

ICSW NORTH EAST ASIA REGION

Secretariat Report

(July 2019 - October 2020)

1. COVID-19 Webinar

To exchange on the challenges that regional welfare sector is facing in times of COVID-19, and to identify good initiatives that can help overcome the hardship and unprecedented situation arisen, NEA Secretariat successfully organized a Webinar on the theme of “North East Asia in the Time of Coronavirus: Welfare Challenges and Response” on 29th July 2020. Six speakers from the region were invited to share and exchange valuable experience and ideas in respond to the pandemic. Around 100 participants joined the Webinar. Powerpoints of the speakers have been uploaded to ICSW website: <https://www.icsw.org/index.php/regions/north-east-asia>.

2. Abstract Submission to SWESD 2020

An abstract of NEA symposium “The Role of Social Innovation in Building Local Communities in North East Asia” was submitted to and accepted by SWESD 2020 which was originally scheduled for June 2020 in Rimini, Italy. The conference was postponed and finally cancelled due to the outbreak of COVID-19.

3. ICSW Structure

Mr. CHUA Hoi Wai has participated in an ad hoc task group for review of ICSW structure and regulatory frameworks. The task group assessed 1) the roles of decision making bodies of ICSW global; 2) the membership fees and finances; as well as 3) the current regional structure of ICSW bodies, and concluded some possible alternative arrangements for the ICSW Board discussion.

4. Staff Change and Other Issues in ICSW global

In the past few months, there were some discussion about the staff and management within ICSW global. These included the functions of Board and Management Committee, postponement of election, arrangement of board meeting, retention of ICSW’s rep to UN, etc. Mr. CHUA Hoi Wai had actively exchanged his views and concerns towards different issues.