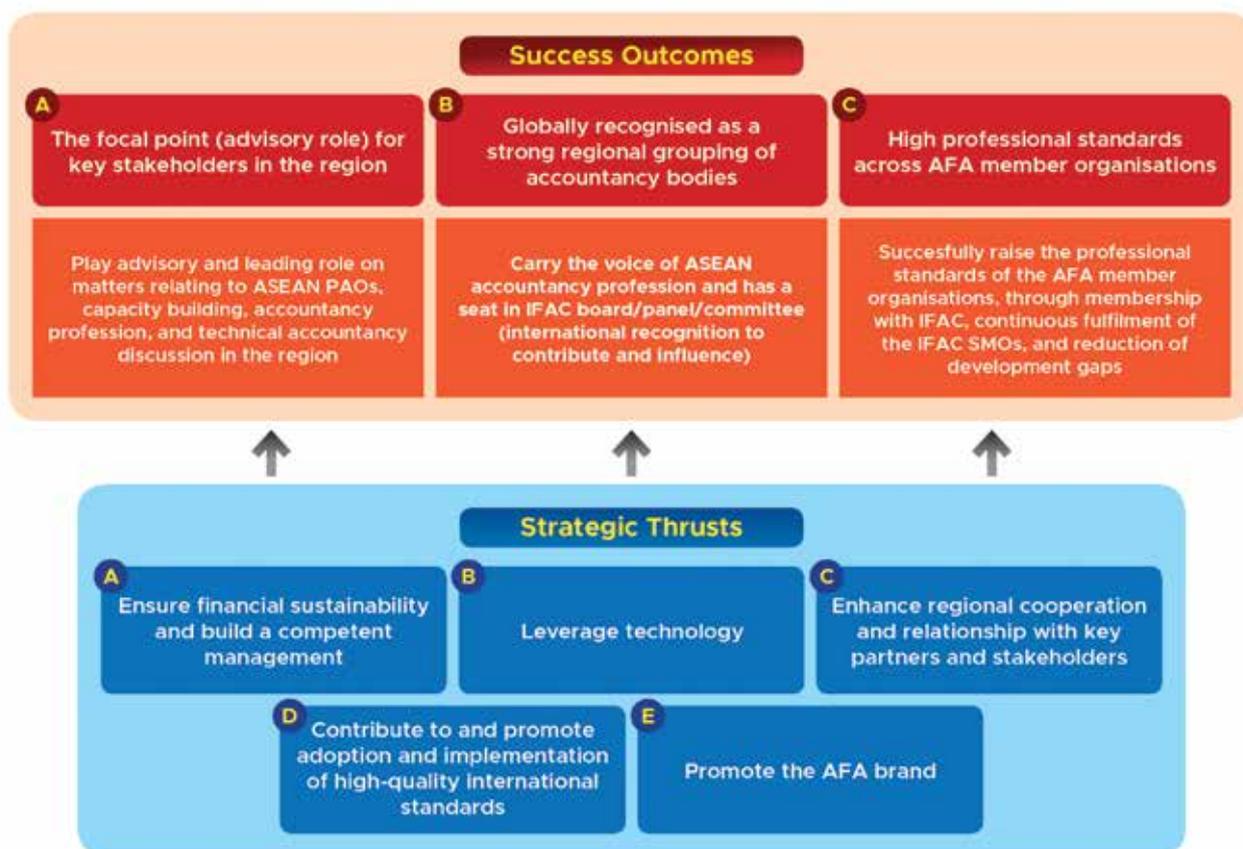
**📍 Bagan Thiripyitsaya Sanctuary Resort, Bagan** | **📅 14 September 2019**

As part of the Federation's journey in establishing the AFA Strategic Plan 2020-2023, the AFA Council conducted a strategic retreat in Bagan, Myanmar. The retreat was an important step in bridging the first (128<sup>th</sup> AFA Council Meeting) and second (129<sup>th</sup> AFA Council Meeting) strategic discussion. Professionally facilitated by an experienced regional strategic facilitator, the retreat was attended by representatives of all ten PAOs of the ASEAN Member States and honourable Union Auditor General on Myanmar, H.E. Prof. Dr. U Maw Than.

The AFA Council's reflection of the Federation's journey in the period of 2016-2019 served as foundation in discussion of what would be the AFA's priorities for the future. AFA conducted a stocktake of its achievements, opportunities and challenges in 2016-2019, together with an evaluation of its priorities for the period. In general, the AFA Council believes AFA has made significant progress, particularly in term of enhancing (national, regional, and international) recognition towards AFA and the AFA member organisations, and their collective efforts in developing the ASEAN accountancy profession.

The retreat identified among other things, AFA's value propositions to its core stakeholders – internal and external, AFA Council's vision of success outcomes at the end of the period, and the priority areas of focus or strategic thrusts to achieve the outcomes. All of these are linked together as the AFA Strategic Map 2020-2023, an illustration of AFA's priorities and strategies under the AFA Strategic Plan 2020-2023.

### AFA Strategic Map (2020-2023)





AFA believes it needs to be the referral point for stakeholders and play advisory and leading role on matters relating to ASEAN PAOs, capacity building, accountancy profession, and technical accountancy discussion in the region. Moreover, AFA needs to be globally recognised as a strong regional grouping of accountancy body which carries the voice of ASEAN accountancy profession. Finally, AFA aspires to raise the professional standards of the AFA member organisations, through membership with IFAC and continuous fulfilment of the IFAC SMOs, further minimising the development gaps between the ASEAN PAOs.

*The AFA Strategic Plan 2020-2023 will be published in 2020.*





2016-2019

## AFA RESEARCH GRANT 2019

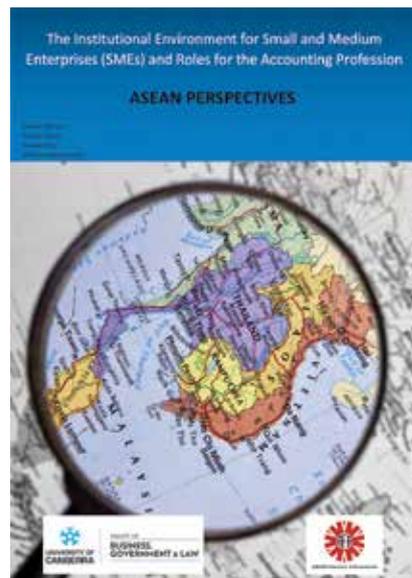
AFA continues its commitment to contribute to collective regional research capacity, a realisation of the Federation's aspiration to be a thought leader in discussion of important issues relevant to the ASEAN accountancy profession. Following the successful launching of the AFA Research Report 2018 in November 2018 – available in AFA website, AFA introduced the AFA Research Grant 2019 in May.

Through a public Call for Proposals, AFA invited proposals focusing on current SMEs and SMPs issues, recognising the important role of particularly SMEs as the backbone of the region's economy. The grant focuses on topics around the role of the accountancy profession in supporting ASEAN SMEs and SMPs, building from key findings and recommendations of the AFA Research Report 2018, and trends and changes affecting SMEs and SMPs in the region.

In August, following a comprehensive assessment by an independent panel, consisted of international experts, researchers, academics and practitioners, AFA announced the recipient of the AFA Research Grant 2019. With the title of Accounting Professional Technological Competency Skills (APTCS) SMPs for SMEs Technology Adoption, the proposal was from researchers of the Faculty of Accountancy, Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) and Azman Hashim International Business School, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia.

The research is expected to be finalised in the second half of 2020, with publication of the report to follow.

The AFA Research Grant 2019 is fully supported by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), the Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand (CA ANZ) and the Japanese Institute of Certified Public Accountants (JICPA).



2019

# AFA

ASEAN Federation of Accountants

# connect

The AFA Connect is an AFA's biannual publication, serving as a platform for communication for AFA and the AFA member organisations in sharing their views on issues relevant to the ASEAN accountancy profession.



**AFA CONNECT 03** (June 2019) looks at the impact of technology to the accountancy profession. In his foreword, President Kon highlighted how technology and automation would free accountants and bookkeepers to assume higher-value tasks. To help accountants in Malaysia manage sweeping changes arising from the digital economy and Industrial Revolution 4.0, MIA shared a piece on its digital technology blueprint. The edition also shared articles from ISCA, ICAEW and CAANZ, looking at cybersecurity risks, cryptocurrencies and Artificial Intelligence (AI).

**AFA CONNECT 04** (December 2019) serves as a parting edition for President Kon, presenting three articles from three AFA Presidents (past, departing and incoming). In passing the baton to President Wan Tin (2020-2021), he reiterated how AFA will continue to play the advisory and leading role on matters relating to the ASEAN accountancy profession, supported by AFA member organisations to bring about dynamic development, stability and prosperity. President Wan Tin and past President Sonexay Silaphet also shared their insights on the journey of MI.



# AFA NLINE 2019



ASEAN CSO  
IFAC Network Partner



## www.afa-accountants.org



[afa@afa-accountants.org](mailto:afa@afa-accountants.org)



[AFA\\_Accountants](#)



[ASEAN Federation of Accountants](#)

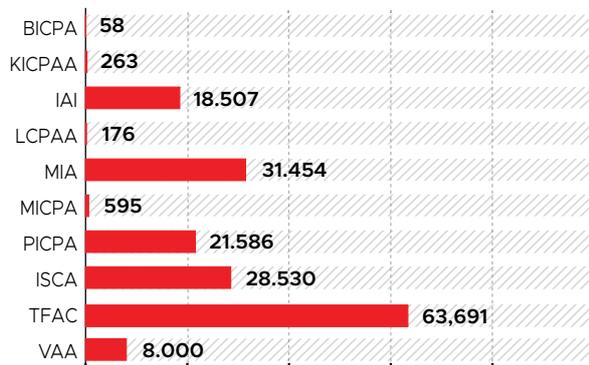
AFA continues to leverage technology, lives, events and activities to partners, stakeholders and the general public. As part of the Federation’s continuous efforts to promote the “AFA” brand, in 2019 the Federation rebranded the AFA website to [www.afa-accountants.org](http://www.afa-accountants.org) and email to [afa@afa-accountants.org](mailto:afa@afa-accountants.org). AFA also continues to engage with followers of the Federation’s social media accounts (Twitter, LinkedIn, and Facebook).

In the second half of 2019 alone, almost 7,000 visitors visited the AFA website, leading to more than 15,000 views. More than 1,500 followers are following AFA via the three social media accounts, actively engaging with the Federation on many updates periodically shared as the events and activities are conducted or thought leadership materials published.

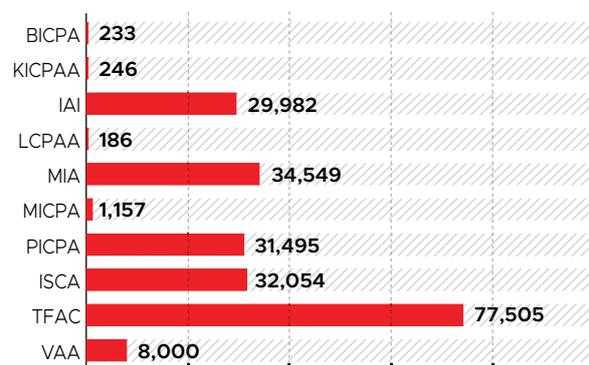
 821 followers |  162 followers |  870 followers



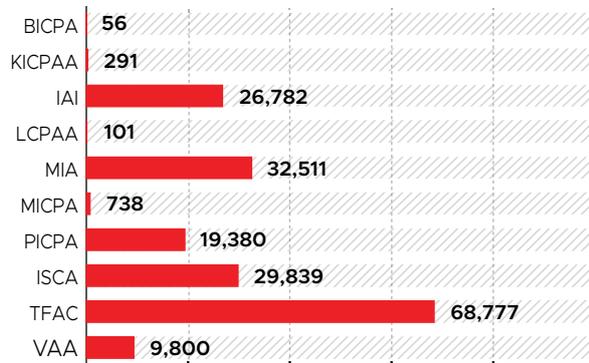
## ASEAN ACCOUNTANTS IN NUMBERS



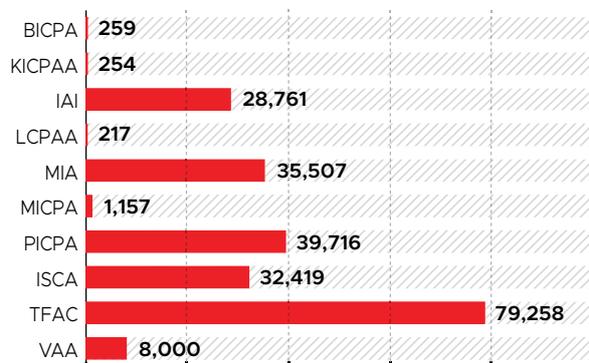
2014



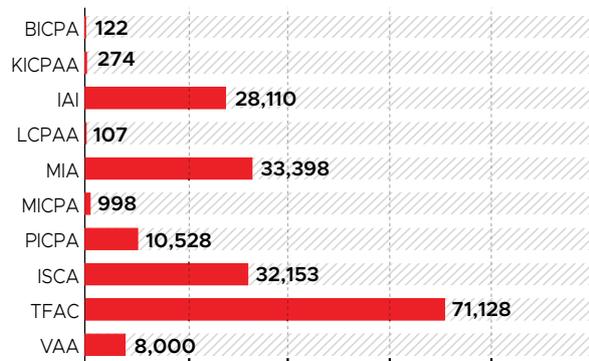
2017



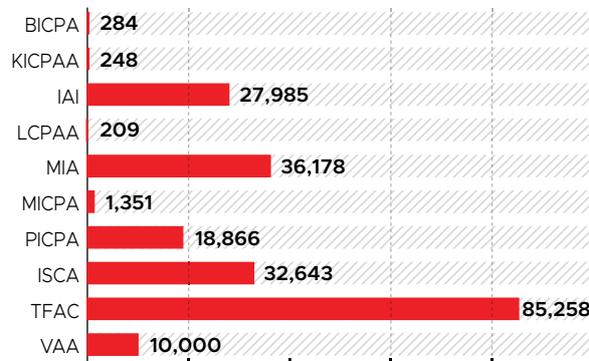
2015



2018



2016



2019



The background features a light blue and white color palette with a pattern of overlapping hexagons and thin vertical lines. A prominent red hexagon is positioned in the upper right, with a yellow hexagon below it. A blue-outlined hexagon is to the left of the red one. A vertical blue bar runs through the center, with a cluster of thin blue lines extending upwards from it.

