

About PPSEAWA



The Pan-Pacific and Southeast Asia Women's Association was founded in 1928, in Honolulu, Hawaii and has held international membership meetings almost without interruption every three years since its inception.

International Conference Themes serve the purpose of strengthening the bonds of friendships and reinforcing members' commitments to peace, by attending lectures, workshops, and cultural programmes relating to women and family issues and in support of UN activities.

PPSEAWA has been active in:

- Identifying needs and problems of women and children at risk.
- Protecting the status of women and children against domestic violence and war.
- Furthering education, skills training, and literacy programs for all age groups
- Raising funds and mobilizing local help
- Working to protect and improve the environment.
- Furthering the success of the UN Millennium Development Goals.

PPSEAWA is the only international women's organization devoted to families, peace and understanding in the Pacific and Southeast Asia.

PPSEAWA comprises twenty three national member organizations, many having several local chapters.

PPSEAWA is an all volunteer organization and is financed by contributions from individuals, organizations, and PPSEAWA member organizations.

PPSEAWA members keep in touch and informed through postings on the web, an International Bulletin, published twice yearly, and through the Newsletters issued by individual member organizations.

PPSEAWA has consultative status in category II to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), with the privilege and responsibility of making its voice heard in International decision-making. The Association is represented at the United Nations in New York, and Geneva, and at ESCAP, UNICEF, and UNESCO. Continued monitoring of and participation in these United Nations bodies enables PPSEAWA to inform its members and help them identify areas where they can be of assistance by mobilizing local support.

The International Council is elected by the heads of member delegations attending the General Tri Annual Conference and includes an Executive Board as well as regional directors and UN representatives.

Member organizations may be affiliated with PPSEAWA through representatives of other women's organizations with common objectives. (India, Pakistan, Singapore).

Member organizations do their own local recruitment of members and elect their own boards. Country presidents are invited as non voting representatives to attend International Council Meetings.

By Application directly to the International Council, any group of women in countries within the Pacific and Southeast Asian region which is committed to the purposes of the Association may become a member. The Council actively seeks such organizations to join PPSEAWA as members.

PPSEAWA International Conferences held:

1928, Honolulu, Hawaii
first meeting called by the Pan Pacific Union to organize.

1930, Honolulu, Hawaii
called to formally adopt the Association and its bylaws.

1934, Honolulu, Hawaii
"Education, Home Economics, Labor, Social Problems, and International Relations in the Pacific"

1937, Vancouver, Canada.
"The Study of Practical Ways and Means of Promoting Peace"

1940, (In New Zealand, postponed because of World War II)

1949, Honolulu, Hawaii
"Pacific Women Unite for United Nations"

1952, Christchurch, New Zealand.
"The Pacific in Today's World"

1955, Manila, Philippines.
"Social and Economic Interdependency"

1958, Tokyo, Japan.
"Role of Women in Community Development in Pacific and Southeast Asia Countries"

1961, Canberra, Australia. "Education for Women in a Changing World"

1964, Nuku'alofa, Tonga
"Role of Women in Preserving the Cultural Heritage of Mankind"

1968, Honolulu, Hawaii
"Problems Arising from the Growing Population of the World"

1972, Auckland, New Zealand
"The Family in Modern Society"

1975, Seoul, Korea.
"Women and the Environment"

1978, Apia, Western Samoa. "Women's Widening World"

1981, Saratoga Springs, New York.
"Lifelong Education and Training For Women"

1984, Tokyo, Japan.
"Family and Health"

1988, Canberra, Australia.
"One World to Share"

1990, Bangkok, Thailand.
"The Changing World: Our Heritage and Our Future"

1994, Nuku'alofa, Tonga.
"Women of Wisdom are Pillars of the Nation"

1997, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
"Strengthening Alliances for a Better World Towards the 21st Century"

2000, Rarotonga, Cook Islands.
"Ignite the Power of Peace"

2004, Singapore
"Sharing A Culture of Peace"

2007, Auckland, New Zealand
"Women Making A Difference Through Peace & the Millennium Development Goals".

2010, Bali, Indonesia
"Fostering Peace Through Unity In Diversity".

*In the planning stages 2013, Suva
host: PPSEAWA Fiji.*