

## ASEAN Movement in Radiology

# A historic event - The 21<sup>st</sup> Asian Oceanian Congress of Radiology, Bangkok, Thailand, February 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

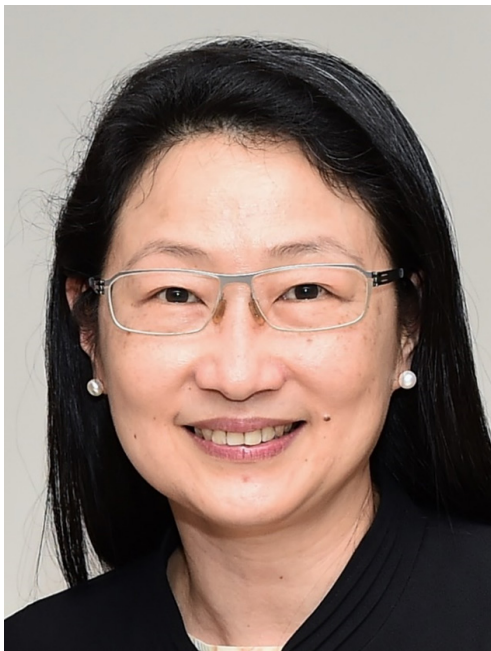
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There was a certain level of excitement about the 21<sup>st</sup> Asian Oceanian Congress of Radiology (AOCR) held in conjunction with the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting of the Radiological Society of Thailand and the Royal College of Radiologists of Thailand as it has been a long 40 years since the 4<sup>th</sup> AOCR in Bangkok in 1983. The 4<sup>th</sup> AOCR was the first Thai international congress and the largest AOCR since 1975 then.

In addition, there were other challenges, as the AOCRs are held according to the host organizer's best time of the year for meetings and the 20<sup>th</sup> AOCR in 2022 was just about 5 months ago in Seoul! This was the third year in a row that the AOCRs had become an annual event of the Asian

Oceanian Society of Radiology despite the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, testifying to the fact that collectively our allied professions are “Redefining the Possibilities in Medical Imaging” – in the way we make scientific exchanges, collaborate, train, teach and conduct research. In fact, close to this AOCR, there was a threat of COVID-19 surge that fortunately did not pose any issues for the on-site attendees.



*AOCR2023 Binbakya Bidyabhed Lecture on “AOSR: Past, Present, Future” by the author as the president of AOSR.*

As in true unmatched Thai hospitality, the AOCR exuded an extra special welcoming atmosphere. Everyone I met exclaimed how enjoyable the congress/ event was. There was something for everyone. There was thoughtful concession for registration fees for those from lower middle-income countries (LMIC) and ample awards to encourage poster and oral submissions including one set aside for the best researcher award relevant to SARS-CoV-2.



*The author as the president of AOSR together with the Congress Chair, Assistant Professor Jarturon Tantivatana (President of the Radiological Society of Thailand), Scientific Chair, Associate Professor Wiwatana Tanomkiat (President of the Royal College of Radiologists of Thailand), Associate Professor Boontiang Sitisara (the First President of the Royal College of Radiologists of Thailand) and Dr. Chamaree Chuapetcharasopon (Former President of the Radiological Society of Thailand) open the exhibition at AOCR2023.*

Heartiest congratulations to the Congress Chair, Assistant Professor Jarturon Tantivatana, President of the Radiological Society of Thailand and Scientific Chair, Associate Professor Wiwatana Tanomkiat, President of the Royal College of Radiologists of Thailand with Team Thailand for this successful hybrid meeting in a world class convention centre, the Centara Grand & Bangkok Convention Centre at CentralWorld, Bangkok.

I am grateful and appreciative of the challenges throughout the organization of an AOCR and have been privileged to preside over my final AOCR as President of the AOSR in the Land of Smiles, Thailand.