**NEWS** FROM  
**AROUND** THE **REGION**

## BRUNEI DARUSSALAM INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

BICPA



BRUNEI DARUSSALAM



MEMBERS: 284



The Brunei Darussalam Institute of Certified Public Accountants (BICPA)

### Activities During 2019

#### CPD Events

BICPA has conducted a one-day CPD activity on Ethics for Professional Accountants in collaboration with Ikatan Akuntan Indonesia (IAI) and the ASEAN Federation of Accountants (AFA) on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019. It was the first collaboration between BICPA and IAI, a realisation of AFA's aspiration to facilitate cooperation between the ASEAN PAOs, as a platform for knowledge and resource sharing and mutual capacity building.

The session looked at the Code of Ethics issued by the IESBA, particularly the new and revamped Code that became effective in June 2019. Included in the discussions were NOCLAR and revised independence provisions relating to long association. The session also looked at how ethics are being implemented in today's technology driven business environment, acknowledging its importance as a disruptive force affecting how the accountancy profession is providing its services to the stakeholders.

BICPA lend a helping hand to ACCA to help organise the ACCA night in November 2019. The event included a panel discussion on the journey of learning.



BICPA also conducted a two (2) days in house workshop on Basic Accounting. This workshop included scenario play to allow the participants a better understanding and feel about accounting.

#### Collaboration with Other Agencies

In September, BICPA and the Revenue Division, Ministry of Finance and Economy (MOFE), co-hosted the first Awareness session on ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Accountancy Services and ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant (ASEAN CPA) in Brunei.





2016-2019



The BICPA Academy participated in the Higher Education Expo 2019, organised by the Ministry of Education through Higher Education Section, Brunei Technical Education Institute, IBTE, and Scholarship section. During the event BICPA showcased the ACCA and CAT programs.



The Academy continues with the awareness program throughout 2019 by giving talks to the public and private schools in Brunei. BICPA was invited by the Polytechnic Brunei to share with the accounting students about life in the accountancy profession. Representatives from BICPA shared their personal journey to become a professional accountant.

BICPA has signed a renewal of its MOU with ACCA for further collaboration on the promotion and enhancement of the development of the accounting profession in Brunei Darussalam.

Four (4) representatives of BICPA attended the AFA Council Meeting and Conference in Nusa Dua Bali, Indonesia. Two representatives attended the AFA Strategic Meeting at Bagan, Myanmar in September 2018.

BICPA continues to collaborate with IFAC on the accounting related matters.



## KAMPUCHEA INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND AUDITORS

KICPAA



CAMBODIA



MEMBERS: 248



### Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program

In order to maintain capacity of its members, public and enhance accountancy profession, KICPAA has organized CPD workshops and other events for members and public as following:

1. Workshop on Principles of International Tax;
2. Workshop on Application of IFRS 15 to Construction Contracts;
3. Workshop on Preparation of Basic Consolidated Financial Statement;
4. Transfer Pricing Workshop;
5. TOT Program on Audit Practice Manual Workshop;
6. Workshop on Audit Practice Manual for SMPs;
7. Workshop on International Financial Reporting Standards (IAS 12, IAS 19);
8. Audit Practice Manual (APM) for SMPs Workshop;
9. ASEAN CPA Workshop;
10. Workshop on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism for Accountants;
11. Conference on Introducing ATQ Program; and
12. Cambodia Accountancy Conference 2019 on Role of Accountancy in Cambodia.



### Accounting Technician Qualification (ATQ) Program

To take part in the development of the accounting profession in Cambodia, as well as the region, in order to meet the need of today's market and society, KICPAA has introduced a new Accounting Technician Qualification (ATQ) Program to the public by organizing a half-day conference on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019. This program is developed by KICPAA, with technical support from ICAEW, and proudly funded by UNDP Cambodia.



### International Cooperation

KICPAA and ACCA conducted the joint annual activities to implement the MoU of the Joint Examination Scheme. The purpose was to help the failed students to pass F5 and P5 of ACCA as following;

- F5 and P5 Intensive revision class for KICPAA-ACCA Joint Examination Scheme (JES) from 31 August –1 September 2019;
- Workshop on Train the Trainer on Management Accounting from 2–4 September 2019; and
- Mock Exam (F5 and P5 Refreshment class) on 15 September 20.





2016-2019

To continue and enhance the collaboration with CPA Australia, KICPAA, NAC and CPA Australia renewed and signed the MoU on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019.

Responding to the MoU between MIA and KICPAA, KICPAA organized one-day workshop on “Train the Trainer for Cambodia CPA” on 23 August 2019. This workshop was supported by MIA and participated by representatives from 14 universities/tuition providers.

**Quality Assurance (QA)**

The Audit Quality Monitoring Committee (AQMC) conducted the pilot review on 10 audit firms this year. KICPAA and National Accounting Council co-organised the workshop “Outreach the Result on Audit Quality Review 2019” sharing about lessons learnt and future plan for QA program to audit firms and public. For the pilot program (2017-2019), there were 27 firms selected and reviewed by AQMC. Thus, the actual view will start from 2020 onward.



**Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

On 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019, KICPAA organized Annual General Meeting for 2019, presided by H.E Ngy Tayi, Secretary of State of Ministry of Economy and Finance.



**INSTITUTE OF INDONESIA CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**

IAI



INDONESIA



MEMBERS: 27,985



IKATAN AKUNTAN INDONESIA  
Institute of Indonesia Chartered Accountants

**IAI – AFA – IAESB International Seminar 2019**



Together with AFA and IAESB, IAI successfully hold the IAI – AFA – IAESB International Seminar 2019 in Bali Nusa Dua Convention Center, 11-12 April 2019. Focusing on the theme of Competencies for the Future: Professionalism of Accountants in the Disruption Era, the Conference looks at key issues such as Information and Communications Technology (ICT) skills and opportunities and challenges for professional accountants in the digital era, the need for professional accountants to become better sceptics, and how professional accountants need to be responsible with their development as a way of enhancing their capacity and accounting competencies.

The Conference provides opportunity for participants to hear the latest trends affecting the profession from key contributors such as Prof. Ainun Naim (National Council Member, IAI), In-Ki Joo (President, International Federation of Accountants), Kon Yin Tong (President, ASEAN Federation of Accountants), Anne Marie Vitale (Chair, IAESB), CFO/COO from various industry, global accountancy professionals, and more.



This international conference is also assembled with the 128<sup>th</sup> AFA Council Meeting and IAESB Meeting aimed at strengthening the collaboration of accountant professional organizations in the ASEAN region, and seeking various relevant inputs for the development of the accounting profession in the future.

**62<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of IAI: Excellent Indonesian Accountants, Advanced Indonesia**



IAI hosted the IAI National Seminar on 5–6 December 2019 as the celebration of its 62<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary. The seminar was taking place at the 12<sup>th</sup> floor of the TVRI (Television of the Republic of Indonesia), the seminar took the theme of “Akuntan Indonesia Unggul, Indonesia Maju” or Excellent Indonesian Accountants, Advanced Indonesia, and this seminar is a form of IAI’s support and contribution to Indonesia priority for the 2019–2024 period.

The human resource development and economic transformation are two of the five things President Joko Widodo has identified, to be a joint priority in the next five years.





2016-2019

Officiate by the President of IAI, Prof. Mardiasmo, this seminar was also invited numbers of prominent speakers as follow the President Director of TVRI, Helmy Yahya, practitioners from Tokopedia and Bank Mandiri and many more. On the opening remarks, Prof. Mardiasmo said that the accountant always supports the efforts to improve the professionalism of human resources in Indonesia, so that they can work optimally to support economic development with integrity. That responsibility is realized through Chartered Accountants Indonesia, as the identity of Professional Accountants and has received global quality recognition. The creation of superior HR is at the same time to answer the challenges of the level of Indonesian competition at the global level.



On December 6, 2019, IAI hosted the Anniversary Gala Dinner, which was assembled with fundraising and a concert "A Night with Accountants: *Simfoni Akuntan untuk Negeri*", this concert is broadcasted live on national television. IAI presented the IAI Akuntan Award 2019 to prominent accountants in the countries such as Prof. Moermahadi Soerja Djanegara, Prof. Mardiasmo, Dr. Ardan Adiperdana, and Mr. Ignasius Jonan.



### IAI Aspiring Professional Accountants Festival (APAFest) 2019

Ikatan Akuntan Indonesia (The Institute of Indonesia Chartered Accountants/IAI) is hosting the Aspiring Professional Accountants Festival (APAFest) 2019, as part of the Institute continuous efforts in preparing the future millennial accountants to be next Professional Accountants in Indonesia. IAI APAFest is the Institute's annual event, serving as a platform for high-achieving accounting students from all over Indonesia to display their accomplishments, creativity, and academic competence. The participants will compete to be the best and seek opportunities to connect with IAI's Corporate Partners as their potential future employers.



More than 1,500 selected accounting students from universities all over Indonesia. The students are participating in various activities such as: career fair (more than 1,200), APA Championship/APAChamp (more than 200), Chartered Accountant (CA) scholarship selection (120), National APA Award and APA Best Paper. These participants have successfully went through the Institute pre-event selection process and earned their position as finalists for the respective activities, with the final to be conducted at the Mainhall of the Indonesian Stock Exchange/Bursa Efek Indonesia.

### IAI International Tax Conference 2019

IAI together with Bureau van Dijk (a Moody's Analytics Company) hold the 6<sup>th</sup> International Tax Conference on September 17, 2019 in Ballroom Grand Hyatt Hotel, Jakarta. With the theme The Current Issues of International Taxation and Digital Economy Era, this conference focus on the rapid digitalization affects the transfer pricing activities of multinational companies. With different taxation systems in each country, the potential for increasing disputes is also inevitable. In this context, the certainty of taxation is crucial.



This conference was opened by the President of IAI/Vice Minister of Finance RI, Prof. Mardiasmo and also attended by Director General of Custom and Excise Pambudi, Director of International Taxation DJP RI, Prof. John Hutagaol, and BVD Managing Director, Kisso Diall. The event also witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between IAI and the Directorate General of Customs and Excise.

### Enhancing IAI's Image among Professionals and Millennial – IAI Hosting Business Talk airing on National Television

Business Talk by IAI is a talk show on television that discusses current issues around business, finance, Islamic economics, and the public sector. This television program features accountants from IAI Members and experts in their fields to discuss and find solutions to the various dynamics that emerge today. This event is one of the implementations of Initiative 6.1, thought leadership and image building, that IAI provides solutions to various national problems. Business Talk by IAI was hosted by IAI National Council Member, Isnaeni Achdiat, and fully supported by IAI National Council and Management Executive.



### IAI Participate the Indonesia Ministry of Finance – Finance Profession Expo 2019

To accelerate the literacy of the finance profession to the public and business stakeholders in Indonesia, IAI participated in the Financial Profession Expo in the Dhanapala Hall of the Ministry of Finance of Indonesia, 8-9 October 2019. The Expo was organized by the Finance Professions Supervisory Center (PPPK) Ministry of Finance RI, in collaboration with IAI and five other professional associations. Opened by Secretary General of the Ministry of Finance, Hadiyanto on behalf of the Minister of Finance of Indonesia, this expo also present the prominent speakers from the finance profession organization, IAI represented by Prof. Lindawati Gani, IAI National Council Member. In this expo IAI display all the accounting compartments and various professional development activities, including the Accountant Services Office (KJA) as the benefit owned by Chartered Accountant (CA) holders.





