

## **5. Risk Communication**



## 5. Risk Communication

Risk communication is an essential element in the efforts to achieve elimination of asbestos-related diseases. Here we have collected materials made mainly by grass roots initiatives in Asian countries.

### A. Awareness-raising materials

#### *Flyers*

Flyers are popular awareness-raising materials and usually include basic information on the hazards of asbestos, how to prevent exposure to asbestos, recommendations regarding health check-ups, contact details for further information, etc. It is essential that they are written in local languages. Some examples are;

Indonesia Ban Asbestos Network (Ina-BAN):

*Flyer\_Indonesia\_1.jpg, Flyer\_Indonesia\_2.jpg* (Indonesian)

Mongolia: *Flyer\_Mongolia.jpg* (Mongolia)

Vietnam Asbestos Resource Center: *Flyer\_Vietnam.pdf* (Vietnam)

#### *Posters*

Posters are more inspiration driving rather than explanatory or educational. Some examples are;

2004 Global Asbestos Congress 2004 in Tokyo (GAC2004): *Poster\_GAC2004.jpg*

2009 Asian Asbestos Conference in Hong Kong (AAC2009): *Poster\_AC2009.jpg*

“Asbestos Street Fighters” street art competition in the Philippines 2011:

*Poster\_Philippines\_art.jpg*

Ban Asbestos Network Korea (BANKO): *Poster\_BANKO.jpg*

Indonesia Ban Asbestos Network (Ina-BAN):

*Poster\_Indonesia\_1.jpg, Poster\_Indonesia\_2.jpg, Poster\_Indonesia\_3.jpg* (Indonesian)

Asian Ban asbestos Network (A-BAN): *Poster\_A-BAN.jpg*

### ***Cartoons***

Cartoons may have stronger power especially for young generation. Now we have the below examples. In Japan a group of university students is preparing a book of an enormous numbers of pages on asbestos situation in Japan.

Health Consumer Protection Project (HCPP), Thailand

[http://www.noasbestos.org/comic/Asbestos\\_eng.zip](http://www.noasbestos.org/comic/Asbestos_eng.zip) *Cartoon\_Thailand* (English)

<http://www.noasbestos.org/comic/index.html> and/or *Cartoon\_Thailand.pdf* (Thai)

### ***Art Competitions***

In some Asian countries, art competition is used as a tool for awareness raising and for involving artists and others in the campaign for the elimination of asbestos-related diseases.

GAC2004 Visual Art Competition: Together for the Future: Visual Messages

[http://park3.wakwak.com/~gac2004/en/index\\_abstract\\_e.html](http://park3.wakwak.com/~gac2004/en/index_abstract_e.html) (English)

GAC2004 Design Project

[http://park3.wakwak.com/~gac2004/en/index\\_abstract\\_e.html](http://park3.wakwak.com/~gac2004/en/index_abstract_e.html) (English)

“Paint the Town Red Graffiti Project” in the Philippines

<http://www.iohsad.org/workers-memorial-day-2010> (English)

“Asbestos Street Fighters” street art competition in the Philippines

<http://www.streetversusasbestos.com/> (Tagalog)

### ***Protect Children from Asbestos***

How to protect children from asbestos is a special concern in the campaign for the elimination of asbestos-related diseases. The links below are to an initiative by a Japanese researcher; this project provides information in 9 languages.

Freedom from Asbestos – Protect Children from Asbestos (FREAKIDS)

English: [http://plaza.umin.ac.jp/~FREAKIDS/english/index\\_e.html](http://plaza.umin.ac.jp/~FREAKIDS/english/index_e.html)

Japanese: <http://plaza.umin.ac.jp/~FREAKIDS/index.html>

Tagalog: [http://plaza.umin.ac.jp/~FREAKIDS/tagalog/index\\_ta.html](http://plaza.umin.ac.jp/~FREAKIDS/tagalog/index_ta.html)

Korean: <http://plaza.umin.ac.jp/~FREAKIDS/korea/indexk.html>

Chinese: [http://plaza.umin.ac.jp/~FREAKIDS/chaina/index\\_ch.html](http://plaza.umin.ac.jp/~FREAKIDS/chaina/index_ch.html)

Thai: [http://plaza.umin.ac.jp/~FREAKIDS/thai/index\\_th.html](http://plaza.umin.ac.jp/~FREAKIDS/thai/index_th.html)

Indonesian: <http://plaza.umin.ac.jp/~FREAKIDS/Indonesia/>

Vietnam: <http://plaza.umin.ac.jp/~FREAKIDS/vietnam/>

Russian: <http://plaza.umin.ac.jp/~FREAKIDS/rossiya/>

The link below is to a project by campaigners in Thailand.

