

ASIAN BANKERS ASSOCIATION



Promoting the Interests of Bankers
in the Asia-Pacific Region



Message from the Chairman



It is a great honour to serve as Chairman of the Asian Bankers Association. I am deeply grateful for the confidence placed in me by the Board and our member banks, and I look forward to working closely with our members and the Secretariat as we continue to advance the Association's mission.

For more than four decades, the ABA has provided an important platform for banks and financial institutions across Asia to connect, exchange ideas, share best practices, and address the opportunities and challenges shaping our industry.

As the financial landscape continues to evolve, regional cooperation and meaningful dialogue among our members are more important than ever. During my chairmanship, I hope to further strengthen collaboration within our ABA community, deepen engagement among our members, and ensure that the Association continues to provide a valuable forum for banking leaders across the region.

I invite you to learn more about the ABA, participate in our activities, and join us in building an even stronger and more connected banking community across Asia.

Mohamed Shareef
ABA Chairman

History

Bankers with presence in Asia took the first step toward forging closer regional links when 217 representatives of 139 banks met in Taipei in October 1981 to formally establish the Asian Bankers Council as one of the Product and Service Councils of the Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACCI). The countries represented included Australia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, the Republic of China (Taiwan) and Thailand.

The Taipei meeting was the largest gathering of bankers with Asian presence to be convened in the region at that time. CACCI sponsored the meeting with the view to exploring banking opportunities in Asia and to enhance the role of bankers in the economic development of the region.



Central Bank of China (Taiwan) Governor
K. H. Yu addresses the 1st ABA Conference
in 1981



Delegates to the 1st ABA Conference in
Taipei in 1981

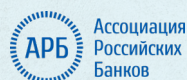
Partnerships & Global Alliance

ABA strengthens its relationship with other bankers' associations of Asia Pacific by exchanging information and publications, and participating in each other's training programs and research projects. ABA also integrates recommendations from other bankers associations into its policy advocacy work.

ABA has signed MOUs with bankers associations of Japan, Mongolia, The Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Uzbekistan and Vietnam.

ABA collaborates with other important regional organizations such as the APEC Business Advisory Council, the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council, the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank, and the Bank for International Settlements to promote banking policies.

ABA also cooperates with other banking and financial organizations such as the ASEAN Bankers Association, the Association of Development Financing Institutions of Asia and the Pacific (ADFIAP), and the Association of Credit Rating Agencies in Asia (ACRAA), among others.



BANK FOR
INTERNATIONAL
SETTLEMENTS



Membership Benefits at a Glance

ABA membership provides invaluable benefits such as:

ACCESS TO MONETARY AUTHORITIES

- Through regular dialogues with financial regulators, ministers, central bank governors and policy makers from Asian countries and beyond

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

- Through meetings and partnerships with national bankers associations, regional financial institutions and other financial forums

INFORMATION EXCHANGE

- Through training programs, webinars, newsletters, and social media sites

EXPOSURE TO POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

- Through annual conferences held in Asian capitals across the region and policy advocacy programs promoted among alliance partners and professional networks
- Through its networking with regulators, partnership with national bankers associations, alliance with regional institutions, policy advocacy, publications and conferences, ABA strengthens bank members' ability to provide the best financial services, discover new banking opportunities, and enhance economic growth across the Asia Pacific region.

Dialogues with Regulators



ABA Delegation meets with the Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka Professor W. D. Lakshman, Colombo



ABA Delegation meets with Deputy Governor of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Ms. Chuchi Fonacier, Manila

Bank members and ABA officers regularly call on government officials, heads of state, central bank governors, and other regulatory authorities to exchange views about the economy and financial situation in their respective jurisdictions.

ABA's visits establish channels of communication with government officials to support ABA programs and policies benefiting ABA members.

Training Programs

The ABA enhances the knowledge and technical skills of its members by:

Conducting Short-Term Training Courses

ABA organizes specialized courses on relevant and emerging banking topics, in collaboration with reputable training institutes and industry experts. These programs provide member banks with practical knowledge, professional insights, and skills to respond to evolving trends and challenges in the financial sector.

Organizing Short-Term Visiting Programs

ABA facilitates Short-Term Visiting Programs that enable executives and professionals from member banks to visit and engage with other member institutions. Through presentations, discussions, and first-hand exposure to banking operations, participants can learn about advanced practices, innovative solutions, and successful approaches that may be adapted within their own organizations.



Webinars

The ABA regularly organizes webinars featuring industry experts, banking professionals, regulators, and thought leaders from across the region and beyond. These sessions provide ABA members with opportunities to exchange knowledge, explore emerging trends, and gain practical insights into issues shaping the banking and financial services industry.

Key topics covered include:

- Artificial Intelligence & Emerging Technologies
- Digital Transformation
- Cybersecurity & Fraud Prevention
- AML/CFT & Financial Crime
- Risk Management & Regulatory Compliance
- Cross-Border Payments
- Digital Assets & Tokenization
- Sustainable Finance & ESG
- Financial Inclusion
- Economic & Banking Outlooks
- Capital Markets & Investment
- Retail Banking & Customer Experience
- Operational Resilience
- Human Resources & Future of Work



Annual General Meeting & Conference



The two-day annual ABA General Meeting and Conference, held in major Asian cities since 1981, brings together bank chairmen, presidents, CEOs and senior executives, along with heads of state, central bankers, finance ministers, regulators, government officials and prominent banking experts.

During the Conference and related meetings, participants exchange views on key banking and regulatory developments, explore business and cooperation opportunities, advocate policy positions, share experiences, strengthen professional relationships, and develop potential partnerships.

