



The 9th **APCRSHR**
ASIA PACIFIC CONFERENCE ON
REPRODUCTIVE AND SEXUAL HEALTH AND RIGHTS
VIETNAM | NOVEMBER 27-30, 2017

THE 9TH ASIA PACIFIC CONFERENCE ON REPRODUCTIVE AND SEXUAL HEALTH AND RIGHTS

The 9th APCRSR will be organized from the 27th to the 30th of November 2017 in Vietnam, and will be hosted by the Vietnam Public Health Association (VPHA). It will be the first time the conference will be held in Vietnam. The APCRSR is organized every two years as a shared platform for all interested parties from diverse sectors, organizations, individuals, as well as media agencies and civil society organizations (CSOs) who wish to raise their voices regarding the matters of reproductive and sexual health and rights.



ASIA PACIFIC CONFERENCE ON
REPRODUCTIVE AND SEXUAL HEALTH AND RIGHTS
HA LONG BAY, VIETNAM NOVEMBER 27-30, 2017 www.apcrshr9vn.org

LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND!
JUSTICE IN SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

ORGANIZED BY



HỘI Y TẾ CÔNG CỘNG VIỆT NAM
VIETNAM PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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HỘI Y TẾ CÔNG CỘNG VIỆT NAM
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OVERVIEW

The Asia-Pacific is an area of rapid growth and transition. The benefits and costs of development are, however, not shared equitably among the countries and peoples of the region. In health, and even more in sexual and reproductive health, poor and marginalised communities miss out on good quality treatment and services.

Increased commercialisation and privatisation of health care, while expanding choices for the better off, results in double standards and restricted access for the underprivileged. This situation is particularly worrisome because universal health coverage is absent or inadequate, and sexual and reproductive health programmes are not always included. Political, cultural and religious values discriminate against women, gender, and sexual minorities. Also, social exclusion is a real barrier to accessing information and services.

To address these and other equity challenges, there is a need to promote justice in and through sexual and reproductive health. This requires a rethinking of policies and practices to ensure that marginalised and disadvantaged peoples are placed centre-stage in the regional and national responses. To support such work, civil society movements should participate as equal partners in decision-making to promote person-centred sexual and reproductive health and health care.

To bring about the SDG promise of ‘nobody’ being left behind, let’s work together towards justice in sexual and reproductive health.

The Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights or APCRSHR is a biennial gathering of civil society, young people, academia, government, media, private sector, and development partners from the region concerned about sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Eight succeeding conferences were hosted by countries across Asia including the Philippines (2001), Thailand (2003), Malaysia (2005), India (2007), China (2009), Indonesia (2011), Philippines (2014), and Myanmar (2016) with more than 10.000 delegates.

These conferences had varying themes to address SRHR in the broader context of global health and development, including HIV and AIDS and community health systems, engaging audiences in articulating common challenges and united actions. The first day of the conference is dedicated to youth participants; it is the only conference of this nature in the region that focuses on engaging and nurturing youth leadership in scholarship, advocacy and networking for SRHR.

The 9th APCRSHR will be organized from the 27th to the 30th of November 2017 in Hanoi, Vietnam, and will be hosted by the Vietnam Public Health Association and SRHR CSO partners. This will be the first time the conference is being held in Viet Nam where there have been big changes in laws and policies related to SRHR.



OBJECTIVES

- To systematically review the performance of the Asia Pacific region, sub-regions, and countries including the good SRHR practices and lessons learned for diverse groups and social settings.
- To identify the current and future roles and accountability of different stakeholders particularly NGOs, national and local governments, and development partners in achieving key SRHR results;
- To explore new paradigms, innovative ideas, and strategies that would meaningfully address emerging SRHR issues, challenges, accountability of stakeholders in Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) framework.
- To foster new alliances and to strengthen partnerships and cooperation in SRHR endeavours among diverse stakeholders from the region.

MISSION

To review the Asia Pacific's accomplishments, good practices for diverse populations particularly adolescents and youth, women of reproductive age, men, and the elderly, the different stakeholders' roles and accountability, lessons learned, issues and challenges in realizing the ICPD-PoA and in attaining the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)-related MDGs, SDGs.