“School No Asbestos” by the Health Consumer Protection Project (HCPP), Thailand

<http://school.noasbestos.org/> (Thai)

### ***Regional Conferences and Declarations***

Accurate and unbiased asbestos-related information had been inaccessible in many Asian countries until fairly recently and the public in those countries had been unaware of the asbestos hazard. Grass roots efforts to address this situation include the documents cited below. Declarations by regional Asian conferences have served to raise awareness:

2004 Global Asbestos Congress in Tokyo (GAC2004)

<http://park3.wakwak.com/~gac2004/en/index.html> (English)

GAC2004 Tokyo Declaration

[http://park3.wakwak.com/~gac2004/en/index\\_declaration\\_e.html](http://park3.wakwak.com/~gac2004/en/index_declaration_e.html)

and/or *GAC2004\_Tokyo\_Declaration.pdf* (English)

2006 Asian Asbestos Conference in Bangkok (AAC2006)

*AAC2006\_program.pdf* (English)

AAC2006 Bangkok Declaration: *AAC2006\_Bangkok\_Declaration* (English)

2009 Asian Asbestos Conference in Hong Kong (AAC2009)

<http://www.anroav.org/content/blogsection/9/41/> (English)

AAC2009 Hong Kong Declaration

<http://www.anroav.org/content/view/82/41/>

and/or *AAC2009\_Hong\_Kong\_Declaration.pdf* (English)

2008 The first international seminar of Asian asbestos initiative (AAI) in Kitakyushu

2009 The second international seminar of Asian asbestos initiative (AAI 2) in Bangkok

2010 The third international seminar of Asian asbestos initiative (AAI-3) in Fukuoka

[http://www.who.int/occupational\\_health/publications/newsletter\\_18\\_regions/en/index1.html](http://www.who.int/occupational_health/publications/newsletter_18_regions/en/index1.html)

### ***Books***

Below are examples of books which describe the asbestos situation in Asian countries and which have been used to raise public awareness; some of them are the result of the regional conferences cited above.

“Killing the Future – Asbestos Use in Asia” by the International Ban Asbestos Secretariat (IBAS), 2007

English: [http://ibasecretariat.org/ktf\\_web\\_fin.pdf](http://ibasecretariat.org/ktf_web_fin.pdf)

Japanese: [http://worldasbestosreport.org/articles/killing\\_future/ktf\\_japanese/toc.php](http://worldasbestosreport.org/articles/killing_future/ktf_japanese/toc.php)

Chinese: [http://worldasbestosreport.org/articles/killing\\_future/ktf\\_chinese/toc.php](http://worldasbestosreport.org/articles/killing_future/ktf_chinese/toc.php)

Bengali: [http://worldasbestosreport.org/articles/killing\\_future/ktf\\_bengali/toc.php](http://worldasbestosreport.org/articles/killing_future/ktf_bengali/toc.php)

Farsi: [http://worldasbestosreport.org/articles/killing\\_future/ktf\\_farsi/toc.php](http://worldasbestosreport.org/articles/killing_future/ktf_farsi/toc.php)

“India’s Asbestos Time Bomb” by IBAS, 2008

[http://ibasecretariat.org/india\\_asb\\_time\\_bomb.pdf](http://ibasecretariat.org/india_asb_time_bomb.pdf) (English)

“Asian Asbestos Conference 2009” by IBAS, 2009

[http://ibasecretariat.org/hk\\_report\\_web\\_fin.pdf](http://ibasecretariat.org/hk_report_web_fin.pdf) (English)

“The Remnants of Asbestos: Mining in Rajasthan – An Occupational Health Update” by the Mine Labour Protection Campaign (MLPC), India, 2010

[http://www.mlpc.in/pdf\\_files/MLPC\\_book.pdf](http://www.mlpc.in/pdf_files/MLPC_book.pdf) (English)

### **Videos**

Japanese and Korean televisions have broadcasted various asbestos stories and recently other Asian countries are following. Such examples include

Taiwan public channel TBS broadcasted a documentary titled “asbestos apocalypse” on August 17, 2009.