2016-2019

## LAO CHAMBER OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS AND AUDITORS

LCPAA



LAO PDR



MEMBERS: 209



### The IFAC Associate Member Official Admittance

On 13<sup>th</sup> November at the Council Meeting of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) in Vancouver, Canada. LCPAA was officially admitted as an associate member of IFAC. This means that the efforts and commitments of LCPAA to act in the public interest by promoting high quality professional standards throughout the profession are now internationally recognized.



### LCPAA Internal Meetings

On April 26, 2019 LCPAA organized its annual meeting at Grand Vientiane Hotel with attendances of its ordinary members. The meeting Co-Chaired by presidents of LCPAA and honor participated by Deputy Minister of Finance, and Director of General Accounting Department, Ministry of Finance.



LCPAA regularly organizes the meeting with its council board members and was invited to meetings with Accounting Department and Tax Department, Ministry of Finance on chart of accounts and financial reporting template; and with Bank of Laos on implementing IFRS for PIEs.



### Co-workshops with Strategic Partners

On 1 October 2019, LCPAA in collaboration with CPA Australia and Ernst & Young Lao Co., Ltd (EY Lao) held a joint workshop on “Lao FRS and Accounting System Implementation” at Laos Plaza Hotel, Vientiane Laos. At the workshop LCPAA also renewed its Cooperation Agreement with the CPA Australia which the original agreements signed in 2016.



On 13 April 2019 LCPAA in collaboration with National University of Laos (NUoL) and Siphatum University of Thailand (SUP) co-organized a workshop on accounting information system at NUoL which consists of 50 participants.



**Aptitude test**

From 6-8 April 2019, LCPAA organized the 3<sup>rd</sup> Aptitude test on Business-related laws. There were 21 candidates who participated which are locals and foreigners.

**Initial Professional Development Program (IPD)**

LCPAA launched its new batch of CPA qualification training program, CPA Batch XV, which officially launched on September 7, 2019. Currently, there are about 115 trainees in CPA Batch XV.



**Lao Financial Reporting Standard (LFRS)**

From 25 to 29 November 2019, LCPAA organized the Training the Trainers Program (TTT) on Lao Financial reporting standards for Non-Public Entities which was instructed by Technical Expert from France. 19 participants from Accounting Department, Tax Department, MoF, NUoL, and LCPAA member.



**Receiving a Visit from the Japanese Institute of CPAs**

LCPAA provided a warm welcome to the Representative from the Japanese Institute of CPAs (JICPA) team in LCPAA office who paid visit LCPAA on February 13, 2109.





2016-2019

## MALAYSIAN INSTITUTE OF ACCOUNTANTS

MIA



MALAYSIA



MEMBERS: 36,178



MALAYSIAN INSTITUTE OF ACCOUNTANTS

### Strengthening Competency, Driving Governance, Building The Nation

During the period under review, MIA continued to advance its regulatory and development efforts as guided by its four strategic objectives – to build competency (SO1), embed ethics (SO2), improve compliance and regulation (SO3), and enhance the value and recognition of the profession (SO4). Our strategic objectives are enabled by our culture of strategic collaboration.

#### SO1 – Building Competency

MIA carefully designs its development initiatives to future-proof the profession and ensure accountants' relevance in the emerging IR4.0 economy, in alignment with our purpose of nation building and protection of public interest.

- **Upskilling of Finance Leadership**

To strengthen members in commerce and industry or PAIBs who comprise 65% of MIA membership, we launched the **Competency Framework for Finance Function in Public Interest Entities** in 2019 ([https://www.mia.org.my/v2/downloads/resources/publications/2019/06/13/MIA\\_Compentency\\_Framework\\_for\\_Finance\\_Function\\_in\\_PIEs.pdf](https://www.mia.org.my/v2/downloads/resources/publications/2019/06/13/MIA_Compentency_Framework_for_Finance_Function_in_PIEs.pdf)), which builds on the **Competency Framework for Chief Financial Officers (CFOs) in Public Interest Entities** ([https://www.mia.org.my/v2/downloads/resources/publications/2018/07/20/MIA\\_Compentency\\_Framework\\_for\\_CFO\\_in\\_Public\\_Interest\\_Entities.pdf](https://www.mia.org.my/v2/downloads/resources/publications/2018/07/20/MIA_Compentency_Framework_for_CFO_in_Public_Interest_Entities.pdf)) launched in 2018. Our high-level **CFO Circle** addresses gaps in the leadership and professional development needs of MIA's PAIB members in senior management.

- **Future-Proofing The Profession**

We are currently developing the comprehensive MIA **Competency Framework** for the profession. Aligned with the International Education Standards as issued by the International Accountancy Education Standards Board, the Framework will define the baseline competencies required for different levels of accountancy professionals considering the emerging skills and roles for accountants, especially in the key areas of accounting, assurance and sustainability of value creation, amongst others

- **Implementing of Digital Transformation**

Having created awareness on the significance of digital adoption, the next step is to ensure the implementation of digital transformation and continuing relevance of accountants in IR4.0 through targeted CPE such as the **MIA AccTech Conference 2019** and operationalisation of the **MIA Digital Technology Blueprint**.

- **Advocating Sustainability and Integrated Reporting <IR>**

Accountants and the global profession can advocate for sustainability by harnessing integrated thinking on value creation and <IR> to improve accountability, transparency and disclosure of an organisation's value creation and impacts.

As the national advocate and role model for <IR>, MIA issued its <IR> 2019 themed “**Upholding Trust, Fostering the Profession's Sustainability**” ([https://www.mia.org.my/v2/downloads/resources/publications/integrated\\_annual\\_report/2019/MIA\\_Integrated\\_Annual\\_Report\\_2019.pdf](https://www.mia.org.my/v2/downloads/resources/publications/integrated_annual_report/2019/MIA_Integrated_Annual_Report_2019.pdf)), which received accolades from the International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC) and the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC).

MIA continues to drive <IR> education to build competency and capacity, and Malaysia now ranks in the global Top 5 markets for <IR>. As an IIRC accredited training provider, MIA held workshops in 2019 on **Integrated Reporting <IR> – A Better Vision for Corporate Reporting** to help new reporters embrace <IR> and to support early adopters in addressing reporting gaps.



**SO2 – Embedding Ethics**

To instil a robust ethical culture, MIA embeds ethics through upskilling via CPE and advocacy for culture change in concord with the **revised MIA By-Laws**, which are aligned with global codes and standards. Our new **Thought Leadership Lecture** series also seeks to build ethical culture among accountants, especially those charged with governance (TCWG).



**SO3 – Improving Compliance and Regulation**

MIA operationalises **balanced enforcement and strategic collaboration** to pursue effective regulation and protect public interest. MIA officers pro-actively investigate and lodge complaints against non-compliant accountants, and collaborate with fellow regulators to surveil, monitor and sanction delinquent members and bogus accountants.

As our governance structure is a top risk for MIA, we are engaging actively with the Government to **repeal the Accountants Act 1967**. A new Act will restructure the regulatory framework of the profession and grant enhanced powers to the Institute to heighten good governance and regulation in the public interest.

**SO4 – Enhancing Value And Recognition of The Profession**

MIA will continue to enhance the value add and visibility of the profession in Malaysia, in order to ensure accountants’ continuing relevance.

**Strengthening International And Regional Engagement**

MIA co-hosted the IFAC Conference on **Developing Accountancy Capacity in Emerging Economies** in December 2019, where MIA senior representatives shared their insights into accountants’ roles in sustainability, future-proofing the profession and PAO governance and capacity-building.



In June 2019, MIA organised an engagement session highlighting **Opportunities for Accountants in ASEAN** to encourage registration of more ASEAN CPAs. The number of registered ASEAN CPAs as at 30 November 2019 stood at 4,042 and Malaysia registered 873 ASEAN CPAs to-date.

In October 2019, the **MIA International Accountants Conference 2019** drew a record-breaking 3,300 delegates from 21 countries who participated in 20 sessions featuring 82 expert speakers. The Conference theme of **Trust and Sustainability in a Digital Economy** emphasised on accountants’ emerging roles in facilitating digital transformation, trust and governance, and the UN SDGs.

**Beneficial Knowledge Sharing**

To share the profession’s insights into the complex business landscape, MIA and ACCA Malaysia jointly released the inaugural **Business and Economic Outlook (BEO) Report 2019**, followed by the **CFO Roundtable on BEO Report 2019 and the Practitioners’ Roundtable on BEO Report 2019**.



To entrench Malaysia’s leadership in Islamic finance, MIA launched the second **MIA Islamic Finance Mini Pupillage Programme** in 2019. MIA is also preparing to launch its inaugural textbook on **accounting for Islamic Finance transactions**, to fill the market void in guidance on application of Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards (MFRS) for Islamic finance institutions.





2016-2019

## MYANMAR INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

MICPA



MYANMAR



MEMBERS: 1,351



### Key Activities of MICPA for the year

- MICPA Executive Committee held 11 meetings where discussions ranged over matters relating to CPD seminars/workshops, revision of MICPA's Constitution, progress of Capacity-building Project being undertaken by IFAC and ACCA with funding from the Department for International Development (UK).
- On 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2019, the Seminar on the New Company Law 2017 and the new directives and procedures was held, and a Director of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration acted as the speaker.



- On 10 March 2019 the 12<sup>th</sup> AGM was held and new Executive Committee members were elected by vote. Now the EC members have increased to 30 from 19 previously. Also the audited financial statements of MICPA for 2017 and 2018 were approved at the meeting.
- On 16 March 2019 a workshop on ISQC was conducted in cooperation with MAC for all senior staffs of the audit firms, at which Dr. Tin Latt, Vice-Chair of MICPA acted as the presenter.
- On 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019 the workshop on IFRS Translation was conducted jointly by ADB and MICPA in cooperation with the Thai Federation of Accounting Professionals.
- On 17–21 June 2019 Chairman Mr. Wan Tin, Vice-Chairman Mr. Moe Kyaw and EC member Mr. Sein Win, attended the 92<sup>nd</sup> CCS Meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- On 5<sup>th</sup> August 2019, the IFRS Translation Agreement between IFRS Foundation and MICPA was signed and MICPA.
- On 29<sup>th</sup> August, the Union Auditor-General Prof. Dr. Maw Than, Chairman Mr Wan Tin, Vice-Chairman Mr. Moe Kyaw and EC Member Mr. Sein Win attended the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ICAEW held in Singapore.
- On 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019, the AFA Strategic Retreat was hosted by MICPA on 14-9-2019 at Bagan.



- j. On 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019, the ACPA Certificate-awarding Ceremony was held at POLO Club where 113 ACPAs were presented with ACPA certificates.
- k. On 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019 the Workshops on ISQC was conducted for MICPA members where Mr. Aung Naing Maung Maung, Secretary of MICPA, acted as presenter.
- l. On 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019, a meeting was held at the MICPA to review the completed IFAC Application Form prepared by Capacity-Building Project Coordinator with input from ACCA.
- m. On 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019, MICPA held a meeting with the ADB team to discuss the translation of IFRS for SMEs into the Myanmar language by appointing a translator.



- n. On 10–12 December 2019, Chairman Mr. Wan Tin, Vice-Chairman Mr. Moe Kyaw and EC Member Mr. Sein Win attended “A Future-Ready Accountancy Profession: Developing Accountancy Capacity in Emerging Economies” Conference held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- o. On 15<sup>th</sup> December 2019 the Special General Meeting was held to approve and adopt the new MICPA Constitution. Then the seminar on “Company Winding Up” was held with Patron Mr. Win Thin acting as speaker.
- p. On 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019, Patron Mr. Win Thin, Chairman Mr. Wan Tin, Vice-Chairman Mr. Moe Kyaw, and EC Member Mr. Than Saw attended the meeting on the Insolvency Law held by ADB.
- q. On 24<sup>th</sup> December 2019, MICPA held a meeting to discuss the translation of MICPA’s Constitution into the Myanmar language.





