



XXIX UIA General Assembly
Copenhagen (Denmark): 6-9 July 2023

Item 7.4 on the agenda

ACTIVITY REPORT BY THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF REGION IV ISHTIAQUE ZAHIR TITAS

1. PREAMBLE

It was a vibrant two years term for UIA Region IV Member sections, Council members and the Vice-President. The member sections were involved in the UIA events and activity very well. The followings are the significant impact and the visibility of UIA in the Region IV for last two years.

1. Institute of Architects Bangladesh (IAB), Dhaka, Bangladesh hosted the 7th Bureau meeting of International Union of Architects UIA on 23rd October 2022.
2. Region IV member, Japan's contribution to the UIA International Manifesto Relay
3. Many member sections participated in the UIA Golden Cube Award & Friendly & Inclusive Spaces Awards
4. UIA Region IV member sections organized AHA local events
5. Exhibition on the Best practice in Affordable housing in the Region IV
6. Work programs are the heart of all UIA activities. Around 200 members from R-IV Participated this term in the ten Work Programs of the UIA. This is a substantial number of participation from a region.
7. One of the great events of UIA's in this term was UIA 2030 Award cycle one. We had great participation and winners from Region IV in the UIA 2030 Award. Out of total 36 countries 13 countries from Region IV participated. In terms of securing awards, out of 6 categories, Region IV secured 3 winners.
8. In the AHA Regional Workshop twenty speakers from the Region IV already engaged and Region IV will give a life to the group by forming an Asian Forum of Affordable Housing.
9. Kuala Lumpur wins the Bid for UIA international Forum 2024
10. Region IV presidents recognised four good will Ambassador of our region to promote UIA's global vision and the programs in the region, named **KEN YEANG** from Malaysia, **WANG SHU** from China, **GLENN MURCUTT** from Australia, **BV DOSHI** from India

All these were possible due the hard work and team spirit of the Council members from the Region IV. **Debatosh Sahu** contributing in TFG, Social Habitat & SDG, **Anju Malla Pradhan** contributing in Heritage and Cultural Identity, Architecture for all, **Richard Kirk** contributing in SGD Commission & Communication Committee, and **Zhang Li** contributing in SGD Commission, Public Spaces & Finance committee

In Post Covid Situations, it was wonderful to meet many of the member sections and the council members in person on 16-17 May 2022 during the EGA in Madrid. I express our heartiest gratitude to President **Marta Vall-Llossera**, **Teresa Taboas**, **Angela Baldellou** and the council of **CSCAE** for their warm hospitality extended to us even in this difficult time of post covid 19 situations. Region IV also thank the president **Silvia Mendoza** & the Vice president **Augusto Ballen** of **Society of Colombian Architects (SCA)**. SCA for being wonderful host and arranging UIA 150th Council meeting 20-21 Nov 2022 in Cartagena. Thanks to Danish president **Johnny Svenborg** and VP R-I **Natalie Mossin** and Copenhagen Congress 2023 organizers for arranging the wonderful in person the 149th UIA council meeting in Copenhagen on 16-17 Sept 2022. Finally, the Chinese president **Xiu Long**, the council member **Zhang Li** and the **ASC** for arranging wonderful 152nd council meeting in forbidden city, Beijing, China and providing great hospitality.

The Region IV gracefully remembered the deceased presidents of CSCAE, **Lluís Comerón Graupera**, President of IAB, **Mubasshar Hossain**. UIA Good will ambassador **B V Doshi** from India, Past Arcasia President **Roland Poon** from HKIA, Hong Kong, UIA Council member from Region I from France, **Eric Wirth**.

2. REGION IV PRESIDENTS MEETING

We had 8 meeting of the Region IV presidents. In average 14/15 members section participated out of 22 members. The followings are the key issues were discussed time to time.

