

May 13th, 2025

Dear Fellow Democrats,

We, the chair and the 1st vice-chair of Democrats Abroad Thailand (DAT), are writing in support of Suma Shamanna's candidacy to remain as the Regional Vice-Chair (RVC) of the Asia-Pacific (AP) region. We are supporting Suma for another two-year term as the RVC of the AP region for the following:

First, Suma's organization and follow-up of our monthly AP regional meetings has been nothing short of excellent. She manages to make the meetings engaging, allowing the country committees from across multiple time zones to input their ideas working towards solutions for voting issues facing Americans living abroad. Because of Suma's organization of the agenda for each of these meetings, the meetings proceed in a constructive manner with a friendly atmosphere.

Additionally, Suma brings her considerable data analytics experience to this position. Suma has been able to apply her data analytical skills to highlighting important metrics from data generated by DA Global, or from data generated by our region. This allowed the different country committees to learn what is most effective with increasing membership, and with our Get Out To Vote (GOTV) efforts. For example, during the lead up to the 2024 Presidential elections. All country committees were seeking the best approach to reach members. Suma's data analysis showed that DA Australia's SMS blasts to its members was a cost-effective way to significantly increase voter interaction and turnout. As a result of her data analysis, we at DAT are exploring the use of SMS blasts for our future GOTV efforts.

Finally, in addition to Suma's organizational and data analytic skills, Suma has proposed creating a document to standardize the AP region country committee's digital communication and websites. We at DAT are very supportive of this effort since digital communication is very important, and to date, our digital efforts like the digital efforts of other country committees have been ad-hoc in its development. Having a document which standardizes this effort across the region will be helpful going forward.

For these reasons, we support Suma's candidacy to remain as the RVC of the AP region, because we feel strongly that she should have another two years for continuity, and to complete all the projects that she has proposed and are currently implementing.

Sincerely,

Jamie Brennan

Chair - Democrats Abroad Thailand

Harold Hibbert

1st Vice Chair – Democrats Abroad Thailand