

HRP forms new team: seeks to go beyond profession to the nation

At the recently concluded annual general meeting of the association of HR professionals, a new executive committee was elected for the year 2016 to take the organizations objectives forward. Led by Pradeepa Kekulawala - head of human resources of Srilankan airlines, the committee comprises of well experienced professionals



Association of HR Professionals EXCO members

Seated from left to right: Chandana Wijayanama – Secretary, Roshan Kulasuriya – Vice President, Pradeepa Kekulawala – President, L. Chiranthi Cooray – Immediate Past President, Ishan Dantanarayana – Vice President, Thushara Jayawardana – Treasurer.

Standing from left to right: Dinusha Jayamanne – committee member, Paduma Subasinghe – assistant secretary, Sakunthala Senarath- committee member, Sujith Bandulahewa – committee member, Ravi Jayasekera - committee member, Chandi Dharmaratne - committee member, Chinthaka Premaratne - committee member, Sampath Alwis – Assistant Treasurer, Oshana Dias - committee member

Pradeepa Kekulawala (President)

Head of Human Resources, Sri Lankan Airlines Ltd with diverse cross industry HRD experience having served Formerly, Group Director HR BAM Holdings Group (apparel), Director Group HR and Admin - BMI group (Engineering), AGM group HR - Metropolitan Group (office automation/IT) and Director Operations Kent Academy of Career Training whilst being a corporate trainer and HR consultant over two decades

Ishan Dantanarayana (Vice President)

Chief People Officer Brandix Group, Member of Brandix Leadership Team, Formerly, Senior Director Human Resources, Asia Head HR (CCT BU), Global Head of T&D and Global HR Processing Center - Virtusa. Country HR Manager & Acting Country Manager - DHL Keels (Pvt) Ltd. Head of HR & Admin. - MTV & MBC.

Roshan Kulasuriya (Vice President)

Human Resources Director- Coats Thread Exports (pvt) Ltd. Formerly, Human Resources and Corporate Affairs Director - Fonterra

Chandana Wijayanama (Secretary)

General Manager HR – South Asia Gateway Terminals (pvt) Ltd. Formerly, Executive Vice President HR - Franke Asia, Hong Kong; Head of University relations and employment practices – Holcim Group Support, Switzerland and VP HR – Holcim Lanka Ltd.

Thushara Jayawardana (Treasurer)

GM HR - CIC Holdings PLC., Attorney at Law by Profession, Formerly, Senior Management roles at Hemas Holdings and Dialog Axiata PLC.

Paduma Subasinghe (Assistant Secretary)

Senior vice President Group HR Browns & Co. Plc. Formerly, DGM HR – Airtel Lanka (Pvt) Ltd

Sampath Alwis (Assistant Treasurer)

Senior General Manager - Group HR Operations -Brandix Group. Formerly, Head of HR/AVP - Aegis Services Lanka Ltd., Manager HR – Virtusa (Pvt) Ltd., Manager HR - WNS Customer Solutions/AVIVA Global Services Lanka Ltd., Head HR (Retail Sector) - Richard Pieris Distributors Ltd.

L. Chiranthi Cooray (Immediate past president)

Chief HR Officer/DGM HR. Hatton National Bank PLC. Formerly, Director Human Resources and Planning at Voice of Asia Networks, General Manager-Human Resources at McLaren's Group, and senior HR roles including that of HR Manager, Eagle Insurance Ltd.

Chinthaka Premaratne (Committee member)

Group Director HR - Fairway Holdings. Formerly, Head of HRD - Goodhope Asia Holdings Ltd, Head of HRD Services - Dialog Telekom PLC, Regional manager HR - Lanka Bell, AVP - HR - HSBC Data Processing Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.

Ravi Jayasekera (Committee member)

Vice President Human Resources, Union Bank of Colombo Plc. Formerly, Senior Manager, Group HR, HSBC based in Hong Kong and Head of HR HSBC, Sri Lanka

Chandi Dharmaratne (Committee Member)

Senior director HR VirtusaPolaris, Formerly, General Manager Group learning and development MAS Holdings, and senior roles at COSI Inc. in Manhattan New York USA

Dinusha Jayamanne (Committee Member)

Human Resource Director – Fonterra Brands Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. Formerly, Associate Director - People & Culture (Fonterra Brands Lanka) , Manager - Talent Transformation (Fonterra Brands Lanka), Manager- Talent Engagement & Development (Brandix Casualwear Ltd), Assistant Manager- Corporate HR (Brandix Lanka Ltd)

Oshana Dias (Committee Member)

Vice President - Human Resources Brandix i3. Formerly, Head HR at Brandix i3 and other senior positions at Brandix i3

Sakunthala Senarath (Committee member)

Head of Talent Management, Hayleys Group HR. Formerly, Manager Organizational Development & Manager Human Resource Development at MAS holdings

Sujith Bandulahewa (Committee member)

AGM Marketing – Wijeya Newspapers Ltd. Formerly, Human Resources Manager at Ceylon Oxygen Ltd.

The Association of Human Resource Professionals (HRP) is the only professional network of practicing HR professionals in Sri Lanka. HRP with its 15-year history has made significant contributions to uplifting the standards of the HR profession in the country with a host of initiatives and interventions over the years.

Amongst the activities for the year HRP plans to be a catalyst in nations human talent building, share the latest best practices amongst the member fraternity and offer a world recognized professional certification for HR practitioners in the country. First ever Human Capital Summit in Sri Lanka was organized by HRP in association with National HR Development Council (NHRDC) on 11th and 12th August partnered by ADB, ILO, World Bank and Employers Federation of Ceylon.