- i) The presidents accept the report from **Zhang Li** on the UIA Financial committee. It was discussed that the current UIA finance is in very good shape, and it was achieved due to the less spending in the last two years.
- ii) But reduced spending has a reduced impact on the UIA activities. It was suggested to make a change in thinking process and increase the number of the activities, raise the bar of the quality of the activities and spend appropriately.
- iii) Also UIA Region IV thanked the UIA Task force group (TFG) for the hard work in presenting the proposal for the changes. But requested to the TFG to revise the proposal of rearranging the 5 regions of UIA. We consider, the five regions of UIA as 5 finger of our hand. Also suggested not to abolish the VP post. Thank to TFG they have considered region IV request. Special thanks to **Debatosh Sahu** representing region IV.
- iv) In the 4th meeting we remembered the demise of the UIA contributor, Alan Rogers from Australia. Also, the presidents recognized Paula Liberato's 40 years' service to the union on her retirement.
- v) The 5th meeting of the Region IV president's was held in hybrid format on 7 September 2022, in Ulanbataar, Mongolia. Thanks to the 17 countries for their active participation and sharing views. The key discussion was to identify the Current challenges and issues in the region. **Japan** focused on the grassroots level activities of architects and the disaster resilience in cities. **Indonesia** termed as a supermarket of disaster. They focus on the protection of the heritage site from the disaster. **India** and **Pakistan** fight back the ongoing heavy flooding. **Philippines** has put emphasis on the Urban Rural linkage. **South Korea** thinks climate change is bigger than what we presume, so working to unite architect as one for the Change. **Sri Lanka** faces great challenge s with slow investment.

3. MEMBER SECTIONS: EXPANDING MEMBERSHIP IN REGION IV

We welcome a new member UAE United Arab Emirates in Region IV. With our active initiative **Chinese Taipei** and **Singapore** were retained their membership with an approved arrangement of their previous dues to be paid in installments. Thanks to President Frank and Melvin for the nice co-operation.

4. MEMBER SECTIONS NEWS

First time in the history of Bangladesh the high level, 7th Bureau meeting of International Union of Architects UIA hosted by the Institute of architects Bangladesh, IAB in Dhaka, Bangladesh at IAB Centre, on 23rd October 2022.

On 20th January 2022 New Arcasia President Ar. Dr Abu Sayeed M Ahmed from Bangladesh took charge from the outgoing President Rita Soh.

On January 5th UIA president made a courtesy ZOOM call to UMA, Mongolian Institute of Architects,

Afghanistan is a country in region IV that was involved in serous internal conflict. Like many other, architects are also in difficult situation. IAP Pakistan took the initiative to support the distressed architects in Afghanistan.

Three countries celebrated the special anniversary Bangladesh IAB celebrates 50 years of IAB, and Hong Kong celebrated the 65th birthday of HAKIA. KIRA 60 the anniversary. All had yearlong celebration program.

UAP, Philippines won the bid for the ARCASIA Congress 2023 in Boracay Island, and we all are invited to meet there from 17-23 September 2023. The theme is ‘Weaving a Future Ready Environment’

Malaysia, PAM won the BID for the 2024 UIA forum in Kuala Lumpur, 15-17 November 2024. The theme is Diversecity: Humanity & Sustainable Growth”. We all are welcome to meet UIA colleagues and friends next year in the Region IV.

April 21, 2023 UIA President, SG, VP R-IV, VP R III, VP R-V and council member III attended the UAP International Leaders' Forum in Manila.

On 26th April. Yolanda Reyes, Tan Pei Ing, Ishtiaque Zahir, Debatosh Sahu, Anju Malla Pradhan participated as speakers in a seminar ‘Dynamic Transformations in Asian Urban architecture and cityscape’ arranged by Tsinghua University, China