2016-2019

## PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

PICPA



PHILIPPINE



MEMBERS: 18,866



As of December 31, 2019, the Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants has a total membership in good standing of 18,866. These members are from the four sectors plus members without a sector, namely, Commerce and Industry-8,065, Education-843, Government-2,575, Public Practice – 5,731 and Non-Sector – 1,652



### Theme of the Year

The theme for PICPA Year 2019-2020 under leadership of President Evelyn Corpuz is Reinforcing the Future Together.Today. This theme ensures that PICPANS must future-proof the profession, as the Fourth Industrial Revolution continues to integrate technologies, big data and analytics. This will largely transform the way one thinks and works, since it has the potential to drive innovation across industries, and reinvent existing financial models. This digital shift aims to improve the way PICPANS learn and communicate, through advanced interconnectivity. However, it also exposes PICPANS to emerging risks brought upon by exponentially evolving smart technologies. Hence, by reinforcing networks and infrastructure today, PICPANS can secure a stronger tomorrow. As multiskilled professionals, PICPANS must prepare for the future by learning the new competencies required in navigating disruption. As PICPANS, it is their obligation to empower people by giving them access to information and capabilities that will enhance their lives and uplift their communities.



### PICPA Accountancy Week Celebration

The annual tradition of celebrating the Accountancy Week Celebration (AWC) is a big event for all accountants. For this year, the celebration was held from July 14-19, 2019. The four sectors of the accountancy profession had their own sectoral activities. There was also a Regulator’s forum with the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Board of Accountancy, Central Bank of the Philippines and the Insurance Commission. A technical session was also dedicated for accountants serving cooperatives.



### PICPA-IBP Partnership

In October 16, 2019, PICPA entered into a partnership with the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP). The IBP is the national organization of lawyers in the Philippines. The partnership will enable the legal and accountancy profession discharge its public responsibilities more effectively. The collaboration will enable the two professions to provide enhanced services to its members and to the country.

### PICPA NGO Congress

PICPA in cooperation with the Philippine Council for Non-Government Organization Certification Council and SM Foundation, Inc. held the Congress last October 24, 2019. The topics of the Congress were: Updated Securities and Exchange Commission Reportorial Requirements, Department of Social Welfare and Development Accreditation Requirements, NGO Good Governance and Management, Registration and Bookkeeping Requirements for NGOs and Latest: Revenue Regulation Memorandum Order 38-2019 Tax Exemption of non-stock, non-profit corporation under Section 30 of the National Internal Revenue Code of the Philippines. The Congress was attended by 260 participants from over 120 non-government organizations.

### 74<sup>th</sup> PICPA ANC



PICPA held its 74<sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention on November 20–23, 2019 at Laoag City, the Sunshine City of the Philippines. It was participated by more than 4,000 PICPA members.

### SEC Plaque of Recognition



The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) presented a Plaque of Recognition to PICPA in recognition of its unwavering support and contribution to the realization of the SEC's plans and programs under its Super Vision 2025. The awarding ceremonies took place at the Philippine International Convention Center on November 29, 2019 on the occasion of the 1<sup>st</sup> SEC Recognition Day.





2016-2019

## INSTITUTE OF SINGAPORE CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



SINGAPORE



MEMBERS: 32,643



In 2019, ISCA rolled out programmes to advance our members' career mobility and professional recognition, equip them with the skills to venture into emerging business areas, and prepare them for Industry 4.0.

### Singapore Accountancy and Audit Convention Series (SAAC) 2019



Besides featuring events tailored to the unique needs of our different member segments, the SAAC Series 2019 also covered business insights and latest changes relevant to the profession including evolving roles of finance professionals.

The Financial Forensic and Cybersecurity Conference provided useful advice on how to strengthen corporate governance and compliance to improve cybersecurity.



The ISCA Practitioners Conference was designed to inspire the audit profession to continuously build capabilities and enhance service delivery so as to provide higher-quality audits and insights to businesses.

### Advancing Technical Excellence

Technical competencies are fundamental for members in their profession. ISCA enhances members' know-how, such as priming them for impending changes, their implications and guiding them through the challenges of implementation.





A distinguishing mark of the accountancy profession is its acceptance of the responsibility to act in the public interest. Themed “*Serving The Public Interest – Narrowing The Expectation Gap*”, the [ISCA Ethics Seminar](#) discussed the need for professional accountants to conduct themselves with utmost care when rendering professional services. This goes beyond service excellence because acting in the public interest requires ethical behaviour and, sometimes, hard decisions contrary to business interest.

ISCA’s on-going programmes like the quarterly ISCA Mingles sessions, jointly organised with ICAEW and CAANZ and ISCA Breakfast Talk series are platforms for networking while discovering new knowledge.



ISCA’s Financial Reporting Committee (FRC) and AFA jointly hosted the ISCA FRC-AFA Financial Reporting & Business Conference 2019, bringing together delegates and business leaders from the 10 member-states of ASEAN. At the Conference, ISCA announced its new [Financial Reporting Codification Framework](#) and issued [Financial Reporting Guidance \(FRG\) 1: Real Property Valuation For Financial Reporting – Best Practices When Engaging Valuers: Considerations For Scope Of Work And Valuation Report](#). Subsequently, ISCA also issued [FRG 2](#) to provide guidance on accounting for the holdings of cryptoassets.

### Equipping Members for Industry 4.0



Digital transformation in finance functions:  
ASEAN and UK perspectives



Through our research and publications, which cover a plethora of topics, ISCA provides members with intelligence that adds value to their work.

ISCA and ICAEW collaborated to publish the report, “[Digital Transformation In Finance Functions: ASEAN And UK Perspectives](#)”, which revolved around new technologies and digitalisation, including the challenges and opportunities for finance functions as companies embark on their digital transformation journey.

ISCA also joined hands with Infocomm Media Development Authority and Singapore Accountant Commission to develop a series of articles to explore how Services 4.0 has enabled workforce augmentation and boosted the digitalisation efforts of SMPs.





2016-2019

## Advocate for The Profession and Business Community



ISCA organised the [Pre-Budget Roundtable](#) for the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. Themed “Progressing With A Vibrant And Innovative Economy”, the suggestions from this Roundtable were sent to the Singapore government for its consideration in its preparation of Budget 2019.

## Specialisation Pathways

### Asia’s First Infrastructure & Project Finance Pathway (IPFP)

To equip our members with the skills to participate in the booming infrastructure sector, ISCA launched the [ISCA Infrastructure & Project Finance Qualification](#), in collaboration with EY Singapore. Upon satisfying all the criteria, candidates will be conferred the [ISCA IPFP](#) Credential.

### ISCA Professional Business Accountant (PBA) Programme



Tailored for members to enhance their competencies and skill sets for Industry 4.0, ISCA launched the [ISCA PBA Programme](#) in October. Aligned to the [ISCA PAIB Framework](#), the Programme provides a comprehensive coverage of the five key DNAs in the Framework. Upon completion of the Programme, participants will be awarded the Professional Certificate in Business Accounting and can get onboard an enhanced Associate membership pathway.

**Supporting SMP Development**

Launched in August, Accountancy [Industry Digital Plans](#) (IDP) is a guide to digitally transform the accountancy sector and help SMPs adopt technology for greater productivity and competitiveness. A structured roadmap provides step-by-step guidance to SMPs in their digital journey. A [virtual SMP website](#) was launched alongside IDP as a one-stop portal with information to assist SMPs on their digitalisation journey.



**Overseas Business Study Trips**

ISCA continues to support our members’ overseas ambitions through our business study mission trips. There were two trips this year – to Myanmar in May, and to China in September.

**Elevating The ISCA Brand**

ISCA has been proactive in engaging the accountancy undergraduates from Singapore’s universities, through the newly launched student membership called [ISCA Youth Associate Student Membership](#). This membership class comes with a variety of benefits for young members, such as company tours and access to industry events, as well as to learn more about the various career pathways.



**Digital Badges & CAW Network Member Logo**





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ISCA introduced [ISCA Digital Badges and Chartered Accountants Worldwide Network Member Logo](#) to raise the visibility of ISCA members' credentials online. Digital Badges are secure, web-enabled credentials containing verified information about our members' professional accomplishments.

### Sharing of Knowledge

This year, ISCA continued with our capability development programmes with Lao PDR and Myanmar. By helping to bridge the developmental gap and improving professional accountancy standards in ASEAN, we also support the larger objective of facilitating trade and investments in the region, and contribute to the shared prosperity of the ASEAN Economic Community.

In January 2019, ISCA played host to Athsaphangthong Siphandone, Deputy Minister of Finance, and a team of 20 senior government officials from Lao PDR. The delegation was in Singapore to attend the second edition of a five-day leadership programme organised by ISCA, with the support from Temasek Foundation International.



In May 2019, ISCA also delivered a two-day seminar on ISCA's "Audit Manual for Group Entities" in Yangon, Myanmar.

## FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTING PROFESSIONS

TFAC



THAILAND



MEMBERS: 85,258

# TFAC

THAILAND FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTING PROFESSIONS

### Change of TFAC's Abbreviation



TFAC has been the Primary Member of the ASEAN Federation of Accountants (AFA) since 1977 and a year later TFAC applied for a member of IFAC in 1978. Currently, the federation has updated the abbreviation and the monogram from “FAP” to “TFAC”. This was done to clarify the federation’s country of origin which is from “Thailand”. The English name of the federation remains the same.

### Training or Seminars Initiatives

Throughout the year, TFAC has conducted effective continuing professional developments (CPD), training courses, seminars, and workshops for public and private interests. For example, on 18 August 2019, TFAC conducted the workshop on “Empowering Accounting system for private sectors on Cloud”. This was about creating a single account for representatives, a professional group and a community along with the introduction of SME applications which assists accounting records more standardized.

On August 22, 2019, TFAC hosted the Open House 3<sup>rd</sup>/2019. There were 246 Accounting undergraduate students attending the event. The objective was to allow students to get to know more about TFAC. The event moreover provided students with the information on the accounting profession including being a qualified accountant for the international labor market.



### Competition for Undergraduate Students in 2019

Each year, TFAC hosts two competitions for undergraduate accounting students to stimulate the potential and enhance the competency in accounting knowledge.

1. Thailand Accounting Challenge 2019
2. Thailand Accounting Case Competition 2019



### TFAC Conference 2019: Future of Finance - Digital disruption

On September 28, 2019, TFAC in collaboration with Thai government sectors, Bank of Thailand, private sectors, CPA Australia and the Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) organized “TFAC Conference 2019: *Future of Finance - Digital disruption*” held at Central World Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. There were more than 500 registers and 10 booths from stakeholders. The objective is to exchange views and prepare the professional





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accountants, entrepreneurs, as well as management level for the digital age. There were 4 sessions which are Future of Finance by CIMA, Digital Transformation of Regulators, Digital Transformation of Auditors and Transformative Accountants.



### World Standard-setters Conference 2019

As TFAC is one of 27 IFRS Foundation, TFAC delegation attended World Standard-setters Conference 2019 in England from 30 September to 1 October 2019. There were representatives more than 70 member countries. There was a discussion on the cooperation in setting accounting standards and updating the overview of activities and the latest operation progress of the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).



### The 2019 Ordinary Meeting of The IFAC Council

TFAC delegation attended the 2019 Ordinary Meeting of The IFAC Council in Vancouver, Canada from 13-14 November 2019. TFAC as a leader of Thailand's Accounting Profession had an opportunity to share a view on the International Standards on Auditing. This is to ensure the appropriate guidelines for the introduction of the Standards on Auditing in Thailand.

### Handbooks for Accounting Profession

TFAC has directly translated accounting and financial materials into Thai language and published the handbook such as the 2017 Enterprise Risk Management -COSO ERM 2017 (Thai version), a Code of Ethics for Accounting Profession handbook. This allows the accounting practitioners to study the material which requires in the workplace.



### Articles

(Journal of Federation of Accounting Professions: JFAC September – December 2019)

Link: <https://www.tci-thaijo.org/index.php/JFAC>



## VIETNAM ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTANTS AND AUDITORS

VAA



VIETNAM



MEMBERS: 10,000



### Association and membership development:

- The Central Executive Committee has organized a meeting and issued a resolution on association development, membership development and members' quality improvement
- In May 2019, VAA has successfully organized an international conference "Future And Prospects Of Vietnam Accounting Profession" and the 6<sup>th</sup> Congress for the 2019-2024 term, evaluated the operation term of 2014-2019 and issued resolution on the mission direction for the 2019-2024 term. Attending the Congress were nearly 400 delegates nationwide. Mr. Vuong Dinh Hue, Politburo Member of the Central Committee of the Party, Deputy Prime Minister of Vietnam and Mr. Kon Yin Tong, President of AFA attended and addressed the Association. Attending the meeting were leaders of Ministry of Finance (MOF), State Auditor General (SAV), Vietnamese Union of Sciences and Technology Associations (VUSTA)
- VAA has been awarded the First-class Labor Medal by The State President. VUSTA has awarded the emulation flag to VAA. A VAA leader was named Outstanding Intellectuals in 2019.
- The Congress elected the Central Executive Committee for the term of 2019-2024, including 39 members, including 13 standing members:
  - President of VAA: Ass. Prof. Dr. Dang Van Thanh.
  - 3 Vice Presidents of VAA:
    - Mr. Vu Huu Nam, Standing Vice President cum Executive Director of VAA.
    - Mr Trinh Duc Vinh, Deputy Director General, Accounting & Auditing Management and Supervision Department, MOF.
    - Mr. Nguyen Tuan Anh, Deputy State Auditor General.
- VAA member associations organized the Congress, elected a new executive committee and set out an action plan for the term 2019-2024.



