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Editor's Note

By Milanthi Sarukkali

Welcome to the May issue of *International News*. We are excited to present to our readers several high-quality articles with diverse perspectives. This issue brings together articles from some of our regular contributors as well as a few new authors.

The International Section successfully concluded the Country Feature Article competition for 2019. We received several outstanding entries discussing a wide array of topics across different regions. Congratulations to Steven Chen and David Fishbaum, who authored the winning article, "Risk-based Capital Development in India," featured in this issue of the newsletter. I would like to thank all the authors who sent in their articles for the competition. We hope to publish more of these articles in subsequent issues of the newsletter.

The lineup of this issue includes a timely article on health savings accounts (HSA) with a focus on Gen X women. Another interesting article included here is a discussion on how the life insurance market has progressed in the MENA region. An enthusiastic mentee of the Actuaries Without Borders® Global Mentorship Program has sent in a note describing her experience with the program and how her mentor has helped her progress in her career. We also have a view of the role of an actuary in microinsurance and a recap of a workshop in data science held in Algeria.

Now I would like to take a moment to reflect on my experience on the editorial board of the *International News* newsletter. I joined the editorial board in 2015 as a volunteer editor covering the Asia Outside Greater China region. I moved to the role of deputy editor in chief in 2018 and to the lead editor role this year. Being on the editorial board has given me the pleasure of



working with several actuaries across different regions, sourcing and editing articles on various topics of relevance. It has been a great networking opportunity and has also exposed me to topics that I would otherwise not have come across or researched. Currently, we are looking to expand our editorial board to cover even more regions. I encourage any members who are interested in joining the *International News* editorial board to reach out to me or Carlos Arocha to learn more. It has been a truly rewarding experience for me personally, and I am confident it will be so for you as well.

Additionally, I encourage our readers to contact me and Carlos with any ideas and comments, as well as to consider contributing content to the newsletter. ■



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