<http://www.peopo.org/innews/post/40923> (Chinese)

<http://www.peopo.org/innews/post/40924> (Chinese)

TVB Pearl TV station in Hong Kong broadcasted a documentary titled “Deadly Dust” on November 15, 2009.

<http://mytv.tvb.com/news/pearlreport/102258#page-1> (Chinese, only streamed within Hong Kong)

Also some grassroots groups have made asbestos videos. But unfortunately many of them are not available on the internet or not in English. The below are few examples in English.

India’s Asbestos Time Bomb by IBAS – short clip

[http://ibasecretariat.org/india\\_asb\\_time\\_bomb\\_video.php](http://ibasecretariat.org/india_asb_time_bomb_video.php) (English)

India’s Asbestos Time Bomb by IBAS – full version

[http://worldasbestosreport.org/articles/iatb/iatb\\_film.php](http://worldasbestosreport.org/articles/iatb/iatb_film.php) (English)

Canada’s Ugly Secret (showing conditions in Indian asbestos factories)

[http://www.cbc.ca/video/#/News/TV\\_Shows/The\\_National/Health/1244506052/ID=1304445584](http://www.cbc.ca/video/#/News/TV_Shows/The_National/Health/1244506052/ID=1304445584)

Asbestos Reality in Iran

[http://ibasecretariat.org/asb\\_reality\\_video\\_nov2010.php](http://ibasecretariat.org/asb_reality_video_nov2010.php)

***Examples of other useful information***

The Japanese Government was required to disclose asbestos-related information.

In the year of 2005 the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) disclosed a list of corporations which had recognized occupational cases of asbestos-related diseases (by using data from the Japanese scheme for Workers Accident Compensation Insurance); this list is updated annually. The total of listed companies was 4,189 (2,261 construction industry companies, 1,928 from other industries) as January 1, 2011.

First disclosure: <http://www.mhlw.go.jp/houdou/2005/07/h0729-2.html> (Japanese)

Latest disclosure: <http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/2r9852000000wogh.html> (Japanese)

The MHLW also developed a guidance book with pictures to identify possible asbestos-related works for health professionals.

[http://www.jaish.gr.jp/information/mhlw/sekimen/h18\\_tebiki.html](http://www.jaish.gr.jp/information/mhlw/sekimen/h18_tebiki.html) (Japanese)

The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) jointly developed and update a database of asbestos containing construction products.

<http://www.asbestos-database.jp/> (Japanese)

The MLIT developed a visual guide of asbestos containing construction materials.

[http://www.mlit.go.jp/kisha/kisha08/01/010425\\_3/01.pdf](http://www.mlit.go.jp/kisha/kisha08/01/010425_3/01.pdf) (Japanese)

The METI developed and publicized a list of asbestos containing household articles that had 608 products including items such as: freezers, irons, toasters, blenders, electric fireplaces with coverlets, electric rice-cookers, juicing blenders, blowers, mechanic tools, cleaners, electric heating pads, electric braziers, air conditioners, other electrical articles, gas or petrochemical articles,



flooring or wallpaper, bicycles, bibcock (??) articles, bathroom articles, kitchen articles, washing articles and others.

[http://www.meti.go.jp/policy/consumer/seian/contents/asubesuto/index\\_a.htm](http://www.meti.go.jp/policy/consumer/seian/contents/asubesuto/index_a.htm)

(Japanese)

The Occupational and Environmental Health Network of India (OEHNI) has developed a map of asbestos industry operations in India.

