



ASIA & OCEANIA FEDERATION OF OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY

1st June 2021

TO: Presidents/Chairpersons of the National Societies,

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Societies facing difficulties due to Covid 19

The AOFOG Executive Board has viewed with great concern and dismay the situation unfolding in India and more recently Nepal with regard to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although not a donor agency, traditionally, AOFOG tries to assist the affected National Society member financially to ameliorate the situation in a small but meaningful way. AOFOG usually also encourages other National Society members to donate directly in money or kind depending on their individual resources.

The current situation however is unique in that being a pandemic, it has affected all our National Society members albeit to varying degrees. The accompanying setback to many of our economies has also made it very challenging.

The Executive Board grappled with this difficult issue and carefully considered the humanitarian implications. However, given the peculiar circumstances that have already affected some of our members and will potentially affect many more, we felt that it would be beyond the capability of AOFOG to provide meaningful and fair financial aid to all our National Society members if the situation warranted. Given the suboptimal economic performance in many of our countries, it would also be unfair for AOFOG to request donations from less affected members.

The best we can do in these circumstances is to request individuals to donate on a personal basis to bona fide aid organisations operating in the affected countries or organisations specifically identified by member National Societies.

All our member societies are in our thoughts and prayers. We admire the tremendous zeal and unflagging dedication shown by you in responding to the unprecedented challenges posed by the pandemic.

Our multi country and multi ethnic membership spread across the entire region and 28 countries express their sympathy and solidarity with everyone affected and look forward to the end of the pandemic and a return to good health and normalcy.

Kind regards

Prof Kazunori Ochiai
President