### Consulting and social criticism activities of new law projects about economic, financial, accounting and auditing policies:

- VAA gave comments on the draft laws before being submitted to the National Assembly such as: Law on State Audit, Law on Tax Administration, Law on Planning, Business Law, Law on Public Investment (amended), Labor Law.
- VAA organized an event on state financial and tax policies, to provide members with a platform for exchanging and voicing their opinions on current policy issues.
- VAA organized 9 workshops including ISRS adoption roadmap in Vietnam, internal audit, management accounting, innovation of auditing accounting in the technology revolution 4.0, on amending the Law on





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State Auditing and financial policies, taxes, accounting, auditing.

- VAA joined the State Securities Commission (SSC) in organizing the evaluation and voting of the best annual reports of enterprises listed on Vietnam's stock market in two securities markets, including HOSE and HNX.
- VAA has collaborated with the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) to organize the assessment of business management capacity, financial management and competitiveness of Vietnamese enterprises.



### Training Activities:

The Center for Counseling, Scientific Research and Training of VAA and its members have organized nearly 100 training classes for members. In which:

- Training and certification for Chief Accountants.
- Training for examining practicing accountants' certificates and auditors.
- CPD training for practicing accountants and auditors according to state regulations (40 hours/year).
- Guide and update new regulations and policies
- Professional training for members and accountants: IFRS, Management Accounting, Internal Audit, Public Accounting, Taxation.

### Communication Activities:

- Accounting and auditing journals, the Central Association's mouthpiece is released monthly, with a volume of 3.000 – 5.000 copies/month, circulated throughout the country.
- Maintain two news pages: website and facebook.
- Regularly provide news about new regime policies for Members.
- Increasing the introduction of the Association on newspapers, financial magazines, banks and media.



### Foreign Affairs:

- Signing memorandum of understanding and/or organizing activities of cooperation with foreign professional organizations: ACCA, CPA Australia, ICAEW, IMA.
- Visiting and exchanging opportunities for cooperation with the Korea Accounting Association (KICPA).
- Cooperating with foreign professional organizations, domestic and foreign training institutions to organize scientific seminars and professional training courses.
- Fully implementing IFAC and AFA member obligations. Participating in all AFA council meetings.

**CERTIFIED PRACTISING ACCOUNTANT AUSTRALIA**

**CPA AUSTRALIA**



AUSTRALIA



MEMBERS: 164,695

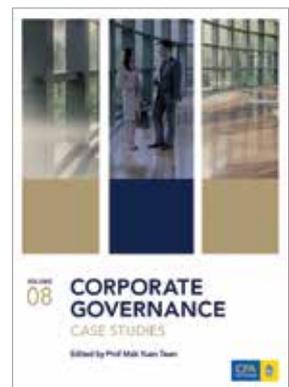
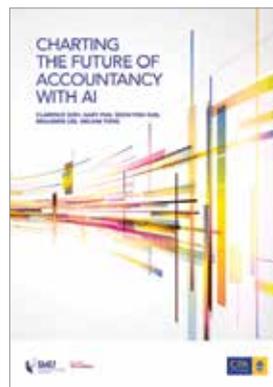


CPA Australia’s sphere of operations includes a clear footprint across Southeast Asia making AFA an important platform for us to develop our reach and influence on the people, the organisations and the profession. With our offices in Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and Vietnam joining the other offices globally to support more than 164,000 members, we continue to bring value to the accounting profession through our experience, innovation and contemporary relevance in business, education and the public sector.

**Singapore**

**Charting the Future of Accountancy with AI**

CPA Australia and the Singapore Management University (SMU) School of Accountancy jointly launched a toolkit containing insights on how to anticipate and respond to AI technologies. The publication brought together stakeholders and subject matter experts from accounting, business and academia, and discussed the implementation of AI in the accounting and finance sector.



**Corporate Governance Case Studies Volume 8**

CPA Australia collaborated with Professor Mak Yuen Teen from the National University of Singapore’s Business School to produce the 8<sup>th</sup> volume of the Corporate Governance Case Studies. The publication includes a collection of case studies designed to encourage robust discussion on key corporate government issues and development.

**Malaysia**

**Get “On Board” with 30% Club Malaysia**

In collaboration with 30% Club Malaysia, CPA Australia’s Women in Business committee organised a networking session aimed at encouraging senior women to take on board roles. The 30% Club started as a campaign in the UK and was subsequently launched in Malaysia with the aim to inspire debate and discussion on gender diversity and its benefits to businesses.



**10<sup>th</sup> Annual Asia Pacific Small Business Survey**

In conjunction with the launch of CPA Australia’s 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Asia Pacific Small Business Survey, a joint evening talk with the Malaysia Australia Business Council (MABC) was organised where Gavan Ord, Business Investment Policy Manager, CPA Australia presented the Malaysia findings from the survey and thereafter moderated a panel session.



**Vietnam**

**Joint Workshops on IFRS**

CPA Australia collaborated with the Vietnam Association of Accountants and Auditors (VAA) and the Vietnam Association of Certified Public Accountants (VACPA) on two workshops presented by Ram Subramaniam, CPA Australia’s Policy Advisor – Reporting. The session focused on the practical implications of applying IFRS 15





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– Revenue from Contracts with Customers and IFRS 16 – Leases and included an examination of application issues from the new standards and how these may be addressed by preparers and auditors.



### Joint Workshop with the Ministry of Finance (MOF) Vietnam

CPA Australia and the Ministry of Finance (MOF) Vietnam jointly organised a workshop on IFRS 15 and IAS 36. In an effort to share international knowledge and experience in adopting IFRS, the workshop addressed key features of the IFRS framework for preparation of financial statements.

### Indonesia

#### CPA Australia Career Fair 2019 in Jakarta

CPA Australia organised the 4<sup>th</sup> CPA Australia Career Fair in September that saw young professionals and graduates in attendance. The event featured interesting activities including career workshops delivered by two prominent Indonesian members, a resume health check booth and a LinkedIn photo booth.



## Laos

### Joint workshop on Lao Financial Reporting Standards (Lao FRS) and Accounting System Implementation

CPA Australia in collaboration with Ernst & Young Lao Co. Ltd (EY Lao) and the Lao Chamber of Professional Accountants and Auditors (LCPAA) held a joint workshop on the topic of 'Lao FRS and Accounting System Implementation'. The event also saw the renewal of CPA Australia's Cooperation Agreement with LCPAA, which was originally signed in 2016.



## Cambodia

### Cooperation Agreement with KICPAA and NAC

CPA Australia renewed its Cooperation Agreement with the Kampuchea Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Auditors (KICPAA) and the National Accounting Council (NAC) of the Ministry of Economy and Finance at a signing ceremony in Phnom Penh. Originally signed in 2016, the agreement set the legal framework for collaboration between CPA Australia, KICPAA and NAC to develop the accounting and auditing professions and improve the accounting and education quality in Cambodia.

### Cooperation Agreement with National University of Management Cambodia

CPA Australia signed a Cooperation Agreement with the National University of Management (NUM) Cambodia, one of the leading public universities in Cambodia. The agreement is intended to disseminate information to NUM's students and develop the accounting profession in Cambodia.





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## CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

CA ANZ



AUSTRALIA



NEW ZEALAND



MEMBERS: 164,695



Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CA ANZ) is a leading professional body with a strategic intent to develop opportunities and support members to proactively shape the profession of the future in business and finance. As part of our commitment to the global profession, in 2019 we have continued our engagement within Asia to understand and leverage joint strategies and synergies. A few key highlights are detailed below.

### AFA Research Grant 2019 Initiative

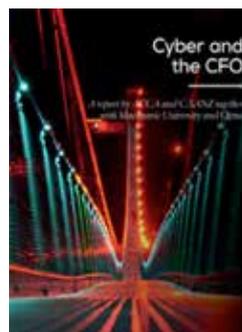
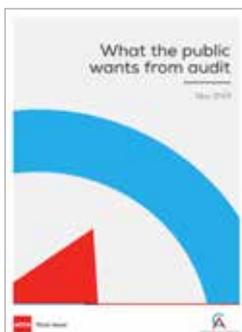
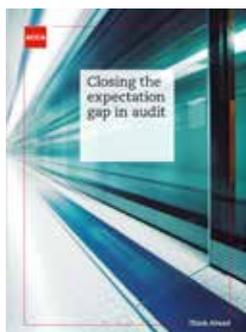
During 2019, AFA launched a research grant as a platform for contribution to the collective regional research capacity in the ASEAN region. CA ANZ, the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and the Japanese Institute of Certified Public Accountants (JICPA) supported this initiative and provided funding.

### AFA Connect 03 Edition

This edition focused on how technology is impacting the accounting profession and CA ANZ contributed to the Trust and Ethics debate in the context of artificial intelligence (AI) – “AI at an Ethical Crossroads”.

### Significant and Emerging Matters Affecting the Profession

- Trust continues to be a key theme for CA ANZ’s advocacy and thought leadership, particularly promoting accountants as trusted advisers, trust in the profession and the importance of ethical leadership.
- CA ANZ has released one of its most important thought leadership papers, *The future of trust – New technology meets old-fashioned values*. The report includes findings from a public survey providing new insights into trust in professions and underscores the importance of trust to our members.
- CA ANZ has released survey findings, research and joint reports in collaboration with ACCA and the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) on a broad range of current issues affecting the business, accounting and finance profession. These can be accessed online at ([www.charteredaccountantsanz.com](http://www.charteredaccountantsanz.com))



### General matters

CA ANZ President Stephen Walker FCA undertook a tour of Asia in June 2019 to meet members, key regulators and local accounting bodies, and held the President’s Dinner and Awards Ceremony in Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong.



## Market activities

### Singapore

- CA ANZ organised a series of technical sessions focused on digital transformation, transfer pricing and international financial reporting standards on leases. These events were delivered in collaboration with audit firms and were well-attended by our members.
- CA ANZ and the ACCA organised a panel discussion in Singapore in April 2019 on 'Embracing Robotic Automation during the evolution of Finance'.

### Malaysia

- CA ANZ celebrated its 10-year anniversary with joint partner Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA).
- The MICPA/CA ANZ Audit Forum was held in October 2019 and this year's theme 'Future of Audit' addressed some challenging issues that are currently affecting the audit profession.
- The Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA) Conference was held in October 2019 and was themed 'Trust and Sustainability in a Digital Economy'.



### Hong Kong

Discussions were organised based on thought leadership papers "Cyber and the CFO" and "Machine Learning and AI", facilitated by a C-suite Chartered Accountant and with ACCA respectively.





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## ASSOCIATION OF CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS



ENGLAND



MEMBERS: 219,000 | STUDENTS: 527,000

Think Ahead



### ACCA's 9<sup>th</sup> International Public Sector Conference was held in Prague, Czech Republic on 28 February – 1 March

Themed “A Sustainable Public Sector”, over 200 public sector accountants from 38 countries converged for the two-day conference.

### ACCA celebrated its first Connections Day



ACCA celebrated its first Connections day on 12 September, bringing together its members, future members, stakeholders and partners around the world with a host of events to highlight the importance of connectivity.

### Double win for ACCA at the digital accountancy awards



ACCA won the ‘Professional body of the year’ and ‘Thought leadership initiative of the year’ awards at the Digital Accountancy Awards 2019 held in London on 6 October.

### Jenny Gu FCCA, Elected as New ACCA President for 2019/20

Ms Gu is the first-ever female member from China to serve as President, who has over 25 years’ experience in management consultancy, working in multinational companies and private equity firms. She qualified as an ACCA member in 1998 and has served in global Council since 2009.

Profiles of ACCA’s Council can be found here: <http://www.accaglobal.com/gb/en/member/council-elections/todays-council/meet-your-council.html>



**Professional Insights**



ACCA published 24 global research reports in 2019 on a broad range of topical issues affecting business and the accounting and finance profession. These can be accessed online and on our award-winning app. (<http://www.accaglobal.com/gb/en/professional-insights/app.html>).

**Market updates**

**ASEAN**

ACCA participated at the 1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN CPA Conference 2019 themed Broaden the Horizon held on 16-17 October in Bali.

**MALAYSIA**

ACCA Malaysia launched the ACCA Young Member Network and ACCA Student Ambassador Programme on 23 January 2019, officiated by Fahmi Fadzil, Lembah Pantai Member of Parliament. The two programmes aim to help develop the young talents in the accounting and finance industry to be future leaders in Malaysia.

