

Conference Business

Two sessions of the conference were devoted to the APCCA business. These sessions were held on Monday, 25 October and Friday, 29 October. These meetings addressed the issues that are outlined below. The APCCA Advisory Committee also met on two occasions. The first of these meetings was held on Sunday, 24 October, and report of that meeting is included as Appendix E. The second meeting of the APCCA Advisory Committee was mainly devoted to a consideration of suggested agenda items for the 20th APCCA, the results of which are recorded below.

Preparation of the Conference Report

The arrangements for the preparation and circulation of the conference report were outlined at both business sessions of the conference, as well as at the first meeting of the APCCA Advisory Committee meeting. A draft report, which did not include details of conference business or closing ceremony, was circulated to delegates on the evening of Thursday, 28 October with an invitation for suggested amendments to be submitted in writing to the APCCA Coordinator, either before delegates left Shanghai or by mail or fax in the next two or three weeks.

It was noted that the final report of the conference would be printed and circulated by the Chinese host later in the year. (it is customary for six copies of the final report to be forwarded to the larger nations and territories attending the conference and two copies to the smaller nations and territories. It has also been customary for one copy of the report to be forwarded to nations and territories who have been unable to attend the conference, and other copies have been routinely deposited in significant libraries.)

Host of Future Conferences

The host for the 20th APCCA was confirmed as the New South Wales Department of Corrective Services, Sydney, Australia. This would be over the period 5 to 11 November 2000.

The APCCA Coordinator reported that at the 18th APCCA in Vancouver, informal offers had been made to host the conferences in 2001 and 2002 by India and the Philippines, but as neither of these nations was represented in Shanghai it was not possible to confirm these offers. In order to clarify the position of India, a fax was sent to the appropriate authority in New Delhi soon after the start of the conference but no reply was received by the end of the week.

In the light of this information, the delegate from Fiji informed the conference that it was possible that his government would agree to Fiji being the host in 2001. This information was accepted with acclamation by the conference and it was agreed that he would inform the APCCA Coordinator as soon as he received approval. The Coordinator indicated that he would make a further attempt to contact India, and when the question was settled he would inform the members of the APCCA Advisory Committee, and would also submit a short report to the APCCA Newsletter.

The conference hosts for the years 2002 and 2003 are not resolved at this time but the representative from Singapore indicated to the conference that Singapore would like be the host in 2004, when substantial progress would have been made in redevelopment of the Changi prison complex. This offer was greeted with acclamation the conference.

Agenda items for the 20th APCCA

At the first business session of the conference a call was made for all delegates to submit in writing, suggestions for agenda items to be discuss at the 20th APCCA. A total of 27 suggested agenda items was received, as indicated on the following list:

AUSTRALIA

1. Women's Programs
2. Professional Development and Training for Corrections Staff
3. Pre- and Post- Release Programs
4. Management of Long-term Inmates
5. Drugs In Prison
6. Health Issues for Corrections Beyond 2000, including psychiatric, disabled
7. Estimating and Predicting Inmate Numbers

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

8. Foreign Prisoners and International Transfer

NEW ZEALAND

9. Community and Media Support
10. Women Prisoners
11. Cultural-based programs and interventions
12. Standards and Bench-marks

CANADA

13. Restorative Justice
14. Community Involvement in the Correctional Process
15. The Evolving Role of the Prison Administrator in Public Education, etc
16. Professionalisation of Correctional Staff

HONG KONG of CHINA (SAR)

17. The Enhancement of Correctional Work by the Application of Advanced Technology

18. The Social Cost of the Incarceration of Female Offenders

CHINA

19. Security Categories of Prisons and Individualised Management of Prisoners
20. Correctional Cost and its Insurance
21. The Application of Psychological Treatment in Corrections
22. The Correction of Recidivists and Persistent Offenders

MALAYSIA

23. Vision and Mission of Corrections in the New Millennium
24. Motivating Staff in Correctional Settings
25. Rehabilitation and Treatment Modalities for Dealing with Drug Addicted Prisoners
26. Health Issues in Corrections

VIETNAM

27. Correction and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicted Inmates

The second meeting of the Advisory Committee considered this list and noted there was considerable overlap between a number of the suggestions. After careful consideration, the committee decided to recommend to the full conference that the following items comprise the agenda for the 20th APCCA:

1. National Report on Contemporary Issues in Corrections

The Advisory Committee was of the opinion that the practice of giving all delegations an opportunity to present a relatively unstructured report at the opening of the conference was generally appreciated and should be continued.

