

Article from International News

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## Editor's Note

By Milanthi Sarukkali

arm wishes for 2019! With the dawn of the new year, we have a few changes to announce within the International Section as well as on the International News editorial board. I am honored and excited to serve as the lead editor of this newsletter going forward. I am also excited to have Carlos Arocha join me as the deputy editor. We are hopeful that we can continue to bring you interesting articles with international relevance. We are deeply grateful to Arpita Das, our lead editor in 2018 who has contributed immensely toward the success of this publication.

We also extend our congratulations to Arpita as she steps down from her role on the editorial board to provide leadership to the International Section as chair. The International Section Council ushered in new council members at the 2018 SOA Annual Meeting & Exhibit in Nashville, while several of our former council members completed their three-year terms. A special thank-you goes out to Vincent Xuan and Wendy Kwan, former chairperson and vice chairperson of the International Section for their invaluable contributions throughout their term on the Council.

Our sincere wishes go to Kathryn Baker, SOA staff editor, whose support has been invaluable to make this publication a success, as she moves out of her 13-year tenure at the SOA, most of which was spent working on International News. We thank her for her contributions to this publication and welcome Sam Phillips, who will be supporting International News going forward.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate our deputy editor, Carlos Arocha, for being nominated as an outstanding volunteer at the 2018 SOA Annual Meeting & Exhibit. Carlos is a former chairperson of the International Section and a long-time volunteer and friend, whose contributions to the profession are far-reaching and immensely impactful.

This issue of International News covers a wide array of topics and regions, including reflections on being an Actuaries Without Borders (AWB) volunteer, and a conversation with one of our



regular authors on her unique experience working in Kenya. We also explore the use of block chain in insurance. A discussion on actuarial paradigms in a changing world and an introduction to the International Actuarial Association (IAA) monograph on IFRS 17 Risk Adjustment are also included.

The International Section is calling for papers for the Country Feature Article competition that is conducted each year. Deadline for submission of entries has been extended to Feb. 15, 2019. This is a great opportunity for section members to share diverse insights and experiences and stand a chance to win cash prizes. The articles submitted for the competition will be published in future issues of this newsletter.

International News serves as a link between the section members, section council and the SOA. We strive to make this newsletter a platform that showcases engaging and timely topics to keep our readers informed of regulatory and technological developments as well as the evolution of the profession around the world. We would like to encourage our readers to continue to provide feedback and reach out to us with ideas for new topics to be covered in our newsletter.



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