VISION

- To provide a platform for SRHR stakeholders to share successes and lessons learned to identify and agree on priority actions to advance universal access to SRHR for sustainable development;
- To review cutting-edge research findings on SRHR;
- To share evidence-based practices in advocacy, policy, financing, governance & accountability, SRHR program integration in health systems; and
- To strengthen partnerships and open opportunities for new alliances in SRHR.



THE PAST CONFERENCES

2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philippines – 1200 delegates– Theme: “Quality Reproductive Health: On Track with the ICPD (International Conference on Population and Development) Commitment”
2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thailand– 1500 delegates • Theme: “Moving into action: realizing reproductive and sexual health and rights in the Asia Pacific region”
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malaysia – 1200 delegates • Theme: “Expanded and Comprehensive Response in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) for All Communities”
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India- 1000 delegates • Theme: “Exploring New Frontiers in Sexual And Reproductive Health and Rights”
2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China– 1000 delegates • Theme: “Working for Universal Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights: Building on the ICPD PoA and the MDGs”
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indonesia – 1563 delegates • Theme: “Claiming Sexual and Reproductive Rights in Asian and Pacific Societies”
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philippines – 2000 delegates • Theme: “Examining achievements, good practices and challenges: Towards a strategic positioning of SRHR for all”
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myanmar – Theme: 1119 delegates • “Ensuring universal access to SRHR for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific”

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The 9th APCRSR Programme will consist of

- ❖ Abstract – driven Sessions
 - Parallel Sessions
 - Poster Presentations
- ❖ Non Abstract – driven Sessions
 - Plenary sessions
 - Satellite Sessions
 - Symposia
 - Discussion Groups

The 1st day of the conference is dedicated to youth participants; it is the only conference of this nature in the region that focuses on engaging and nurturing youth leadership in scholarship, advocacy and networking for SRHR.

The next 03 days are dedicated for organizations and experts to share information and good practices relating to SRHR topics through many parallel and satellite sessions. 04 day





Exhibition throughout the program is also organized to encourage partners to network and showcase their activities related to SRHR.

THEME: LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND! JUSTICE IN SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Sub-themes:

1. Overcoming social, cultural and religious barriers in sexual and reproductive health
2. Towards a just economic order for sexual and reproductive health
3. Strengthening justice systems for sexual and reproductive health and rights
4. Making good quality sexual and reproductive health education available to all
5. Advancing justice and equity in sexual and reproductive health and health care

The sections will correspond to the following sub themes

Sub-theme 1: Overcoming social, cultural and religious barriers in sexual and reproductive health

Harmful traditional beliefs and practices, growing political conservatism, and extremes of religion have had damaging effects on sexual and reproductive health and rights in Asia-Pacific. They have resulted in gender inequity, marginalisation, stigma and discrimination; they have also triggered exclusion and violence against women, sexual minorities and other marginalised groups. When translated into conservative legal and policy formulations, restrictive religious and cultural norms create barriers to sexual and reproductive health information and services. A variety of strategies are being employed to overcome such difficulties and there is an urgent need for these to be shared and disseminated.

Contributions in this sub-theme will focus on:

- Documenting harmful traditional beliefs and practices in Asia-Pacific and strategies for change
- Restrictive environment for sexual and reproductive health and rights and efforts to change
- Impact of culture and religion on gender roles and sexual and reproductive health and rights – including child, forced and early marriage; access to contraception and abortion; violence against women, children and sexual minorities; and polygamy and concubinage
- Politicisation of religion in legislation and public policy
- Gender discriminatory, homophobic and transphobic beliefs and attitudes – strategies for change
- Fundamentalism and the woman's body
- Barriers to young people's sexual and reproductive health and rights, and programmes to promote youth agency
- Strategies to overcome social, cultural and religious barriers to sexual and reproductive health



Sub-theme 2: Towards a just economic order for sexual and reproductive health

Ongoing processes of global and regional integration and market liberalisation are impacting on sexual and reproductive health and health care, affecting people's sexual and reproductive health and rights and requiring new pro-equity responses. Topics of interest within this sub-theme include:

- International and regional trade agreements and their impacts on sexual and reproductive health and rights
- Patent systems and copyright concerns with respect to sexual and reproductive health knowledge and commodities
- Pricing of sexual and reproductive health commodities
- Commercialisation and privatisation of health care
- Medical tourism and its effects
- Changing trends in ODA and FDI in sexual and reproductive health and health care
- Globalising sex industry (including mail order brides, pornography; sex tourism)
- Commercialisation and gender-stereotyping of beauty (including cosmetic surgery, skin whitening products and the Pink economy)
- Impact of environment degradation and climate change on sexual and reproductive health and rights
- Increasing migration flows and sexual and reproductive health and rights impacts
- Poverty, equity and sexual and reproductive health and rights

Sub-theme 3: Strengthening justice systems for sexual and reproductive health and rights

People across the region face challenges that hinder their ability to realise human rights, including sexual and reproductive rights. The political and legal systems that are supposed to uphold such rights often fail to do so, or even become barriers. There is a need to ensure that laws and policies are sexuality and gender-responsive and promote the rights of women and gender and sexual minorities. Action is needed to repeal policies and laws that are discriminatory, that compromise sexual and reproductive health and/or that conflict with basic human rights principles. Topics of interest within this sub-theme include:

- Laws and policies that discriminate against women and their sexuality and strategies for reform
- Criminalisation of specific communities such as sex workers, gender and sexual minorities, and people who use drugs
- Legal and political barriers to safe and voluntary abortion
- Marital and/or parental consent requirements in sexual and reproductive health;
- Engagement in the national review of penal codes, laws and policies
- Access to justice and equal protection for all, including mechanisms for redress
- Strengthening policy, legislation, and institutions to end all forms of violence and discrimination across all systems and institutions, including gender-based and sexual violence, early and child marriage, and other harmful traditional practices;
- Citizen monitoring and accountability checks
- Respect of gender and sexual diversity through sexual citizenship



Sub-theme 4: Making good quality sexual and reproductive health education available to all

Contrary to the accepted norm, sexual and reproductive health education is for people of all ages, from adolescents to the elderly. In accordance with the lifecycle of an individual, evidence informed, good quality sexual and reproductive health education should be available in school and beyond, including through the use of innovative and alternative channels. Contributions in the form of research studies and innovative and unusual good practice case studies are very much to be welcomed in this sub-theme.

- What makes good quality sexual and reproductive health education
- Integrating and mainstreaming sexual and reproductive health education in non-traditional school subjects (i.e. sport, literature, history, etc)
- Approaches to sexual and reproductive health education in the workplace and other out-of-school settings
- Age appropriate, innovative approaches such as drama and peer education
- Curricula for success
- Teacher education and preparation, what works and why
- Sensitising and educating adults (including parents) to their role in sexual and reproductive health education
- Education and communication about sexual and reproductive health within the home
- Mass media, social media, the Internet and apps as channels for sexual and reproductive health education
- Pornography and sexual and reproductive health education
- Bullying and sexual harassment
- Peer-to-peer sexual and reproductive health education

Sub-theme 5: Advancing justice and equity in sexual and reproductive health and healthcare

This theme focuses on gender, socio-economic, and geographical inequities in sexual and reproductive health status as well as in the health care system. Attention will be given to addressing challenges encountered in providing and accessing the highest levels of sexual and reproductive health care for all. A key question to be addressed is how best to negotiate the tension health as a public good and an entitlement to every citizen, and health as a commercial product implied by the increasing privatisation of services.

