Asia **e-Alert**

6 November 2013

Pacific Insurance Conference 2013 Survey



Milliman conducted a survey amongst senior insurance executives at the recent 26th Pacific Insurance Conference in Hong Kong. Nearly 200 delegates from around the Asia Pacific region responded to the survey.

The survey findings are presented in this e-Alert.

- The growing impact of digital technology was a common thread running throughout the conference. Delegates were asked
 which market in Asia will make the best use of digital sales technology. Opinions were divided between Hong Kong and South
 Korea, each receiving around 30% of the votes, closely followed by China. Emerging markets such as Indonesia and Thailand
 scored much lower.
- The key enabler needed to stimulate retirement provisioning in Asia was thought to be more meaningful tax incentives/relief by most respondents (51%). Interestingly, the second ranked enabler (19% of respondents) was seen to be more effort to provide innovative product designs on the part of providers.
- Another topical theme in the conference was that of the possibility for disruptive, new non-traditional players entering the
 Asian insurance markets. Mobile/social network operators (55% of respondents) were believed to be the organisations that
 would make the most impact in the next 10 years, far higher than internet providers, online retailers, private equity
 firms/sovereign wealth funds and airlines.
- Respondents felt that the best opportunity presented by the emerging middle class in Asia was either retirement asset
 "accumulation" or wealth management solutions (around one-third of the votes each). The lower proportion of votes for
 retirement "decumulation" (11%) may suggest a regional divide, with more potential for decumulation solutions in developed
 Asian markets and for accumulation solutions in emerging Asian markets.
- With Andy Murray's win at Wimbledon ending a wait of 77 years for a British champion, delegates were asked how long it will be before Asia has a men's singles champion. Many were optimistic, with 35% saying it will be within 10 years. Others were more sceptical, with around 25% believing it will be more than 50 years or will never happen. We shall wait and see...

Full results are available here.

Previous related Asia e-Alerts are available here:

- East Asian Actuarial Conference 2013 Survey
- Milliman agrees in principle to acquire Eldridge Consulting, open office in Indonesia
- Ongoing regulatory changes in Singapore
- Update on IRDA motor third-party insurance tariff
- Asia rider survey

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