2. Women Prisoners

It was noted that a number of the suggestions included some reference to women prisoners and that there were many sub-issues of considerable importance to be considered. These include the question of whether or not women prisoners who were mothers should be allowed or encouraged to keep their children with them in prison, well as the fact that the relatively small numbers of women prisoners may have the result of not providing them with the full range of education, training and treatment programs that are provided for men prisoners.

3. Community Involvement in Corrections

It was suggested by the Advisory Committee that this proposed agenda item should include a consideration of the public education role of prison administrators and the broader issue of media support for correctional work. Also, it was suggested that the issue of

communication and coordination between agencies, that was discussed briefly this conference, could be considered in greater detail under this topic.

4. Health Issues in Corrections

This proposed agenda item will provide an opportunity for delegates to discuss a wide range of topical issues, with particular reference to drug dependent prisoners, and those with psychiatric or intellectual disabilities. In this way, the substance of a number of the suggested agenda items will be considered. The question of the role of psychological treatment in prisons might also be considered, as well as the issue of the prevention a treatment of infectious diseases such as hepatitis and HIV/AIDS.

It was also decided by the Advisory Committee to recommend to the full conference, a the suggestion of New South Wales, that the subject of the Classification of Prison and Prisoners would be considered as an adjunct to the main conference. This would, in effect, be an intensive training course for members of delegations who are interested The host for the 20th APCCA, Dr Leo Keliher, also suggested that he was considering the possibility of having some parallel, or simultaneous, sessions during the presentations for agenda items 2, 3 and 4.

The APCCA Coordinator gave an undertaking to prepare a Discussion Guide, which may assist those charged with the responsibility of preparing national discussion papers, by early 2000. The recommendations of the APCCA Advisory Committee in relation to the 20th APCCA were unanimously accepted by the full conference.

APCCA Fund

In addition to the reports of the APCCA Finance Sub-committee and financial statements reproduced in Appendix F, the APCCA Advisory Committee recommended, and the full conference accepted, that the Convener of the Finance Sub-committee explore the possibility of having some wall plaques made which featured the APCCA logo and could be used as gifts for officials, such as prison governors, who had demonstrated courtesies to the conference.

APCCA Newsletter

As reported in Appendix E, the APCCA Advisory Committee at its meeting of 24 October 1999 accepted a proposal that the Newsletter be produced and distributed for the next twelve months by China and Canada. Following further discussion, however, it was decided that a more convenient arrangement would be for this task to be undertaken by China in collaboration with Hong Kong of China, with the nominated editor being the Commissioner of the Correctional Services Department, Hong Kong of China. Canada was thanked for its generous offer.

This change was accepted by the full conference.

APCCA Web Site

The APCCA Coordinator reported that during the establishment phase of the web site a more convenient address for the site was www.aic.gov.au:8081 but that shortly the permanent address of (www.apcca.org) should be available. He also reported that the email address of

the web master was John.Myrtle@aic.gov.au and he suggested that Mr. Myrtle would be delighted to hear from members of the advisory group.

The APCCA Coordinator also reported to the Advisory Committee and to the full conference that National discussion papers would only be published on the web site if there was clear approval from the nations or territories that had prepared the reports.

Other Business

At the conclusion of the APCCA Business session, Information about two future conferences was circulated. The first was the annual conference of the Association of Paroling Authorities International, 7 to 10 May 2000, in Ottawa, Canada, and the second a conference on women in corrections, 31 October to 1 November 2000, in Adelaide, Australia.

As there was no other business, the Chairman closed the session and moved on to the Closing Ceremony.