<http://www.oehni.in/ann2.php> (English)

This map shows the location of asbestos mines, asbestos product manufacturers, asbestos waste disposal facilities/ dump sites, asbestos contaminated areas, etc.

Inventories of asbestos containing buildings, ships, etc. have been developed and discussed in several countries.

All of the above can be a part of National Asbestos Profile.

## **B. Testimonies of asbestos-related disease victims and their families**

Voices of asbestos-related disease victims and their families are the most powerful driving force for the elimination of asbestos-related diseases and the empowerment of the injured and their families is one of the most important goals of risk communication.

### ***Japanese experiences***

The Japan Association of Mesothelioma and Asbestos-Related Disease Victims and their Families was established in February 2004 after two years' preparation. The association has its own website including pages on which asbestos victims and their families can share their experiences.

<http://www.chuuhishu-family.net/blog/index.shtml> (Japanese)

Recently the association produced banners with hundreds of pictures of deceased asbestos victims.

*Banner\_Japan\_1.jpg, Banner\_Japan\_2.jpg*

After 9 months of preparation, the Global Asbestos Congress 2004 was held in Tokyo, Japan. Representatives of asbestos victims groups and victims support groups from 20 countries and regions attended the congress and Japanese victims and families could build face-to-face relationships with them at the sessions noted below.

GAC2004 Plenary Session 3: Empowerment of Victims and Their Families

[http://park3.wakwak.com/~gac2004/en/index\\_abstract\\_e.html](http://park3.wakwak.com/~gac2004/en/index_abstract_e.html) (English)

GAC2004 Photo exhibition: Asbestos or the Silent Time Bomb: Message from the Victims

[http://park3.wakwak.com/~gac2004/en/index\\_exhibition\\_e.html](http://park3.wakwak.com/~gac2004/en/index_exhibition_e.html) (English)

This gave Japanese victims and families great impetus for their national and international actions. Since then representatives of Japanese victims and their families have visited Korea, Hong Kong, Thailand, Brazil, Italy, France, etc.

In Pusan, Korea, asbestos victims who had worked for the asbestos textile industry established an association in December 2007. After that, the Korean National Network of Asbestos Victims and Their Families was formed in January 2009. Japanese and Korean asbestos victims groups are continue to exchange their experiences and knowledge.

### **Testimonies of asbestos victims**

At present the below testimonies are available on the internet.

Messages from Japanese Asbestos Victims and Their Families

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8FsVFKo8jX4> (Japanese with English caption)

<http://worldasbestosreport.org/conferences/aac.php>

Asbestos Victims in India – Testimony

<http://www.youtube.com/anroav#p/u/0/R2k2mdJ9qp0>

[http://www.youtube.com/anroav#p/u/1/2A-Aqx\\_2ybI](http://www.youtube.com/anroav#p/u/1/2A-Aqx_2ybI)

<http://www.youtube.com/anroav#p/u/2/hESc-tsJNhw>

<http://www.youtube.com/anroav#p/u/3/pwcnGkLEP6E>

### *Asbestos Campaign websites*

In some countries trade unions, environmentalists, OSH and citizens groups and other interested groups and individuals have built coalitions to progress the ban asbestos campaign and have been supported by asbestos victims and their families. In Japan and Korea victims groups are now pillar organizations of the ban asbestos coalition.

Ban Asbestos Network Japan (BANJAN)

<http://park3.wakwak.com/~banjan/> (Japanese)

Ban Asbestos Network Korea (BANKO)

<http://cafe.daum.net/asbestosfree> (Korean)

Ban Asbestos Network India (BANI)

<http://banasbestosindia.blogspot.com/> (English)

Occupational victims groups are also assisting asbestos victims.

Hong Kong Association for the Rights of Industrial Accident Victims (HKARIAV)

<http://ariav.org.hk/> (Chinese)

Taiwan Association of Victims of Occupational Injuries (TAVOI)

<http://tavoi.myweb.hinet.net/> (Chinese)

Asian Network for the Rights of Occupational Accident Victims (ANROAV)

<http://www.anroav.org/> (English)

Also OSH, environment and consumer groups are starting asbestos campaign and supporting as-

bestos victims and their families.

