



REVIEW ARTICLE

# History of Asian Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology: Update in 2012<sup>†</sup>



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The history and administration system of the Asian Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (AFSUMB) are described briefly with a focus on academic activity, including congress and education. AFSUMB is the second largest regional federation affiliated with the World Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (WFUMB), consisting of approximately 18,000 members from 15 countries in Asia. A further increase in the numbers of members and affiliated societies is expected with the advancement of ultrasound technology and the distribution of ultrasound equipment and knowledge. AFSUMB has a responsibility in Asia for matters of interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of ultrasound in medicine and biology, and has successfully represented Asia within WFUMB.

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## Introduction

The Asian Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (AFSUMB) is the second largest federation in the World Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (WFUMB), consisting of 18,023 members from 15

countries in Asia (Table 1). A few new societies, such as Vietnam, are expected to join the federation in the near future.

Two and a half decades have now elapsed since AFSUMB was established. The pioneers establishing AFSUMB are now retiring one by one, and the leadership is being taken over by members of younger generations. With the lapse of time, the process of how the AFSUMB was established, as well as the original aim and spirit of AFSUMB, has not always been understood correctly, even by the young leaders.

<sup>†</sup> Presented in part at AFSUMB 2012 in Bali, Indonesia on November 8, 2012.

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**Table 1** Affiliated societies and membership of Asian Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (AFSUMB).

Affiliated society	Office	Members in 2012
Japan Society of Ultrasonics in Medicine (JSUM)	Tokyo	8033
Chinese Taipei Society of Ultrasound in Medicine (CTSUM)	Taipei	5026
Korean Society of Ultrasound in Medicine (KSUM)	Seoul	2413
Society of Ultrasound in Medicine of Chinese Medical Association (SUM/CHA)	Beijing	655
Medical Ultrasound Society of Singapore (MUSS)	Singapore	68
Medical Ultrasonic Society of Thailand (MUST)	Bangkok	250
Malaysian Society of Ultrasound in Medicine (MSUM)	Kuala Lumpur	247
Indonesian Society of Ultrasound in Medicine (ISUM)	Jakarta	300
Indian Federation of Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (IFUMB)	Mumbai	394
Ultrasound Society of Pakistan (USP)	Karachi	134
Bangladesh Society of Ultrasonography (BSU)	Dhaka	165
Philippine Society of Ultrasound in Clinical Medicine (PSUCM)	Manila	210
Hong Kong Society of Ultrasound in Medicine (HKSUM)	Hong Kong	44
Mongolian Society of Diagnostic Ultrasound (MSDU)	Ulaanbaatar	50
Cambodian Society of Ultrasound in Medicine (CSUM)	Phnom Penh	34
	Total	18,023

In 2012, the 10<sup>th</sup> Congress of AFSUMB was held in Bali, Indonesia, and Congress President, Dr Daniel Makes, suggested to the author the congress lecture titled AFSUMB; past, present and future. In addition, the moderator of this lecture session, Dr Cheng-Wen Chiang (Immediate Past President of AFSUMB), asked the author to contribute this lecture to the official journal of AFSUMB, *Journal of Medical Ultrasound*, as a review article.

## Foundation and early evolution

The WFUMB is a federation organized by six federations from around the world, consisting of 50,000 members [1]. The basic concept and name of WFUMB, through which it would unite each geographic federation to be established throughout the five continents of the world, was approved in 1973, and the first WFUMB Congress was successfully held in San Francisco in 1976 (WFUMB '76), hosted by the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM) [2].

The only geographic federation established in the beginning of WFUMB was the European Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (EFSUMB) [3]. For that reason, there was an urgent requirement to organize geographic federations in other areas. In the early 1980s, ultrasound (US) societies existed in Japan, China, Korea, Indonesia, Malaysia, and India. In 1985, Professor Toshio Wagai in Japan started to form AFSUMB, and had a preparatory committee meeting to establish the organization, inviting representatives from five national societies including Korea, China, Malaysia, Indonesia, and

India to be official guests of the meeting. In 1987, Professor Morimichi Fukuda (the first AFSUMB Secretary and the seventh WFUMB President) presided over the first AFSUMB Administrative Council Meeting to declare formally its establishment. At the same time, it was decided that the first AFSUMB Congress (AFSUMB '87) would be held in Tokyo in 1987. Professor Wagai was appointed as the first AFSUMB President and the Congress President, while Professor Fukuda and Professor Watanabe were the first AFSUMB Secretary and Treasurer, respectively [2]. The logo of AFSUMB was created in 1987, and was revised in 2006 (Fig. 1).

## Administration

All activities of AFSUMB rely upon annual fees from the 15 affiliated societies. The fee is 1.5 US\$ per member annually. AFSUMB collects an annual fee of 3 US\$ from each affiliated national society, of which half is transferred to WFUMB. The total membership of AFSUMB is nearly 18,000, therefore, the total annual income of AFSUMB is a little more than 27,000 US\$, provided all of the fees are paid on time. Therefore, AFSUMB is not rich. In recent years, AFSUMB has been very much engaged in important projects such as education, thus, budgetary demand is critical.

The administration of AFSUMB is carried out by 17 members, including seven officers (President, President-elect, Vice-President I and II, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President), six councilors, five co-opted



**Fig. 1** Logo of Asian Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (AFSUMB). (A) Original logo; (B) revised logo.

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