Conference themes and topics are carefully selected to reflect the most relevant and timely issues facing the banking industry, including fintech, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, digital banking and transformation, cross-border payments, regional regulations, risk management and compliance, sustainable banking and finance, and other emerging trends shaping the future of banking in Asia.

Policy Advocacy

The ABA Policy Advocacy Committee, composed of banking and finance experts, identifies critical policy issues for discussion, and formulates policy position papers and disseminates the results to national and international governments and organizations to contribute to policy making and regulatory implementation.

The Committee has done considerable work in areas such as: (a) development of domestic credit rating agencies; (b) local currency bond market development; (c) Basel II & Basel III Framework; (d) disaster preparedness; (e) credit reporting systems; (f) insolvency law and informal workouts; (g) financial inclusion and microfinance; (h) corporate governance; (i) financial literacy; (j) promoting regional convergence toward IFRS, and (k) promoting cooperation in digital transformation and cyber security management.



ABA Board of Directors 2026 - 2027

Chairman



Mr. Mohamed Shareef
CEO & Managing Director
Bank of Maldives (Maldives)

Azerbaijan

Azer Turk Bank OJSC

Bhutan

Bank of Bhutan Ltd.

India

State Bank of India, HK Branch

Iran

Bank Eghtesad Novin (EN Bank)
Bank Pasargad
Bank Shahr

Japan

MUFG Bank, Ltd., Singapore
Mizuho Bank, Ltd.
SMBC Group

Myanmar

Myanma Tourism Bank

Vice Chairman



Mr. Damith Pallawatte
CEO & Managing Director
Hatton National Bank Plc. (Sri Lanka)

Philippines

Rizal Commercial Bank Corporation

Russia

International Bank for Economic
Co-operation

Taiwan

CTBC Bank
Bank of Taiwan
Mega International Commercial Bank
First Commercial Bank

Thailand

Bangkok Bank PCL

Vietnam

Vietnam JSC Bank for Industry and
Trade (VietinBank)

Austria

Erste Group Bank AG, HK Branch



ABA Members

The ABA is composed of four categories of members, as follows:

- a) Regular Members
- b) Special Members
- c) Associate Members

REGULAR MEMBERS

Any bank or other financial institution, either private or state-owned, which has a presence in Asia and/or Australasia, is eligible to become a **Regular Member** of the Association.

azerbaijan

Azer Turk Bank OJSC

bhutan

Bank of Bhutan Ltd.

hong kong

The Bank of East Asia, Ltd.
Shanghai Commercial Bank Ltd.

india

State Bank of India, HK Branch

iran

EN Bank (Bank Eghtesad Novin)
Bank Pasargad
Bank Shahr
Saman Bank
Refah Kargar Bank
Tourism Bank
Sina Bank
Bank Hekmat Iranian
Tamadon Investment Bank

japan

MUFG Bank, Ltd.
Mizuho Bank, Ltd.
Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp.

korea

KEB Hana Bank

malaysia

Malayan Banking Berhad

maldives

Bank of Maldives PLC
Maldives Islamic Bank Plc

mongolia

Chinggis Khaan Bank
Trade and Development Bank

myanmar

Myanma Tourism Bank

philippines

Philippine National Bank
Rizal Commercial Banking Corp.

qatar

Doha Bank

russia

The International Bank for
Economic Cooperation

singapore

DBS Bank Ltd.

srilanka

Hatton National Bank PLC

taiwan

Bank of Taiwan
Bank SinoPac
Cathay United Bank
Chang Hwa Comm. Bank, Ltd.
CTBC Bank Co., Ltd.

First Commercial Bank
Hua Nan Commercial Bank Ltd.
Land Bank of Taiwan
Mega Int'l Commercial Bank
Taipei Fubon Bank
Taishin International Bank
Taiwan Business Bank
Taiwan Cooperative Bank

thailand

Bangkok Bank Public Co. Ltd.

uzbekistan

National Bank for FEA of the
Republic of Uzbekistan
Open Joint-Stock Commercial
Bank "Microcreditbank"

vietnam

Joint Stock Commercial Bank for
Foreign Trade of Vietnam
(Vietcombank)
Vietnam JSC Bank for Industry
and Trade (VIETINBANK)
Vietnam Export Import
Commercial Joint Stock Bank
(Vietnam Eximbank)
Vietnam Bank for Agriculture and
Rural Development (Agribank)

austria

Erste Group Bank AG,
Hong Kong Branch

ABA Members

SPECIAL MEMBERS

Any national or city bankers' association in Asia and/or Australasia or international/other regional association, which has similar objectives and/or purposes, is eligible to become a **Special Member** of the Association.

Mongolian Bankers Association
Nepal Bankers' Association
The Bankers Association of the Republic of China
Banks Association of Turkiye
Vietnam Banks' Association

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Any organization or individual whose activities are related or allied to the activities of banks or financial institutions and who supports the objectives of the Association is eligible to become an **Associate Member** of the Association.

SINGAPORE

Cyberbeat Pte. Ltd
Temenos
International Compliance Association
LexisNexis Risk Solutions
BPC

SRI LANKA

Mitra Innovation (Pvt) Ltd

TAIWAN

Taiwan Academy of Banking and Finance

U.S.A

Hawaii National Bank

ABA Publications



ABA publishes its monthly ABA Newsletter, the Report on Proceedings of Annual General Meetings and Conferences, and the annual Year-End Review.

The ABA also shares the latest information, news, research studies, conference reports and other activities through its website (aba.org.tw) and social media channels such as LinkedIn, YouTube and Facebook.

ASIAN BANKERS ASSOCIATION

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ABA Secretariat



7F-2, No. 760, Bade Road, Section 4,
Songshan District, Taipei, 10567, Taiwan

Phone: (886-2) 2760-1139
Email: aba@aba.org.tw