5. EVENTS BY MEMBER SECTIONS

1. **Hong Kong** and Shenzhen organized the Bi City Biennale of Urbanism in architecture in November 2022.
2. **Japan** launched events in 2022 on “Carbon neutrality in architecture by 2050” and Lithuania Japan architecture exhibition.
3. **Malaysia** organized a symposium on “World class sustainable cities”.
4. **Bangladesh** organized an international forum to mark the celebration of 50 years of IAB in October and November.
5. **Mongolia** hosted the ARCASIA Forum 21 in Ulaanbaatar in 5-9 September 2022.
6. **Korean Institute of Registered Architects KIRA** hosted convention in the Jeju Island in November 2022 and UIA Certified exhibition of ‘100 Architects of the year’
7. **Nepal** in association with UN Habitat developing public toilets for city dwellers.
8. **Vietnam** proposed several projects including join CPD program with Philippines.
9. In November **China** arranged, Plan Japan, Korea, and china symposium on the post occupation evaluation.
10. **Korean Institute of Architects (KIA)** convention in Daegu, Seoul.
11. IPEX organized by **Institute of architects Pakistan (IAP)**.
12. Convention by the **Japan Institute of Architects (JIA)** held in November.
13. IIA, India of Bhupal chapter convention held on December 2022.
14. **SONA** annual international conference held in January 2023.
15. **United architects of Philippines (UAP)** organized 48th UAP National Convention on 20-21 April 2023.
16. **Architecture society of China (ASC)** hosted 152nd council meeting in the Forbidden City, Beijing.

On the eve of UIA Bureau meeting in Dhaka on 22 October 2022, to commemorate 50 years celebration of IAB, UIA and IAB Jointly organized the UIA Symposium on the Design for health, also an UIA WP Roundtable on Community Architecture and Humanity held on 23rd October 2022. At the end IAB president Mobasshar Hossain honoured UIA president Jose Luis with the honorary membership of IAB.

6. AWARDS BY REGION IV MEMBERS

RIBA International award 2021.

The Institute of Architects Bangladesh IAB thanks Royal Institute of British Architects, RIBA, for honoring IAB fellow, architect KASHEF MAHBOOB CHOWDHURY with the prestigious **RIBA International award 2021**.

Marina Tabassum for “Order of the knight” from France.

Bangladeshi architect Marina Tabassum has been named “*Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres*” by the French Ministry of Culture.

UIA TRIENNIUM PRIZES:

Winner - **The Vassilis Sgoutas Prize** for Implemented Architecture Serving the Impoverished Ar. Marina Tabassum (T-005) (Bangladesh) & Đoàn Thanh Hà (Vietnam)

Winner - **The Robert Matthew Prize** for Sustainable and Humane Environments Hoang Thuc Hao & 1+1>2 Architects (Vietnam) Hon Mention - Song Yehao (China) Ar. Jalal Ahmed (A-036) (Bangladesh)

Winner - **The Auguste Perret Prize** for Technology in Architecture Philip F. Yuan

UIA 2030 Award

The Region IV Vice President and the council members recognized the contribution of the members in the UIA 2030 Award. Thanks to Australia, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Hong-Kong, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Vietnam from region 4 participated. It was a good outcome of the Award from Region IV. Out of 6 categories Region IV secured 3 winners. Out of total 36 countries 13 countries from Region IV participated.

Category 3: Adequate, Safe & Affordable Housing - Home modification for low-income Families/ Maggie and Mark Kingsley, Domat Architects- (Hongkong)

Category 5: Access to Green & Public Space - Co-creation of Urban Spaces by the Nobogonga, Jhenaidah Citywide People's Network, Community Action and Architecture (POCAA), - (Bangladesh)

Category 6: Utilizing Local Materials - House of Dreams/ Kuo Jze Yi and Peter Hasdell, Insitu Project, School of Design, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong, (PRC China)

7. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

- 1st Region IV Presidents meeting – 26 August 2021
- 2nd Region IV Presidents meeting – 10 January 2022
- 3rd Region IV Presidents meeting – 25 April 2022
- 4th Region IV Presidents meeting – 25 July 2022
- 5th Region IV Presidents meeting – 7 September 2022 Mongolia
- 6th Region IV Presidents meeting – 6 January 2023, zoom
- 7th Region IV Presidents meeting – 27 February 2023, zoom
- 8th Region IV Presidents meeting – 11 May 2023, zoom
- 9th Region IV Presidents meeting – 26 June 2023, zoom

8. INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

COP 26:

UIA Events at [COP26](#) in Glasgow, UK. 31 October -13 November 2021. This was for the first time UIA has engaged in a large way into the Blue Zone in COP. Around 15 speakers and panelists have attended the UIA program in COP26, physically and virtually. We also partnered with INBAR, China Corporate pavilion, Nordic section and WUC (World Urban Campaign). The official delegates, Thomas Vonier (IPP), Natalie Mossin and Ishtiaque Zahir Titas (co-directors, UIA SDG Commission) from UIA are registered delegates led by Ishtiaque zahir. They have participated in the various events and scheduled programs in COP26. Major two side events in Blue zone as described below –