- Theoretical and conceptual frameworks in advancing universal and equitable sexual and reproductive health care
- Epidemiological inequities as a reflection of socio-economic, gender and other forms of inequity in Asia and the Pacific
- Health inequities in health care and in the provision of sexual and reproductive health care services, and efforts to address them



- Good practices and lessons learned in reducing inequities in sexual and reproductive health and health care through, among other means, pro-poor policies, health care financing and public-private partnerships,
- Promoting access to sexual and reproductive health services for all, with special attention to governance, financing and resourcing and efforts to realise universal health coverage.
- Optimising human resources for universal access to sexual and reproductive health

TENTATIVE CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Time: 27 - 30 November 2017,

Venue: Quang Ninh Exhibition of Planning and Expo Center, Ha Long City, Quang Ninh province, Vietnam

YOUTH CONFERENCE

TIME	ACTIVITY
26 November	- Arrival - Registration for Youth Conference and Main conference - Youth Bonding Night (18:30 – 20:30)
27 November	Youth Conference
8:00 – 10:00	Opening Ceremony
10:00 – 12:00	Plenary Session
12:00 – 13:30	-Lunch -First Poster Presentation
13:30 -15:30	Round Table Discussion
15:30 – 16:00	Tea/ Coffee Break
16:00 – 17:00	Youth Presentation on Recommendations Youth Ocean

MAIN CONFERENCE

Date and Time	Activity
27 November	- Arrival - Registration for Main Conference
28 November	Day 1
6:30 – 8:30	Registration
8:30 – 10:00	Opening Ceremony Prof. Le Vu Anh – Convener – VPHA President Welcome speech from Vice President (TBC)– 10 minutes Minister of Ministry of Health (TBC) Key note: Dr Rosalia Scortino : 15 minutes
10:00 – 10:30	Tea/ Coffee break
10:30 – 12:00	First Plenary Session



	Sub theme 1: Overcoming social, cultural and religious barriers in sexual and reproductive health
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch First Satellite Sessions and Symposium Second Poster sessions
13:30 – 15:00	First Parallel Sessions 7 Parallel Sessions
15:00 – 15:30	Tea/ Coffee Break
15:30 – 17:00	Second Satellite Sessions Field visits
29 November	Day 2
9:00 – 10:30	Second Plenary Session Sub-theme 2: Towards a just economic order for sexual and reproductive health
10:30 – 11:00	Tea/ Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:30	Second Parallel Sessions
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch Third Satellite Sessions and Symposia Third Poster Sessions
14:00 – 15:30	Third Plenary sessions Sub-theme 3: Strengthening justice systems for sexual and reproductive health and rights
15:30 – 16:00	Tea/ Coffee Break
16:00 – 17:30	Third Parallel Sessions
17:30 – 19:00	Fourth Satellite Sessions
19:00 – 21:00	Culture night and Gala dinner
30 November	Day 3
8:30 – 10:00	Fourth Plenary Sessions Sub-theme 4: Making good quality sexual and reproductive health education available to all
10:00 – 10:30	Tea/ Coffee Break
10:30 – 12:00	Fourth Parallel Sessions
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch Fourth Poster sessions Fifth Satellite Sessions
13:30- 15:00	Five Plenary Sessions Sub-theme 5: Advancing justice and equity in sexual and reproductive health and healthcare
15:00 - 15:30	Tea/ Coffee Break
15:30 – 17:00	Five Parallel Sessions
17:00 – 18:00	Closing Ceremony



ABSTRACTS, POSTER PRESENTATIONS AND SYMPOSIUM

❖ Abstracts

The Organizing Committee invites all organizations and partners to submit abstracts for the 9th APCRSR. The selection of oral presentations and posters for presentation will be based on the quality of submissions and their relevance to the 05 key conference subthemes

The review of submissions will be guided by the objectives and subthemes of the conference, but the scientific committee will give full consideration to abstracts related to other themes relevant to SRHR, and may create additional sessions or tracks to accommodate these.

A panel of Vietnamese and international experts will anonymously review all submissions. A limited number of scholarships will be provided by the Organizing Committee to the presenters of papers selected for oral or poster presentation.

Selected abstracts on the various tracks will be featured during the Parallel Sessions. Time for call abstracts: **1/9/2016 – 30/4/2017**

Abstract and scholarship application is at: <https://goo.gl/1S1FLc>

Instructions for submitting a paper or a poster

Format for the abstract is a guideline rather than a requirement. If your paper includes sections on background, policy suggestions, critical issues or other content, please include these as appropriate. Remember that word limits are to be followed carefully to help with the review process.