ACCA and the Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA) jointly launched the Business and Economic Outlook 2019 report on 29 January 2019 in the presence of YB Senator Dr Mohd Radzi Md Jidin, Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Economic Affairs Malaysia. The report was based on a survey carried out amongst accountants and finance professionals in Malaysia, whereby two-thirds of the respondents are expecting government policies that





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address economic issues and combat corruption to have a positive impact on Malaysia's business performance in 2019.



**ACCA Malaysia organised a roundtable in conjunction with International Women's Day on 6 March 2019.** Themed "#BalanceforBetter" and attended by industry leader, HR personnel and finance professionals, the discussion was based on the survey findings which was carried out amongst ACCA members on creating a gender-balanced boardroom and workplace which further highlighted the need for more work to be done in building a gender-balanced world.



**ACCA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Education Malaysia on 17 July** to provide a special pathway for the current accounting matriculation students to pursue the ACCA qualification, in line with the Malaysian government's aspiration to produce more professional accountants in the future to meet the industry's demand.



**ACCA collaborated with Sunway TES Centre of Accountancy Excellence on a Global Audit Stimulation programme for students on 12 June 2019.** This is the first and only real-world case based audit stimulation in partnership between Sunway TES, ACCA and professional services firms namely, BDO, Deloitte, EY, KPMG and PwC.



**ACCA launched ACCA Internary Teach Network on 11 September 2019,** which attracted 40 esteemed academicians from 10 various universities in Malaysia. The Teach Network provides a platform for lecturers teaching in the ACCA Internary universities to address 3 pertinent issues – Professional Development, Professional Insights and Professional Education for Universities. Apart from training academics to teach ACCA, this network aims to upskill and build capacity amongst academics from the local universities.



ACCA as part of The Power of Ethics launched two months long “YES Malaysia Campaign” in November 2019 which garnered 13,000 online votes. The ‘YES Malaysia’ campaign reflects ACCA’s commitment to its members, business affiliates as well as the future generation of accountants for a more competent, accountable and transparent nation.

**SINGAPORE**

ACCA Singapore’s Inaugural Global Connect: Professional Services of the Future-Singapore & London, 28 March 2019



This event discussed the current state of professional accounting, legal and financial services and explored the many opportunities available for banking and financial services, accounting and legal SMPs (Small & Medium Practices) in Singapore and London to work together on cross-border opportunities including those in ASEAN, and share best practices.





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**ACCA Singapore held its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on 14 May**



Themed “Prepare for the Future of Finance: Agility for Industry 4.0”, the event brought together close to 500 delegates from Singapore and ASEAN, and had key industry leaders and experts share key insights on how organisations and their leaders need to be agile, re-invent and re-imagine new approaches to not only their business models but also their finance function and talent management.

**ACCA Technical Symposium 2019, 18 September**

With a focus on “Technical-Technology Insights for the Digital Age”, this year’s symposium, attended by over 250 delegates, addressed key technical issues critical in financial reporting, audit, tax as well as insights into how new technologies can provide new opportunities and new ways of making technical work more rewarding and efficient.



**Ethics Film Festival 2019/Global Ethics Day, 16-25 October**



“The Power of Ethics in the Digital Age”, explored the “ABCD” of Ethics in a digital environment: AI, Blockchain, Cybersecurity and Data Governance. Each of the four screenings culminated with panel of speakers who shared insights, good practices and guidelines in the responsible adoption of technology and what accountants, financial and IT professionals of the future need to know.

## VIETNAM



Vietnam Institute of Directors (VIOD) and Association of Chartered Certified Public Accountants (ACCA) co-organised the seminar themed **Finance Imperative for the board of directors** on 11 July 2019 attended by 110 participants who are directors, senior executives, representatives from government agencies, local bodies and the media.



ACCA and Commission for the Management of State Capital at Enterprises (CMSC) jointly organised a conference in connection to the report **“How accountants can bridge the global infrastructure gap: Improving outcomes across the entire project life cycle”** on 15 July 2019 attended by the British Embassy, World Bank, Asian Development Bank and several state owned infrastructure corporations of Vietnam.





2016-2019

## INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IN ENGLAND AND WALES

ICAEW



ENGLAND



MEMBERS: 181,000



### 129<sup>th</sup> AFA Council Meeting

This report briefly details ICAEW activities across South East Asia and more widely from January to December 2019. For further information visit [www.icaew.com](http://www.icaew.com).

### Significant Matters Affecting the Profession

#### Future of audit and trust in the profession

The public scrutiny of audit in the UK which intensified last has continued, with extensive political and media interest and four major reviews, to which ICAEW has actively contributed. Sir Donald Brydon has released the report of his independent review into the quality and effectiveness of audit and in it he sets out more than 60 recommendations, some of which are below;

- a redefinition of audit and its purpose, providing greater clarity about who audit is for and reinforcing its role as a public interest function;
- the creation of a stand-alone and transparent audit profession, rather than as an adjunct to the accounting profession, to be governed by overarching principles;
- an obligation on auditors to inform and the need to be suspicious as well as sceptical;
- clarification that auditors should endeavour to find corporate fraud and a requirement that they undertake education in forensic accounting and fraud detection;
- a responsibility for directors to explain the actions they have taken to prevent material fraud and to report on internal controls.

The full transcript of the speech here - <https://www.icaew.com/technical/audit-and-assurance/inquiry-into-audit/icaew-submission-to-sir-donald-brydons-independent-review>

#### Key developments in your PAO that all members may wish to know

- One Young World with representatives from all over the world, this year's One Young World (The world's largest and most impactful youth leadership summit) was hosted in London. ICAEW and Chartered Accountants Worldwide championed the Business and Finance stream. It was a fantastic event full of powerful stories and featured some inspirational young leaders. This year, ICAEW welcomed its first Singaporean student to represent South-East Asia at the summit. [www.oneyoungworld.com](http://www.oneyoungworld.com)
- New podcast series *More than a number*. This taps into some of the major issues of today by providing clarity and understanding about the relevance – and power – of the number, with leading experts and thought leaders providing insight. <https://www.icaew.com/about-icaew/who-we-are/more-than-a-number>
- Data Analytics Community - free to join and open to all. Data is playing an increasingly pivotal role in supporting audit, assurance and business decision-making. The community will give you access to a curated programme of digital learning, user cases, subject matter experts and community resources covering all the essential aspects of data analytics. <https://www.icaew.com/groups-and-networks/communities/join-data-analytics-community>

#### Initiatives related to public sector financial management

- Fiscal Insight into Government Spending: In our Public Policy Insight, we analyse the effect of the UK Chancellor of the Exchequer plans for departmental spending in 2020-21 on the public finances of the UK and what it means for our public services <https://www.icaew.com/technical/public-sector/fiscal-insight-spending-round-2019>
- Breaking Barriers for Women Leaders in Public Finance: In this webinar, we outlined the case for change and the barriers that confront females as they strive to succeed in their careers. We considered the barriers and issues, such as unconscious bias and the organisational DNA, as well as setting out some of the enablers. <https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2042900/42F69118E1BF919F5ABC664632DCD318>

- **Decarbonising the Public Sector:** In this webinar we considered the role of the profession and policymakers in leading and advising business; and how the principles could be built into government spending. <https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/2050979/07C7CF695FF329CA1E4D0BF916715808>

### ICAEW and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) signs MoU

The Memorandum of Understanding will give mutual recognition of both institutes' qualifications and creating a pathway for membership.

### ICAEW and Deloitte launch climate change learning programme

In collaboration with Deloitte, ICAEW has designed a learning programme to help businesses and finance professionals learn more about tackling climate change and learning about considerations for financial statements and translating climate change effects into tangible measurements. <http://deloitte.co.uk/climatechange/>

### ICAEW New technologies, ethics and accountability report

This thought leadership report delves into the ethics of new technology. The seismic developments currently taking place in AI and algorithms are both exciting and morally concerning. What happens when machines do our thinking and decision-making for us? Where does the buck stop and who is accountable? And what can the accounting industry bring to this most complex of ethical dilemmas? <https://bit.ly/2IVR57r>

### ICAEW Initiatives in the South-East Asia Region

#### MoU signing with the Minister of Education and Training

The Ministry of Education and Training in Vietnam (MOET) visited Chartered Accountants' Hall, in London to sign a Memorandum of Understanding that aims to help MOET develop education programmes in Vietnam using the ICAEW ACA qualification to set the standard when modifying its accounting programmes.



#### MoU signing with State Securities Commission of Vietnam

The MoU signed in London looks to strengthen bilateral relations between Vietnam and UK in finance, accounting and corporate governance.



#### ICAEW Vietnam welcomes its first home-grown ACA graduate

ICAEW in Vietnam will mark its fifth anniversary in 2020 with the first ACA graduate, Ms Mai Thi Hong Nhung, who has completed the entire ACA journey in Vietnam. Ms Mai was also one of the recipients of the ICAEW CFAB scholarship in 2014.





2016-2019

### ICAEW Celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in South-East Asia



ICAEW celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of its South-East Asia office in Singapore in August. The event was hosted by Michael Izza, ICAEW Chief Executive who was joined by over 200 ICAEW members, members of professional bodies in ASEAN and from China and VIP guests to celebrate this important milestone. Michael Izza, ICAEW Chief spoke about ICAEW's vision of 'A World of Strong Economies' and ICAEW's commitment to support the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

### ICAEW and CAW networking sessions in Thailand



ICAEW and Chartered Accountants' Worldwide (CAW) members attended a networking event in Bangkok on 8 August. Besides sharing ICAEW's upcoming initiatives and activities in the region, Mark Billington, ICAEW Regional Director, Greater China and South-East Asia also presented the Authorised Training Employer certificate to BDO Thailand.

### ICAEW launch the new Accounting Technician Qualification in Cambodia



In Phnom Penh, ICAEW together with the Kampuchea Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Auditors (KICPAA) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) launched a new programme, the Accounting Technician Qualification (ATQ). The launch was presided over by H.E. Ngy Tayi, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Economy and Finance and Chairman of the National Accounting Council of Cambodia and attended by 350 accounting and finance professionals, government agencies, leaders from financial institutions, and close to 200 students.

### ICAEW attaining its 100<sup>th</sup> Authorised Training Employers in Singapore

ICAEW's network of employers cover various industries and sectors to provide the ACA training to their employees. ICAEW has been helping ATEs attract, retain and develop talent since 1996. To date, ICAEW has over 100 ATEs in Singapore, who actively develop future professionals with the ACA qualification. ICAEW will continue to expand its ATE network in Singapore and across the region.

### ICAEW Authorised Training Employers in Myanmar

ICAEW works closely with organisations to provide talent development and training to nurture future leaders in the profession. This year, BDO, Deloitte and KPMG came onboard as ICAEW ATEs to begin the ACA training in Myanmar. With the local support of MICPA and the Auditor-General's office this is ICAEW's first step in developing a strong ATE network in Myanmar.

## THE MALAYSIAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

MICPA



MALAYSIA



MEMBERS: 3,264

The Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA) has been developing the accounting profession in Malaysia for over six decades by providing accounting graduates with an avenue to become a Certified Public Accountant (CPA). Since its establishment in 1958, MICPA has played a key role in the setting of accounting standards and technical advisory for the Malaysian regulatory bodies responsible for carving out the business and financial landscape of nation.

### Technical Updates

#### Listing on the Leading Entrepreneur Accelerator Platform (LEAP) Market

MICPA organised an Evening Talk on 'Listing on the LEAP Market' on May 10, 2019 in Kuala Lumpur. The Evening Talk aimed to create awareness on the greater access to a conducive fund-raising marketplace available for Small and Medium Enterprises via the LEAP market launched by the Malaysian stock exchange, Bursa Malaysia Berhad on July 25, 2017 to complement the existing Main Market and ACE Market.

#### Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) for Accountants

MICPA organised a Morning Talk on 'AML/CFT for Accountants' with speakers from the Malaysian central bank - Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) and CCA Law Firm on September 5, 2019 in Kuala Lumpur. The Morning Talk aimed to elevate the understanding of practitioners in the accounting profession on their reporting obligations under BNM's AML/CFT provisions pursuant to the "Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions (DNFBPs) and Other Non-Financial Sector (Sector 5) Policy Document".



#### CAANZ-MICPA Audit Forum 2019

MICPA and Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CA ANZ) jointly organized their 10<sup>th</sup> annual CAANZ – MICPA Audit Forum 2019 on October 17, 2019 in Kuala Lumpur. As in previous years, this annual Forum is organized with members in the audit profession in mind. This year's Forum themed "Future of Audit" addressed some challenging current issues that affect audit practitioners.



#### ISQM: Another Tsunami of Change for Auditors?

The International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board ('IAASB') Exposure Drafts for Quality Management at the Firm and Engagement Level, Including Engagement Quality Reviews were issued in February 2019, resulting in the aptly proposed International Standard on Quality Management ('ISQM') 1 and 2, as well as revised ISA 220. MICPA organised its first forum on ISQM with the support from Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA) and Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) on November.