The UNFCC official side event: 01 An Urban Day at COP26 – “[Built Environment Professionals Towards the Bio Based design implementation process](#)”. This side event led by [Union Internationale des Architectes \(UIA\)](#) and Co organised by [International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation - INBAR](#). The discourse depicts, how Architects and engineers can contribute in the BIO based design implementation process and join the race to ZERO by 2030.

The side event: 02: [Transforming Action to Practice - Sustainable built environment and Climate solutions](#). UIA and WUC jointly organized this event. Part one discussion was - **Professionals addressing challenges of integration of climate change, accountability, and responsibility**: results and lessons from ongoing initiatives. **Part 2 - Discussion on new initiatives and demands**: identifying the gaps. Innovative solution for the increased demand for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

The cop26 ended with some good decisions like, A significant step forward in recognising the importance of nature and ecosystems, and the connection between the climate and biodiversity challenges we face, Time frame confirmation, Climate Empowerment and Youth, Finance, Mitigation Adaptation and Finance, finally it sets out the detailed rules and systems how to fully implement all provisions of the Paris Agreement and underpin the delivery. But adopting the Paris Rulebook.

COP 27:

UIA Events at COP27, in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. Nov 6, 2022 – Nov 18, 2022. The UIA official delegation for COP 27, Ishtiaque Zahir Titas (VP R-IV), Tokunbo Omisore (VP R-V), Iman O. Gawad (SDG co-director) and Mona Rady (HPF Chair) attended the Blue zone and Green from 12-17 November. They attended and spoke at different meetings in the Global ABC, SDG Pavilion, Plenary Session of the Civil Society, Fifth High-Level Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Finance, etc. Besides The SDG Commission presented its related activities of the joint Award with the EDUCOM: *The UIA Award for Innovation in Architectural Education (SDG)*, Copenhagen Congress and the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI) Idea Competition and Research Hub

World Urban Forum, WUF 11

Eight UIA delegates joined in different programs of World Urban Forum 11 @ Katowice. Besides, Jose Luis Cortes, Istelianna Atanassova, Bodhan Lisowski, Mona Rady, Jerzy Grochulki, two member from Region IV, Ishtiaque Zahir and Tan Pei Ing, was actively present. The theme of the forum was *"Transforming Our Cities for a Better Urban Future"*. The delegates attended various program from 26 - 30 June 2022

The first **UIA 2030 Award Ceremony** was held at the World Urban Forum, WUF 11 on 28th of June 2022, Katowice, Poland. The award is a joint initiative between the International Union of Architects and UN Habitat recognizing the contribution of architects to delivery of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda.

This UIA 2030 Award is realized through a great partnership with the UN-Habitat. The initiative came originally from the survey on SDG competences made by the UIA SDG Commission during our previous term as the co-director. AS VP Region IV and the adviser to SDG commission, Ishtiaque Zahir Titas was appointed to lead the AWARD team. The ceremony was conducted by SG Tan Pei Ing in absence Jury chair Peter Oborn. The biennial award was launched by UIA and UN-Habitat in October 2021 and invites all architects around the world to submit entries for built projects, which demonstrate design quality and have made significant contributions towards SDG.

Venice Biennale - As the Vice president Region IV, I joined Preopening invitation to Biannual Architecture Exhibition in Venice, Italy. Attended the Time Space Existence by European Cultural Centre, *The Danish Pavilion, Coastal Imaginaries*. SERBIA – Pavilion 'In reflections', The Foundation of Ukrainian Architectural Chamber support of the National Union of Architects of Ukraine and Design4Ukraine Association - "Ukrainian DNA" Project, South Korean pavilion, Mexican pavilion, Egyptian pavilion. Transformative Hong Kong Collateral Event. President José-Luis Cortés, VP R-V Tokunbo Omisore, VP R-I Natalie Mossin were present as the UIA delegate.