Occupational and Environmental Health Network India (OEHNI)

<http://www.oehni.in/> (English)

Health Consumer Protection Project (HCPP), Thailand

<http://www.noasbestos.org/> (Thai)

Institute for Occupational Health and Safety Development (IOHSAD)

<http://www.iohsad.org/> (Tagalog)

Local Initiative for OSH and Social Network Indonesia (LION)

<http://www.localinitiative.org/> (Indonesian)

Bangladesh Occupational Safety, Health and Environment Foundation (BOSHEF)

<http://www.oshebd.org/> (English)

Hong Kong Workers Health Centre (HKWHC)

<http://hkwhc.websoft.com.cn/program/index.php?lang=en> (English)

Asbestos and Health web of the Guangzhou Occupational Safety and Health Center

<http://ohcs-gz.net/> (Chinese, please click “石棉与健康”)

The Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) has a special asbestos campaign web.

<http://www.tucp.org.ph/news/index.php/category/asbestos/> (English)

To integrate all grass roots efforts in Asia, the Asian Ban Asbestos Network (A-BAN) was established in April 2009. Although headquartered in Europe, the International Ban Asbestos Secretariat (IBAS) provides substantial information on the asbestos situation in Asia and helps facilitate research and outreach asbestos projects in Asia.

Asian Ban Asbestos Network (A-BAN)

<http://www.anroav.org/content/view/83/41/> (English)

International Ban Asbestos Secretariat (IBAS)

[www.ibasecretariat.org](http://www.ibasecretariat.org)

More voices of asbestos victims and more real asbestos stories in this region will be available from the above sources.

### **C. Educational and training materials**

#### ***Educational Video Clip***

Educational Video Clips explaining how asbestos fibers inhaled into the human lung can cause deadly diseases are available in the languages as noted below. The original Japanese and English versions were made by the Japan Environmental Restoration and Conservation Agency (ERCA) and other language versions were produced by the Asian Ban Asbestos Network (A-BAN).

Bengali: *Video\_Clip\_Bangladesh.wmv*

Cambodia: <http://www.youtube.com/antroav#p/u/12/fa7cGiWzKWE>

and/or *Video\_Clip\_Cambodia.wmv*

Chinese: <http://www.youtube.com/antroav#p/u/11/v6Jl5g4KCfQ>

and/or *Video\_Clip\_Chinese.wmv*

English: <http://www.youtube.com/antroav#p/u/10/whlIUZMKcV0>

and/or *Video\_Clip\_English.wmv*

Hindi: <http://www.youtube.com/antroav#p/u/9/YigLNUdsJ9Q>

and/or *Video\_Clip\_Hindi.wmv*

Indonesian: <http://www.youtube.com/antroav#p/u/7/oyhj32BmWGI>

and/or *Video\_Clip\_Indonesian.wmv*

Laotian: *Video\_Clip\_Laotian.wmv*

Mongolia: *Video\_Clip\_Mogloia.wmv*

Myanmar: *Video\_Clip\_Myanmar.wmv*

Nepalese: *Video\_Clip\_Nepalese.wmv*

Pakistan: *Video\_Clip\_Pakistan.wmv*

Russian: *Video\_Clip\_Russian.wmv*

Tagalog: [http://www.youtube.com/anroav#p/u/6/MtO9e\\_MuYDY](http://www.youtube.com/anroav#p/u/6/MtO9e_MuYDY)

and/or *Video\_Clip\_Tagalog.wmv*

Tamil: <http://www.youtube.com/anroav#p/u/8/vvRgcMuwYTo>

and/or *Video\_Clip\_Tamil.wmv*

Thai: <http://www.youtube.com/anroav#p/u/5/mjW8qWDkawA>

and/or *Video\_Clip\_Thai.wmv*

Vietnam: [http://www.youtube.com/anroav#p/u/4/waZ\\_M9LQiuA](http://www.youtube.com/anroav#p/u/4/waZ_M9LQiuA)

and/or *Video\_Clip\_Veitnam.wmv*

### ***Educational booklet with video CD***

The Hong Kong Workers Health Centre (HK WHC) in cooperation with the Pneumoconiosis Compensation Fund developed a series of educational booklets on the prevention of asbestos exposure as noted below. Such booklets have been and are being developed by various organizations in many countries but in this case, an explanatory video/ CDs are also made and attached to the booklets.

