

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

4 October 2023

### For Immediate Release

# Ageing Asia Policy White Paper launches in Australia with insights on the future of ageing across 8 countries

**4 October 2023** – The Ageing Asia White Paper 2023, a collaborative effort led by key figures in the ageing industry, is an illuminating compass navigating the intricate landscape of ageing policies. By bringing together insights from an array of international contributors, this comprehensive study crystallises a deep understanding of policy dynamics and their profound implications on the care and well-being of the ageing population. Aimed at empowering decision-makers, it provides foresight and knowledge to formulate strategies aligned with the unique needs and aspirations of seniors in a globally connected, ageing world.

In a collaborative initiative led by Ms Janice Chia, Founder & Managing Director of Ageing Asia in Singapore, alongside Mr Arthur Koumoukelis, Partner at Thomson Geer Lawyers in Australia, and Dr Kelvin Tan, Head of Minor in Applied Ageing Studies and Senior Lecturer of Master/PhD in Gerontology and Innovation Programmes at Singapore University of Social Sciences in Singapore, this comprehensive study delves into ageing policies across selected countries in the Asia Pacific region, encompassing a broader perspective that extends to the United Kingdom and Finland. This strategic endeavour harmonises with Ageing Asia's World Ageing Festival Policy Day 2023, reinforcing the values of international collaboration and knowledge sharing within the ageing sector.

#### **Purpose and Noteworthy Contributors**

The Ageing Asia White Paper 2023 aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of policies, strategies, initiatives, and key trends adopted by various countries in response to the opportunities and challenges presented by a rapidly growing elderly population. The report offers invaluable insights into how countries are leveraging these policies and trends to capitalize on opportunities and navigate the challenges tied to an ageing populace.

Acknowledging the vital contributions made to this white paper, esteemed professionals and authorities from respective nations joined forces to provide essential insights during the World Ageing Festival 2023. Gratitude is extended to the following eminent contributors:

- Mrs Annissa Sri Kusumawati, Planner, Ministry of National Development Planning, Indonesia
- Mr Daniel Gannon, Executive Director, Retirement Living, Property Council of Australia
- Dr Gengpong Tangaroonsanti, CEO of Chersery Home International & The Senizens in Thailand
- Mr John Collyns, CEO, Retirement Villages Association, New Zealand
- Mr Michael Voges, Executive Director, Association of Retirement Communities Operator (ARCO), the United Kingdom
- Dr Päivi Sillanaukee, Special Envoy for Health and Wellbeing, The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Government of Finland
- Mr Tan Kwang Cheak, CEO, Agency for Integrated Care (AIC), Singapore
- Mr Tom Symondson, CEO, Aged & Community Care Providers Association (ACCPA), Australia



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### Introduction and Opportunities in the Aged Care Sector

In today's world, ageing is no longer a localized phenomenon; it's a global reality. By 2050, Asia Pacific alone will have 1 in 4 individuals aged 60 and above, presenting a profound demographic transition that brings both opportunities and challenges. To harness these opportunities, integration of technology within the Aged Care Sector is pivotal, capitalising on advancements in healthcare and increased life expectancies. From IoT devices and Virtual Reality to Robots and Al solutions, a spectrum of assistive technologies is revolutionising the sector.

#### Key Ageing Trends and Addressing Challenges: Insights from Global Case Studies

This comprehensive white paper meticulously analyses and evaluates ageing policies across the Asia Pacific region, extending its purview to include the United Kingdom and Finland. Ms Janice Chia, Founder and Managing Director of Ageing Asia Pte Ltd, Singapore, emphasised, "This insightful white paper meticulously analyses and evaluates ageing policies across the Asia Pacific region, extending its purview to include the United Kingdom and Finland. Global knowledge exchange will help enable operators globally to benefit."

The document also meticulously explores key ageing trends in community care models, preventive health, healthy ageing, and financial security in old age. Each case study and trend analysis significantly contributes to a comprehensive understanding of the various approaches adopted by countries to tackle the distinctive challenges posed by an ageing population.

To effectively address these challenges, a multi-faceted approach is imperative. This encompasses ensuring financial sustainability, strategic workforce development, providing diverse housing options, and enacting responsive healthcare and social welfare policies. Moreover, integrating technology and services will play a pivotal role in shaping the future of aged care. Collaborative partnerships with the private sector will further enhance the delivery of top-notch services for our older citizens.

Dr. Kelvin Tan, an esteemed authority as the Head of Minor in Applied Ageing Studies and Senior Lecturer of Master/PhD in Gerontology and Innovation Programmes at Singapore University of Social Sciences, keenly notes, "Policy in aged care is often challenged by the speed of technology, rapid changing demographics and environment. Different stakeholders comprising of the industry, academic, government agencies and care providers can work more closely together. Together, we can create a supportive environment which harnesses the integrated domains, living labs and innovations. Building a robust care continuum for older persons from hospitals to community hospitals, active ageing hubs/centres and homes is a tough but not impossible task. It requires human development/training, adoption of best practices, resource optimisation and financial planning. Only then, we can achieve the aspired quality of care for older persons and their families."

As we navigate the unique circumstances presented by each country and strive to provide quality care for an ageing population with limited reserves from their accumulated savings, the importance of global collaboration becomes evident. Learning from each other's experiences in managing this demographic shift is crucial in establishing a broader, supportive community on a global scale.

Mr. Arthur Koumoukelis, Partner at Thomson Geer Lawyers in Australia, highlighted, "The Ageing Asia Policy Day white paper provides a useful overview of government policy and industry response to the issues



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raised by a global ageing population. Anyone involved in the regulation or delivery of services and facilities to the ageing population will find the paper useful to help guide their strategy"

To download the white paper, please click here

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# Ageing Asia Pte Ltd, Singapore

Ageing Asia is Asia Pacific's first industry alliance on the business of ageing. We are an independent global eldercare knowledge platform with a community of business, government and community leaders that aim to drive change in the future of ageing in Asia Pacific. Our vision is to lead an advocacy and educational role in improving quality and standards of eldercare, nurture partnerships and curate development of solutions that address the new opportunities and market demands of the ageing baby boomer population. For more information on Ageing Asia, please visit <a href="https://www.ageingasia.com">www.ageingasia.com</a>.

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