

Prof. Dr. J L Willems
President, IMIA
Div. Medical Informatics
Univers. Hospital Gasthuisberg
49 Herestraat, B-3000 Leuven
BELGIUM

8th June 1990

Dear Professor Willems,

Asia-Pacific Association of Medical Informatics

As promised, I am pleased to provide a report on the Asia-Pacific Association of Medical Informatics, inaugurated in 1988.

Proposals for the regional body have been circulated for some time before 1988. In organising the First Pan-Pacific Business & Medical Computing Conference, we had fervently hoped to take a concrete step towards inaugurating such a body. The most opportune time was at the conference. To this end, I met with the Board of IMIA (International Medical Informatics Association), as you may recall, and discussed the ramifications and various protocols pertaining to this body and a possible future liaison with IMIA.

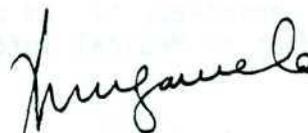
Invitations to various countries in the Asia-Pacific region were sent together with an invitation to attend the conference as their country's representative. Several countries responded enthusiastically and were sent a copy of the meeting agenda and proposals for the new association. It was felt that as many countries in the region as possible should participate in order to be a truly representative regional association. Professor Kaihara confirmed that IMIA's constitution permitted an existing regional association to become a regional member of IMIA by mutual consent, and that constituent members of the existing regional association were not required, individually, to be IMIA members.

Accordingly, the inaugural meeting of this regional association (Asia-Pacific Association of Medical Informatics) was held in Singapore in October 1988. Subsequent to the meeting, Dr Alfred Tang, the association's secretary, requested that the undersigned assist with the minutes. These papers were executed, approved by Dr Tang, and forwarded to each country (as noted in the minutes) in September 1989. I note that Singapore has advised you that they received no minutes. I confirm that all parties to the meeting, including Singapore, were each forwarded a copy of the minutes last year.

Enclosed please find copies of form-letters sent to each country. These form letters were letters of invitation, registration and (subsequently) notification of proceedings of meeting.

We are proud to have been the convenor of this meeting and association and note, with satisfaction, its continued progress. We hope that regional cooperation as well as liaison with IMIA will continue to blossom. The regional association owes a particular vote of gratitude to IMIA for her support and assistance to date.

Yours respectfully,



Dr. Patrick Nugawela
National Coordinator
Australian Medical Informatics Association
& IMIA Representative (Australia)

pc Prof S Kaihara (Intl Med Info Assn)
Mr A Goldsworthy (Austr Computer Soc)
Dr A Tang (Secretary, Asia-Pac Assn Med Info)