



SAARCH

NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

At the preparations for the SAARC Summit held in November 1991, His Excellency the President of Sri Lanka wished that the SAARC Summit to be an occasion of wide significance, apart from the central event of the meeting of Heads of State, and also it to be an occasion for people to people contact in the SAARC Region; envisaging such contacts to lead to the growth of a widespread SAARC consciousness among the people of the region thus stimulating a process of closer co-operation in the political, economic and cultural spheres. Culminating this concept, the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects organised and hosted the SAARC Architects Regional Seminar on SHELTER in Colombo during the period 12 - 14 November, 1991.

The SLIA foreseeing the requirement of linking of architects in the SAARC Region and organising of regular meetings which would pave the way to exchange professional experiences among them. This would specially be beneficial to the countries like Maldives and Bhutan where there are no formal Architectural Institutions/Organisations to overlook the common interests of professionals. As a result, the SLIA proposed formulation of a Regional Association for the SAARC Region. The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation of Architects (SAARCH) was emerged culminating this concept.

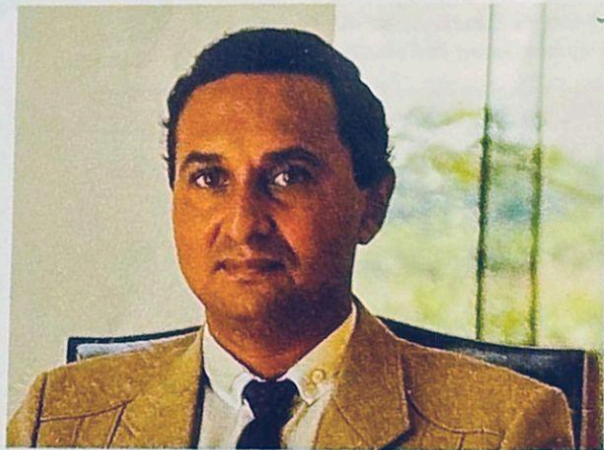
The draft constitution for the Association, as proposed by the SLIA, was circulated among the delegates of all SAARC countries prior to their arrival for the Seminar. It was discussed and approved by the delegates at a separate meeting held and it was a consensus among all delegates that the constitution be very simple, and that the Association should comprise Architectural Institutions/Professional bodies of the relevant countries. In the case of Maldives and Bhutan where no professional organisations represent architects, it was agreed that associations or bodies may represent those countries until such architectural organisation is formed. The Chairman of the Association would be from the country hosting the SAARC Summit. The SAARC will meet to coincide with SAARC Summit of Heads of States, each year.

The Sri Lanka Institute of Architects, being the founder Chairman of SAARCH, proposes that this News Letter to be a biannual publication, besides the annual meetings of

member countries, in order to discuss, exchange and record the experiences of members in the region on regular basis. I would like to take this opportunity to invite the co-operation and assistance of all members in the region for the continuation of this publication by way of sending news items. The SLIA would undertake the publication of News Letter biannually.

I wish to place on record my sincere gratitude to the delegates participated at the SAARC Architects Regional Seminar, for their valuable contributions towards formulation of SAARCH. I also should thank Archt. Vidura Sri Nammuni, the Editor of SLIA, for his ready acceptance to organise this News Letter. Finally, I wish that the SAARCH would be a useful forum to all of us for a fruitful collaboration.

Mihindu Keerthiratne FIA (SL)
Chairman, SAARCH



SAARCH NEWS

SRI LANKA

SAARC Architects regional seminar on "shelter" was held in Colombo from 11 - 14 November 1991 at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall. Delegates from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka presented papers at this seminar at which SAARCH the union of architects of the SAARC countries was established, with a view of exchanging ideas and working through to the development of architecture in the region.