

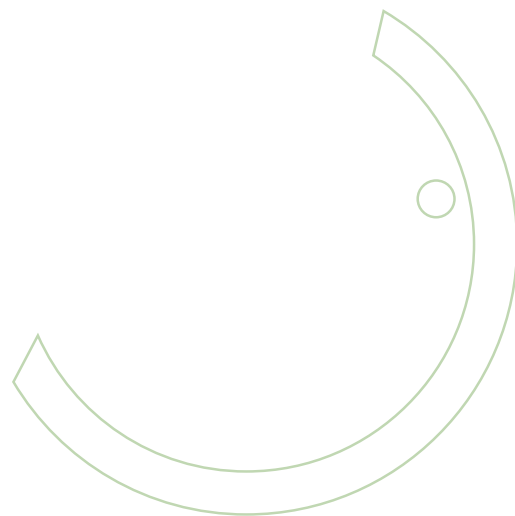
Message from UIA Vice President Region IV, Asia and Oceania

Ms. Louise Cox

Thank you very much for your very kind invitation to me, to attend the UIA/ARCASIA Workshop “Universal Accessibility – The People Oriented Approach”, 12 th December 2003.

Unfortunately I cannot join you all in Bangladesh at this time but I know that you will not be disappointed with the content and presentations at this workshop, with the wonderful range of speakers available to you this morning.

I hope that you all have a very successful Workshop on Universal Accessibility, in Dhaka. I will miss you all very much.



Message from Chairman of Architects Regional Council, Asia,

Mr. Barry F. Will

This workshop is part of an ongoing outreach programme to bring barrier free design to the countries of Asia. ARCASIA is delighted to be associated with this programme for the second time. The Director of this UIA Work Programme Region IV Ar. Joseph Kwan is a world authority on architecture for the disabled and he is actively involved in this field of education and inclusive design. After the success of the seminar in Singapore in 2001 it was decided that the knowledge gathered could be applied in many of the ARCASIA member countries thus this presentation in Dhaka.

Barrier free design is not just for developed countries and, in fact, it is probably more important in emerging

economies where scarce resources are invested in new buildings. These new contributions to the built environment should respond to all members of the society and often the local building regulations and laws are unable to keep up with the rapid change. Therefore it is essential that the architects are sensitive to these areas of design and can advise clients and local authorities on progressive design trends that benefit the whole community.

We wish the workshop every success and believe that its influence will contribute greatly to the future architecture not only of Bangladesh but also all member countries.

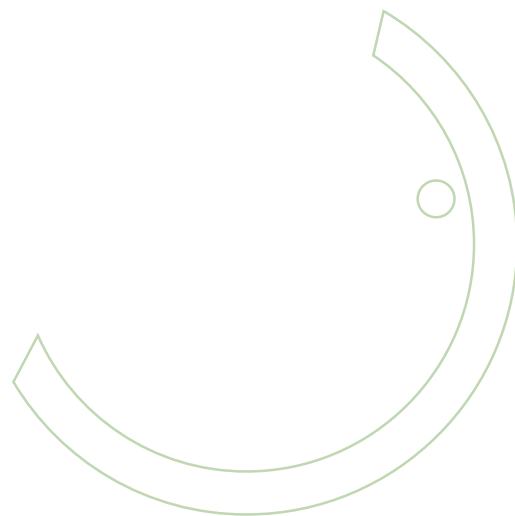
Message from Institute of Architects Bangladesh President,

Ar. Mubasshar Hussain

A huge load is off my conscience with the thought that something will finally be done for creation of awareness for making buildings accessible, amongst architects of Bangladesh.

With no legislative support and lack of codes in this area, the awareness amongst Bangladesh's architects remains painfully low. As President of Institute of Architects, Bangladesh (IAB) I have been guilty of not doing enough. I, therefore, welcome the Workshop and the participants with all my heart.

Coupled with the ARCASIA Forum 12, I have no doubt that this event will go a long way in building up an awareness, both, in the hearts of the attending Political decision makers and architects of Bangladesh. An issue, as vital as this, needs to be addressed immediately, if we are to take up our proper place in the civilized world.



Message from The Hong Kong Institute of Architects President,

Ar. John Wong Po Lung

As a Founding Member of ARCASIA, the Hong Kong Institute of Architects is very pleased to be co-organizing this joint UIA/ARCASIA Workshop at Dhaka, Bangladesh in association with the Institute of Architects Bangladesh on the 12th December, 2003.

Barrier-free access is a vital ingredient in the people-oriented approach to universal design, and this UIA/ARCASIA event is an excellent occasion for the international community to come together to agree on a common strategy towards promoting good practice and responsive architecture among architects.

I wish the Workshop great success in building a consensus towards standardization within the region and we look forward to sharing the fruits of these efforts for the benefit of all users back home.