### Malaysia Insolvency Conference 2019

MICPA jointly with MIA and the Insolvency Practitioners Association of Malaysia (iPAM) organised the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Malaysia Insolvency Conference 2019 entitled “*Restructuring & Insolvency: Looking to the Future*” on November 20, 2019 in Kuala Lumpur. The Conference covered digital transformation, asset recovery, insolvency litigation, risks and opportunities, and legal developments in Malaysia.

### Event Highlights

#### Commemorative Lecture & Luncheon



MICPA held its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Lecture & Luncheon at the Shangri-La Kuala Lumpur Hotel on March 14, 2019. This marked the Institute’s 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and the Institute was privileged to have Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz, Chairman of AirAsia X Berhad deliver a most interesting lecture entitled “Restoring Confidence in the Malaysian Economy”.

#### MICPA – MIA MoU Renewal

MICPA and MIA inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on August 20, 2018 to mark the need for closer ties in light of the changing accountancy landscape in Malaysia. As part of the MoU initiatives, MICPA formulated a special pathway in July this year for eligible MIA members in practice to become MICPA members bearing the designation *Certified Public Accountant of Malaysia*, or CPA(M). On August 22, 2019, the MoU renewal ceremony and the launching of the MIA Pathway was held at the MIA office.



#### MICPA 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Dinner

MICPA celebrated its 61<sup>st</sup> anniversary on August 23, 2019 at the Hilton Kuala Lumpur. The Institute was honoured to have as its Guest of Honour, the Minister of Finance, YB Tuan Lim Guan Eng to celebrate the occasion. It was also a significant night as the Institute celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the joint professional Programme offered by MICPA together with its partner – CA ANZ.

#### MICPA Excellence Awards 2018/2019



MICPA and CA ANZ celebrated their candidates and graduates at the recent Excellence Awards 2018/2019 event held on October 17, 2019 in Kuala Lumpur. The MICPA-CAANZ Programme celebrated 127 graduates who had completed the exams in Term 2, 2018, Term 3, 2018 and Term 1, 2019 respectively.

### **NACRA 2019**

Jointly organized by MICPA, MIA and Bursa Malaysia Berhad, the National Annual Corporate Report Awards (NACRA) aims to promote greater corporate accountability and more effective communication of financials and other information by companies to their stakeholders. NACRA 2019 kicked off its competition with an official launch held on April 4, 2019 in Kuala Lumpur. The prestigious NACRA awards were bestowed on organisations that demonstrated excellence in their financial and corporate reporting. All awards were presented by Guest of Honour – YB Tuan Lim Guan Eng, Minister of Finance.





2016-2019

## JAPAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

JICPA



JAPAN



MEMBERS: 38,163



### JICPA Activities Throughout 2019

#### 1. New leadership for 2019-2022 assumed office



On July 22, 2019, the 53<sup>rd</sup> JICPA Annual General Assembly was held, Masahiko Tezuka was newly appointed as chairman and president, and a new executive team was installed. Under the leadership of Chairman and President Tezuka, the JICPA announced the five sets of priority measures below as the basis for developing its activities. These priority measures address the following five issues: (1) to strengthen the foundation of public's confidence in CPAs, (2) to create values and heighten profession's contribution to the society, (3) to incorporate diversity and inclusion, (4) to continue constructive dialogue with stakeholders,

and (5) to increase productivity and transparency of management of the JICPA. In particular, the team will work on further development of global human resources and enhancement of the information dissemination ability.

#### 2. Enhancing support for small- and medium-sized practices



To support small-and medium-sized practices, we have assembled a list of tools for those involved in the management and support operations of such practices and created a portal site, the Small-and Medium-Sized Practice Tool Guide, to make them easily accessible (available in Japanese). We continue to look for ways to further enhance the content of this site. In addition, seizing on the occasion of the IFAC's February 2019 Small and Medium Practices Committee meeting in Tokyo, we invited participants to a Small and Medium Practices Forum to discuss 1) SMPC Activity & Resources, 2) Auditor's Reporting & KAM + Audits of Less Complex Entities, 3) Mandatory audit firm rotation & ethics Code and 4) Case ware and Cybersecurity.

#### 3. Initiatives for Building a Sustainable Society

JICPA established a special committee named the Committee for the JICPA's Challenges and Initiatives for Building a Sustainable Society. Based on an understanding of the goals and targets of the SDGs as well as the issues facing

Japanese society, this committee examines the roles of the JICPA and CPAs in society as well as the challenges they face in helping solve social issues and the ways they can take action to do so.



On June 21, 2019, a symposium sponsored by the JICPA was held on the theme of considering in Kyoto—an advanced city in terms of efforts toward the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals—the building of a sustainable society and the role of professionals. Discussions were held on the sorts of contributions professional bodies can make in building sustainable societies.

#### 4. Development Support for Myanmar CPAs

JICPA has continued its support for the development of capital markets in Myanmar since 2014. To expand the partnership, JICPA, the Myanmar Institute of CPAs (MICPA) and Daiwa Myanmar-Japan Foundation (DMJF) signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on mutual cooperation for the advancement of knowledge, professional and intellectual competence of professional accountants in Myanmar and for the enhancement of self-regulatory functions of the MICPA on June 8, 2016.

Under this MoU, 5<sup>th</sup> batch of capital market training program of JICPA-MICPA- DMJF was held from October 2018 to February 2019. Delegates from MICPA as well as SECM and other ministries in Myanmar visited Tokyo for two weeks in February as part of the training program.





2016-2019

## ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTING TECHNICIANS

AAT



ENGLAND



MEMBERS: 4,000

aat

### 5<sup>th</sup> Accounting Technicians' Roundtable



AAT hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> Accounting Technicians' Roundtable alongside the IFAC Council meeting in Vancouver in November 2019. Delegates from around the world discussed the impact of the IFAC publication "Competency Framework for Accounting Technicians" and CAPA's publication "Accounting Technicians: Exploring Opportunities for the Profession". The Roundtable also discussed the impact of technology on the role of Accounting Technicians. AAT research shows that roles will evolve and Technicians can have a wider impact in response to using the new technologies.

### AAT Wins Funding in Malaysia



AAT's representative in Kuala Lumpur, Mei Yoke Pak has successfully won local Peneraju funding for 100 local students to study Level 3 Accounting as a route to employment.

### AAT Signs MOU Agreement with MICPA

In 2019, AAT has signed an agreement with the Myanmar Institute of Certified Public Accountants to work together to support the development of entry/intermediate level accountants or accountant technicians in Myanmar.

## INDONESIAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

IAPI



INDONESIA



MEMBERS: 4,229

IAPI

### IAPI Held A Second Year CPA Days In 2019

In an effort to gain a good quality of public accountants in all regions of Indonesia, IAPI needs to socialize its superior programs to stakeholders, especially to students. Students as young budding successors of the accounting profession are expected to have abilities, both related to academic competencies (hardskills) and soft skills. In addition to providing access and opportunity to Audit Firms and the company to find talents who are competent and have good competitiveness, IAPI has an annual program called “CPA Days”, which is a competition in the field of accounting and auditing for accounting students, besides seminars, and Career Fair. This event opens to public. CPA Days program is an IAPI strategy to build the awareness and interests of generations especially for students in the Accounting study program to take CPA certification. It is IAPI’s commitment to always increase the number and maintain the quality of Public Accountants and Indonesian CPA. IAPI has set CPA Days as an annual program to be held in various cities in Indonesia in turn.



CPA Days 2019 was the second year held by IAPI in collaboration with the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Gadjah Mada (UGM) on 13-14 November 2019 in Yogyakarta. 79 Teams from various universities participated. Each team consists of 2 (two) S1/D4 students in accounting accompanied by 1 (one) Lecturer as a supervisor. CPA Days 2019 was officially opened together by the Expert Staff of the Governor for Economics and Development of the Special Region of Yogyakarta, Moedji Rahardjo, S.H, M.Hum; Head of the Ministry of Finance’s PPPK RI, Firmansyah N. Nazaroedin, Ak., M.Sc.; Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business - UGM, Eko Suwardi, M.Sc., Ph.D; and President of IAPI, Tarkosunaryo, MBA, CPA. The event continued with the seminar on “A Success in Becoming A Public Accountant Amidst the Wave of the Industrial Revolution 4.0: Regulatory & Business Reviews and Professional Accountant Review as A Trusted Professional in Welcoming the ABCDE Era”, presenting Firmansyah N. Nazaroedin; Tarkosunaryo, MBA., CPA; Asih Ariyanto, Ak, CA (Head of PKP Actuaries and Other Financial Professionals, PPPK Ministry of Finance); Syaiful Ali, MIS., Ph.D., Ak., CA. - UGM Finance Director, and chaired by IAPI Chairperson, Suhartono, Ak, MPA, CA, CPA.



The winners of the CPA Days 2019 competitions were: 1. The TSM 1 Team (Trisakti School of Management). 2 - PKN STAN 1 Team and 3. Combine Team (University of Gadjah Mada). Besides the prize money, the champions and the semifinalists also got an internship opportunities for 3 months in Big Four Audit Firms.



2016-2019

### PSAK Camp 18-20 December 2019

Towards the end of 2019, IAPI held a CPD not only in a room as usual but accompanied by team building and outbound activities at Camp Hulu Cai, Ciawi, Bogor, West Java. In addition to discussing serious topics namely PSAK 71, 72, and 73, the participants were also required to be involved in various outdoors activities.





# **AFA**

## **FINANCIAL**

### **STATEMENTS**

FOR **2019**

**ASEAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED**  
**31 DECEMBER 2019**

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## **ASEAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS**

### **FEDERATION PROFILE**

#### **Primary Members**

Brunei Darussalam	Brunei Darussalam Institute of Certified Public Accountants (BICPA)
Cambodia	Kampuchea Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Auditors (KICPAA)
Indonesia	Ikatan Akuntan Indonesia (IAI) / Institute of Indonesia Chartered Accountants
Laos	Lao Chamber of Professional Accountants and Auditors (LCPAA)
Malaysia	Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA)
Myanmar	Myanmar Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA)
Philippines	Philippines Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA)
Singapore	Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants (ISCA)
Thailand	Federation of Accounting Professions (TFAC)
Vietnam	Vietnam Association of Accountants and Auditors (VAA)

#### **Associate Members**

Australia	CPA Australia
Australia and New Zealand	Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ)
Indonesia	Institut Akuntan Publik Indonesia (IAPI) / Indonesian Institute of Certified Public Accountants
Japan	The Japanese Institute of Certified Public Accountants (JICPA)
Malaysia	The Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA)
United Kingdom	The Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT)
United Kingdom	The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)
United Kingdom	The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)

#### **Office bearers for the year ended 31 December 2019**

AFA President	Mr Kon Yin Tong (ISCA)
AFA Deputy President	Mr Wan Tin (MICPA, Myanmar)
AFA Treasurer	Prof Chan Yoke Kai (ISCA)

#### **Office of the Federation**

AFA Secretariat  
Grha Akuntan  
Jalan Sindanglaya No. 1  
Menteng  
Jakarta 10310  
Indonesia

#### **Independent auditor**

Baker Tilly TFW LLP  
Public Accountants and  
Chartered Accountants  
Singapore

## ASEAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS

### STATEMENT BY COUNCIL

In the opinion of the Council:

- (i) the financial statements as set out on pages 6 to 16 are properly drawn up so as to present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of ASEAN Federation of Accountants (the "Federation") at 31 December 2019 and of the financial performance, changes in accumulated fund and cash flows of the Federation for the financial year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards; and
- (ii) at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Federation will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

On behalf of the Council



Kon Yin Tong  
President  
(2018 - 2019)

27 May 2020



Chan Yoke Kai  
Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE PRIMARY MEMBERS OF  
ASEAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS****Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements*****Opinion***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of ASEAN Federation of Accountants (the "Federation") as set out on pages 6 to 16, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2019, and the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in accumulated fund and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements are properly drawn up in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards so as to present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Federation as at 31 December 2019 and of the financial performance, changes in accumulated fund and cash flows of the Federation for the year ended on that date.

***Basis for Opinion***

We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing ("SSAs"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Federation in accordance with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA) *Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Public Accountants and Accounting Entities* (ACRA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Singapore, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ACRA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

***Other Information***

The Council is responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report comprises the information included in the Annual Report for the year 2019 but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE PRIMARY MEMBERS OF  
ASEAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS (cont'd)**

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements (cont'd)**

***Responsibilities of the Council for the Financial Statements***

The Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as the Council determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Council is responsible for assessing the Federation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Federation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Council's responsibilities include overseeing the Federation's financial reporting process.