1	Authors should submit an abstract of less than 450 words to the online abstract submission page. An indication of abstract structure could include <i>Objective: 100 words, Method: 100 words, Results: 150 words, Conclusions: 100 words</i> . Authors will be asked to classify their submission to one of the five conference subthemes or the sixth “other” category
2	All abstracts must be written in English. It is the author’s responsibility to submit a correct abstract. Any errors in spelling, grammar or scientific fact in the abstract text will be reproduced as typed by the author. Abstract titles selected for presentation may be edited for spelling or conformity to the session title.
3	Abstracts must include a clear description of the topic, methods and salient findings. Research proposals should not be submitted for oral presentation, though they may be considered for posters.
4	You may modify your abstract online at any time before 30 April 2017. Abstracts can only be submitted online via the conference profile on our website; submissions by



	fax, post or email will not be considered.
5	Please provide the full names, affiliations and e-mail addresses of all co-authors. Please indicate who will be the presenter and the scholarship applicant (as relevant).
6	All submissions will be considered for either the limited number of oral presentation spots in the four parallel sessions, or for the unlimited number of poster presentations in the Super-Poster session. Posters will be put up at the beginning of the conference and remain in place till the end. Presenters will be informed when they are expected to stand beside their poster for Q&A.
7	You may submit up to two abstracts as the primary author and presenter but there is no limit to the number of abstracts for which you can contribute as a co-author.
8	Authors who submit an abstract should do so with the intention to attend the conference. Participants are expected to cover their own registration, travel and accommodation costs. There will be limited number of scholarship options from either the conference committees or from donors. The Organizing Committee and ISC will assist selected presenters with applications for scholarships and visas.

❖ Poster Presentations

Poster Presentations are abstracts expressed in poster form. For the duration of the conference, presenters will be assigned scheduled times to discuss their posters. The schedule will be posted in various locations within the venue.

❖ Symposium

There will be a limited number of symposiums planned to be held at lunchtime. Each symposium will be one hour and a half. A symposium can either be by invitation only or open to all participants

SATELLITE SESSIONS

Satellite sessions serve as supplements to the official conference program around critical issues on SRHR and the overarching theme ***“Leave no one behind! Justice in sexual and reproductive health”***.

Satellite sessions are hosted by development partners, civil society and private sectors. These sessions are held after the conference hours. Each session can accommodate 100-150 people with minimum of 90 minutes per host.

There will be 7 satellite sessions during the conference. At one session, there will be parallel 05 rooms with total 35 slots are available.

Registration fee for international organization: USD 5,000





Registration fee for Vietnamese organization: USD 4,000

This fee includes free registration for 02 speakers from registered organization (tea-breaks, meals, information package and name badges for are included).

The brief description of your satellite session and symposium will be published in our conference program book and will also be announced soon on our website

<http://www.apcrshr9vn.org/>

EXHIBITION

The Exhibition Hall is a great opportunities for all organizations to promote their images and services to all delegates in the conference, which is estimated to reach above 1500 people. National and International NGOs, international agencies, academic institutions, donors, governments, and members of the private sector are welcome to exhibit at the Exhibition Hall.

The Exhibition Hall lasts for 04 days, from Youth Conference to Main conference (Nov 27th - 30th 2017), conveniently located within the venue and accessible to 1500 delegates.

40 exhibit spaces are available in total. All spaces are based on a first paid, first served basis.

Exhibition Booth fees:

- | | |
|--|---------|
| - Local/International Social Organizations | \$1.000 |
| - Private sector companies | \$2.000 |

This fee includes free registration for 01 personnel from organization (meals, tea breaks, information package, name badge are provided by the program) to attend the Youth Conference and Main Conference (27th – 30th Nov). From the 2nd personnel, the full registration cost is applied.



