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## **Survey for the status of MP in Asia**

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ETC (Education and Training Committee) of AFOMP (Asia Oceania Federation of organizations of Medical Physics) conducted a survey in 2005 with an assembly of questionnaires for the purpose of identifying the targets and level of standardized education and training of medical physics in Asia and Oceania region. The assembly of questionnaires was consisted of two parts of questions. The first was related to the state and demand for medical physics certification and/or licensing. The second one was concerning a proposed standardized process of education and training of medical physics. The answers were sent back from 13 countries out of 18 AFOMP members.

For the questions concerning needs for certification/licensing of medical physics, 11 countries answered "yes". Japan answered "No" in the field of nuclear medicine and Mongolia answered totally "No".

For the questions on present existence of certification/licensing organizations, 5 countries answered "Yes". Four countries set the highest priority to radiation oncology physics followed by both diagnostic imaging and nuclear medicine generally.

The answers to the second part of questionnaires showed the highest priority for training and education of oncology physics. For establishing certification/licensing system, it was reconfirmed that clarification of the definition and requirement of "qualified medical physicists were essential. Academic education and training program of real medical physics in each country was shown to be also key process for the development of this field of science and occupational contribution.

Although the quantitative and qualitative needs for medical physics/physicists in Asia Oceania countries are increasing, the situation is still far from the goal in most of the countries. International cooperation seems come first in order to assure the medical physics support in medicine, and to assure adequate, sufficient and successful implementation of medical physics/physicists supply.