***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with SSAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Federation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Council.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE PRIMARY MEMBERS OF  
ASEAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS (cont'd)**

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements (cont'd)**

*Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (cont'd)*

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Council's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Federation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Federation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

*BakerTillyTFW*  
Baker Tilly TFW LLP  
Public Accountants and  
Chartered Accountants  
Singapore

27 May 2020

ASEAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

	2019 \$	2018 \$
<b>Income</b>		
Membership fees	83,400	65,500
Interest income	6,429	5,469
Sponsorships from other bodies	11,000	2,012
Contribution from members	15,405	8,024
	<hr/> 116,234	<hr/> 81,005
<b>Less expenditure</b>		
AGM expenses/annual report printing	788	308
Auditor's remuneration	2,500	2,500
Bank charges	610	928
Foreign currency exchange loss/(gain)	10	(212)
Meeting expenses	5,449	2,500
Postage & telecommunications	1,441	780
Professional/consultancy fee	15,700	-
Publications	169	311
Regional/international conferences	-	3,307
Research activities and projects	11,000	6,265
Staff costs	73,513	69,993
Sundry expenses	809	914
Travelling expenses	8,234	9,051
Website expenses	2,723	2,392
	<hr/> 122,946	<hr/> 99,037
<b>Net deficit and total comprehensive loss for the year</b>	<hr/> (6,712)	<hr/> (18,032)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

**ASEAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**At 31 December 2019**

	Note	2019 \$	2018 \$
<b>Current assets</b>			
Other receivables	3	7,980	1,932
Cash and cash equivalents	4	464,667	448,464
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		472,647	450,396
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Payables and accruals	5	22,009	8,592
Contract liabilities	6	19,300	3,754
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		41,309	12,346
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net assets</b>		431,338	438,050
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Accumulated Fund</b>		431,338	438,050
		<hr/>	<hr/>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

**ASEAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ACCUMULATED FUND  
For the financial year ended 31 December 2019**

	\$
Balance at 1 January 2018	456,082
Net deficit and total comprehensive loss for the year	(18,032)
	<hr/>
Balance at 31 December 2018	438,050
Net deficit and total comprehensive loss for the year	(6,712)
	<hr/>
<b>Balance at 31 December 2019</b>	<b>431,338</b>
	<hr/>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

**ASEAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

**For the financial year ended 31 December 2019**

	Note	2019 \$	2018 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net deficit for the year		(6,712)	(18,032)
Adjustment for:			
Interest income		(6,429)	(5,469)
Operating deficit before movements in working capital		(13,141)	(23,501)
Other receivables		(5,581)	25,864
Payables and accruals		13,417	(14,463)
Contract liabilities		15,546	3,754
Cash generated from/(used in) operations		10,241	(8,346)
Interest received		5,962	5,199
<b>Net cash generated from/(used in) operating activities</b>		16,203	(3,147)
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		16,203	(3,147)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		448,464	451,611
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	4	464,667	448,464

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

## ASEAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

These notes form an integral part of and should be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements.

#### 1 Corporate information

The office of the Federation is at Jalan Sindanglaya No. 1, Menteng, Jakarta 10310, Indonesia.

The principal activity of the Federation is the advancement of the accounting profession in the ASEAN region. The Federation is an accredited Civil Society Organisation of ASEAN, recognised under the ASEAN Charter.

#### 2 Significant accounting policies

##### (a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements, expressed in Singapore dollar (“\$”) which is the Federation’s functional currency, have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRSs”) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (“IASB”). The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except as disclosed in the accounting policies below.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRSs requires the use of accounting estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of income and expenditure during the financial year. Although these estimates and assumptions are based on Council’s best knowledge of current events and actions and historical experiences and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, actual results may ultimately differ from those estimates.

##### *Use of estimates and judgements*

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

There were no significant judgements made in applying accounting policies and no estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, other current receivables and payables approximate their respective fair values due to the relatively short-term maturity of these financial instruments.

##### *New and revised standards*

In the current financial year, the Federation has adopted all the new and revised IFRSs issued by the IASB and Interpretations of the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (“IFRIC”) that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current financial year.

## 2 Significant accounting policies (cont'd)

### (a) Basis of preparation (cont'd)

#### *New and revised standards (cont'd)*

The adoption of these new/revised IFRS and IFRIC did not have any material effect on the financial results or position of the Federation.

New standards, amendments to standards and interpretations that have been issued at the balance sheet date but are not yet effective for the financial year ended 31 December 2019 have not been applied in preparing these financial statements. None of these are expected to have a significant effect on the financial statements of the Federation.

### (b) Financial assets

#### *Recognition and derecognition*

Financial assets are initially measured at fair value. Transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition of financial assets (other than financial assets at fair value through profit or loss) are added to the fair value of the financial assets on initial recognition. Transaction costs directly attributable to acquisition of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are recognised immediately in profit or loss. Trade receivables without a significant financing component is initially measured at transaction prices.

#### *Classification and measurement*

All financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

The Federation classifies its financial assets in the amortised cost measurement category.

The classification is based on the entity's business model for managing the financial asset and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets.

The Federation reclassifies financial assets when and only when its business model for managing those assets changes.

#### *Subsequent measurement*

Debt instruments include cash and cash equivalents and receivables. The subsequent measurement category is depending on the Federation's business model for managing the asset and cash flow characteristics of the asset:

#### *Amortised cost*

The Federation measures financial assets at amortised cost if both of the following conditions are met:

- The financial asset is held within a business model with the objective to hold financial assets in order to collect contractual cash flows; and
- The contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specific dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

Financial assets at amortised cost are subsequently measured using the effective interest rate (EIR) method and are subject to impairment. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss when the asset is derecognised, modified or impaired.

Interest income from these financial assets is included in interest income using the EIR method.

## **2 Significant accounting policies (cont'd)**

### **(b) Financial assets (cont'd)**

#### ***Impairment***

The Federation recognises an allowance for expected credit losses (“ECLs”) for financial assets carried at amortised cost. ECLs are based on the difference between the contractual cash flows due in accordance with the contract and all the cash flows that the Federation expects to receive, discounted at an approximation of the original effective interest rate.

The impairment methodology applied depends on whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk. For credit exposures for which there has not been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, ECLs are provided for credit losses that result from default events that are possible within the next 12-months (a 12-month ECL).

For those credit exposures for which there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, a loss allowance is required for credit losses expected over the remaining life of the exposure, irrespective of the timing of the default (a lifetime ECL).

For receivables that do not have a significant financing component, the Federation applies a simplified approach to recognise a loss allowance based on lifetime ECLs at balance sheet date. The Federation has established a provision matrix that is based on its historical credit loss experience, adjusted as appropriate for current conditions and forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment.

If the Federation has measured the loss allowance for a financial asset at an amount equal to lifetime ECL in the previous reporting period, but determines at the current reporting date that the conditions for lifetime ECL are no longer met, the Federation measures the loss allowance at an amount equal to 12-month ECL at the current reporting date.

The Federation recognises an impairment gain or loss in profit or expenditure for all financial assets with a corresponding adjustment to their carrying amount through a loss allowance account.

### **(c) Financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities, which comprise other payables and accruals are recognised on the balance sheet when, and only when, the Federation becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. Financial liabilities are initially recognised at fair value of consideration received less directly attributable transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligation under the liability is discharged or cancelled or expired. Gains and losses are recognised in income or expenditure when the liabilities are derecognised as well as through the amortisation process.

### **(d) Cash and cash equivalents in the statements of cash flows**

For the purpose of presentation on the statements of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and fixed deposits, that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

## **2 Significant accounting policies (cont'd)**

### **(e) Functional and foreign currencies**

#### *Functional currency*

Items included in the financial statements are measured using the currency that best reflects the economic environment substance of the underlying events and circumstances ('the functional currency').

#### *Foreign currencies*

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rate in effect at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are translated into the functional currency at the rates ruling at that date. All exchange differences are taken to income or expenditure.

### **(f) Income taxes**

The Federation's income from its principal activities is exempt from income tax under Section 11(2) of the Income Tax Act because the Federation is deemed not to be a carrying on a business in Singapore.

### **(g) Income recognition**

Revenue is recognised when the Federation satisfies a performance obligation by transferring a promised good or service to the customer, which is when the customer obtains control of the good or service. A performance obligation may be satisfied at a point in time or over time. The amount of revenue recognised is the amount allocated to the satisfied performance obligation.

The Federation recognises membership fees as a performance obligation satisfied over time. Membership fees are recognised as income in the year to which the membership fees relates. Unearned income relating to future year is included in contract liabilities. Interest income is recognised as the interest accrues based on effective interest method.

Contribution from members relate to fees and proceeds received from seminars and events. Revenue is recognised upon completion of the event and when the Federation has no remaining obligations to perform.

### **(h) Grants**

Grants are recognised at their fair value where there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all attaching conditions will be complied with. Where the grant relates to an asset, the fair value is recognised as deferred capital grant on the balance sheet and is amortised to income or expenditure over the expected useful life of the relevant asset by equal annual instalments.

When the grant relates to an expenditure item, it is recognised in income or expenditure over the period necessary to match them on a systematic basis to the costs that it is intended to compensate.

**2 Significant accounting policies (cont'd)****(i) Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the Federation has a legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate of the amount can be made. Where the Federation expects a provision to be reimbursed, the reimbursement is recognised as a separate asset but only when the reimbursement is virtually certain.

**3 Other receivables**

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Other receivables	5,581	–
Interest receivables	2,399	1,932
	<u>7,980</u>	<u>1,932</u>

**4 Cash and cash equivalents**

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Fixed deposits	372,890	366,928
Cash and bank balances	91,777	81,536
	<u>464,667</u>	<u>448,464</u>

Fixed deposits bear interest rates ranging from 1.60% to 1.90% (2018: 1.40% to 1.75%) per annum and mature between 2 and 10 months (2018: 1 and 10 months) from the balance sheet date.

**5 Payables and accruals**

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Accrued operating expenses	22,009	8,592

**6 Contract liabilities**

Contract liabilities comprise membership fees and sponsorship fees advance consideration received from members and professional bodies. Contract liabilities are recognised as revenue as (or when) the Federation satisfies the performance obligations under its contracts.

The following table provides information about contract liabilities from contracts with customers:

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Contract liabilities	<u>19,300</u>	<u>3,754</u>

Contract liabilities have increased significantly due to advance receipt by the Federation for membership fees and sponsorship fees for the financial year ending 31 December 2020.

## 7 Financial instruments

### a) Categories of financial instruments

Financial instruments at their carrying amounts at the balance sheet date are as follows:

	2019 \$	2018 \$
<i>Financial assets</i>		
At amortised costs	472,647	450,396
<i>Financial liabilities</i>		
At amortised cost	22,009	8,592

### b) Financial risk management

The main risks arising from the Federation's financial management are credit risk, interest rate risk and liquidity risk. The Federation reviews and agrees on policies for managing each of these risks and they are summarised below:

#### *Credit risk*

The Federation's exposure to credit risk arises from the failure of a counterparty to settle its financial and contractual obligations to the Federation, as and when they fall due. The Federation manages this risk by monitoring credit ratings and limiting the aggregate financial exposure to any individual counterparty.

The Federation places its cash and fixed deposits with the established banks in Singapore.

At balance sheet date, there is no significant concentration of credit risk, except for cash and cash equivalents. The maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the carrying amount of each class of financial instruments on the balance sheet.

The Federation has credit policies and procedures in place to minimise and mitigate its credit risk exposures.

#### *Financial assets at amortised cost*

Financial assets at amortised costs include other receivables and cash and cash equivalents.

Credit risk exposure in relation to financial assets at amortised costs as at 31 December 2019 is insignificant, and accordingly no credit loss is recognised as at 31 December 2019.

#### *Interest rate risk*

The Federation is exposed to interest rate risk through the impact of rate changes on its interest-bearing fixed deposits. The Federation's policy is to review the terms of these deposits to take advantage of the best market rates in order to optimise the income received from these deposits. The sensitivity analysis for changes in interest rate is not disclosed as the effect in income and expenditure is considered not significant.

#### *Liquidity risk*

In the management of liquidity risk, the Federation monitors and maintains a level of cash and cash equivalents deemed adequate by the Council to finance the Federation's operations and mitigate the effects of fluctuations in cash flows.

## **8 Fair values**

The carrying amounts of the financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the financial statements of the Federation approximate their fair values.

## **9 Fund management**

The Federation's objectives when managing its funds are to safeguard and maintain adequate working capital. The Council considers the accumulated fund as the capital of the Federation and no changes were made to the Federation's fund management objectives during the financial years ended 31 December 2019 and 31 December 2018.

## **10 Authorisation of financial statements**

The financial statements of the Federation for the financial year ended 31 December 2019 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Council dated 27 May 2020.



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## ASEAN Federation of Accountants

Accredited Civil Society Organisation of the ASEAN

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