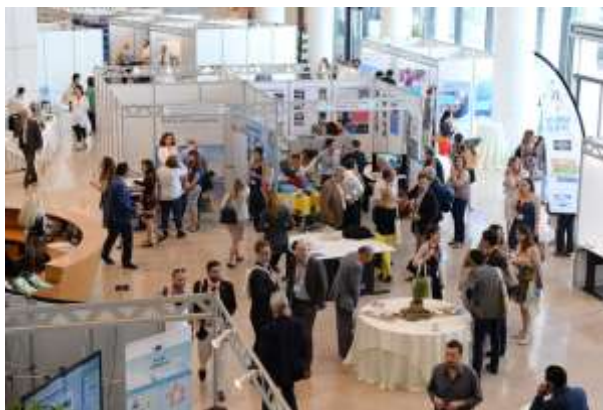
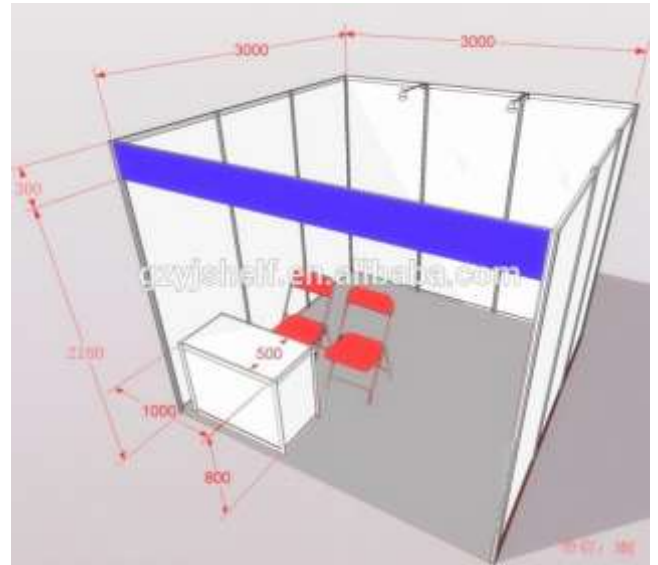
Package Booth Shell Scheme - 3m x 3m x 2,5m

Basic Booth Shell

- Genuine Octanorm System
- Side Panels and partitions
- Fascia Board

Accessories & Facilities

- One piece information Table (1 x 0,5 x 0,8 m)
- Fascia Sticker (minimum of 20 characters)
- Two pieces chair
- Fluorescent lamp
- Power outlet





PARTICIPATION AND REGISTRATION

Over 1500 delegates from the region and internationally, representing various sectors, are expected to attend the 9th APCRSR in Vietnam.

International Registration Fees

❖ Early Bird (1/11/2016 – 30/6/2017)	\$ 550
❖ Regular (1/7/2017 – 26/11/2017)	\$ 600
❖ Onsite	\$ 650
❖ Youth (under 25 years old/from Dec 1 st , 1992)	\$ 150

Vietnam National Registration Fees

❖ Early Bird (1/11/2016 – 30/6/2017)	\$ 200
❖ Regular (1/7/2017 – 26/11/2017)	\$ 250
❖ Onsite	\$ 300
❖ Youth (under 25 years old/born after Dec 1 st , 1992)	\$ 100

Group registration: Free registration for the 11th delegate if delegates register in group of 10

TIMELINE FOR SUBMISSION, REGISTRATION AND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Organizers and participants should meet the following deadlines:

1 Sep 2016 – 30 Apr 2017	Website opens for submission of abstracts
1 Nov 2016 – 30 June 2017	Early bird registration
1 Sep 2016 – 30 May 2017	Scholarship application open
30 Apr 2017	Last day for submission/modification of abstracts
30 July 2017	Deadline for Satellite Registration
15-30 July 2017	Author notification of acceptance for oral and poster presentations
15-30 July 2017	Scholarships will be announce
30 August 2017	Confirmation of participation by authors whose papers have been accepted
16 Nov 2017	Preliminary conference programme uploaded on website
16 Nov 2017	Scientific Sub-committee finalizes content of parallel and poster sessions Draft conference programme uploaded on website



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For more information for the conference please contact

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Conference official communication channels

- APCRSR9 Website: www.apcrshr9vn.org
- VPHA website: www.vpha.org.vn
- APCRSR9 fanagpage: www.facebook.com/9thAPCRSHR/



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