Educational booklet on prevention of asbestos exposure in maintenance and demolition works of buildings by the Hong Kong Workers Health Centre, 2010

[http://www.hkwhc.org.hk/hk/download\\_file/download\\_187.pdf](http://www.hkwhc.org.hk/hk/download_file/download_187.pdf) (Chinese)

Video (1st part):

<http://hkwhc.websoft.com.cn/program/channel.php?&channelID=26&channelName=%C2%BE%B7%7E%B0%B7%B1d%B9w%A8%BE%A4%CE%B1%D0%A8%7C&topicID=129&topicName=%A5X%AA%A9%A5Z%AA%AB&lang=hk&messagePage=162> (Chinese)

Video (2nd part):

<http://hkwhc.websoft.com.cn/program/channel.php?&channelID=26&channelName=%C2%BE%B7%7E%B0%B7%B1d%B9w%A8%BE%A4%CE%B1%D0%A8%7C&topicID=129&topicName=%A5X%AA%A9%A5Z%AA%AB&lang=hk&messagePage=163> (Chinese)

Educational booklet on prevention of asbestos exposure in maintenance and dismantling works of ships by the Hong Kong Workers Health Centre, 2010

[http://www.hkwhc.org.hk/hk/download\\_file/download\\_190.pdf](http://www.hkwhc.org.hk/hk/download_file/download_190.pdf) (Chinese)

Video (1st part):

<http://hkwhc.websoft.com.cn/program/channel.php?&channelID=26&channelName=%C2%BE%B7%7E%B0%B7%B1d%B9w%A8%BE%A4%CE%B1%D0%A8%7C&topicID=129&topicName=%A5X%AA%A9%A5Z%AA%AB&lang=hk&messagePage=164> (Chinese)

Video (2nd part):

<http://hkwhc.websoft.com.cn/program/channel.php?&channelID=26&channelName=%C2%BE%B7%7E%B0%B7%B1d%B9w%A8%BE%A4%CE%B1%D0%A8%7C&topicID=129&topicName=%A5X%AA%A9%A5Z%AA%AB&lang=hk&messagePage=165> (Chinese)

### ***Multinational cooperation***

Multinational cooperation on asbestos education and training is increasing at various levels; a good example of this at the grass roots level is the

“Asbestos Precautionary Program by Local Empowerment (APPLE)” project by the Can Tho Medical College (CMC), the Center for Occupational Health and Environment (ECHO), the Education and Communication Center (ECC), Vietnam and the Tokyo Occupational Safety and Health Center, Japan.

<http://mekongdelta.metoshc.org/cn8/pg112.html> (English)

*apple\_summary.pdf*

In this program, action checklist exercise and small group discussions were used.

*aoole\_checklist.pdf*

### ***Regional effort***

The Building and Wood Workers International (BWI) organized the South East Asia Regional Conference on Ban Asbestos Campaign in August 2010.

<http://www.bwint.org/default.asp?index=2884&Language=EN>

*BWI\_regional\_conference\_program.pdf*

In this conference, small discussion groups provided the opportunity for participants to develop action plans for their own countries. Examples of questions for small group discussions are:

1. Based on experiences in Japan, South Korea and Australia, what are the key elements to attain a ban? How can these key elements be incorporated in your national strategies?
2. What are your union's plans to campaign for recognition of asbestos-related disease as occupational disease and/or improve the compensation scheme for asbestos-related disease? Are there support groups assisting claimants and/or families of victims to file claims or access to compensation? How can unions collaborate with victims support group?
3. What are the laws and regulations that apply in your country? What is the practice? What can we do to push for proper management of asbestos in buildings? What can we do to push for asbestos removal from buildings? What steps can we take? Who should be involved?
4. Please draft action plan for your country.

As one of lectures in this conference, training material developed by an Australian trade union movement was presented.

*BWI\_regional\_conference\_management.pdf*