



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP)

Civil Society Organization Report to the
Second Session of the Working Group on the
Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022
New Delhi, 2-3 March 2015

At the First Session of the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities held at Incheon, Republic of Korea, on 25 and 26 February 2014, it was recommended that the ESCAP secretariat should draft a standard format, aligned with the road map, for every Working Group member to use in preparing a structured and concise report on Incheon Strategy implementation and other actions in follow-up to Working Group session, for transmission to the ESCAP secretariat at least 80 days before the next session (see recommendation (b) (ii)). It was also agreed that those reports should be uploaded at least 60 days prior to the session (see recommendation (b) (iii)).

This report template should be completed and returned in electronic form, i.e., MS-Word, by 10 December 2014 to:

Director
Social Development Division
United Nations ESCAP
United Nations Building
Rajadamnern Nok Avenue
Bangkok, 10200
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1. Has your Organization taken any action to promote regional/subregional cooperation in supporting implementation of the Incheon Strategy?

Yes

- 1.1. If yes, list all the activities implemented by your Organization at the subregional and regional levels in support of the Incheon Strategy (e.g., conferences, training, campaign, etc.).

(Limit each activity to max. 50 words)

WNUSP is a Working Group member in the UNESCAP Working Group on Decade of

persons with Disabilities (2013-2022). The World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry, in collaboration with regional agencies, actively engaged in 'Making the Rights Real' for persons with psychosocial disabilities of the world. Actions taken, please find as described below:

1) Legal capacity: Non recognition of full legal capacity places huge barriers on the full Inclusion of persons with psychosocial disabilities within Development. Facilitated by its International Representative, Tina Minkowitz, WNUSP submitted several materials to the consultation on the UNCRPD: 'General Comment on Article 12' and did a side event on this at the April session.

Forced institutionalisation: WNUSP also urged the Committee to adopt a statement on Article 14 of the UNCRPD, which they did.

Asian region countries which are high income (Korea, China, India and Japan) face huge violations of human rights on both counts (legal capacity and forced institutionalization). We promoted these WNUSP advocacy documents widely in the Asian region. For the Asian region, we advocate that recognition of full legal capacity is a first step towards achieving entry into Development to enjoy any of the benefits of implementing the Incheon Strategy.

2) Asian region persons with psychosocial disabilities and their supporters got together following the Working Group meeting in Korea, to create a platform for advocating for our rights in the Asian region. The TransAsia Alliance for Inclusion of persons with Psychosocial Disabilities (TCI-ASIA) was created in November of 2014.

3) Stakeholders and supporters of TCI-ASIA including some regional NGOs and INGOs (CBM, APCD, Leonard Cheshire, DRPI, DPOD and other) participated in the Stakeholders' Open House hosted by TCI-ASIA on November 7th 2014 at Hotel Prince Palace, Bangkok. At the OpenHouse TCI-ASIA had the audience of the regional officer of the OHCHR, Mr. Christian Curtis.

4) Mrs. Sachada Sakornsatien represented TCI-ASIA at the Biwako+ meeting side event on women with disabilities. She spoke about the importance of mainstreaming people with psychosocial disabilities in Development.

5) In another related development, Mr. OhYong Kweon represented people with disabilities at the UNCRPD hearing of the Korean country report in summer of 2014. Mr. OhYong Kweon also represented people with psychosocial disabilities in Korea and presented the parallel report on behalf of KAMI (Korean Alliance for the Mentally Ill). In this report, the humungous human rights violations happening in institutions of Korea was highlighted, and Mr. Kweon highlighted the need for mainstreaming people with psychosocial disabilities within Development.

2. Has your Organization contributed to including specific measures on the Ministerial Declaration and the Incheon Strategy in the agendas and programmes of meetings organized by regional/subregional intergovernmental bodies (e.g., ASEAN, ECO, PIF, SAARC)?

☐ No

- 2.1. If yes, please specify which meeting your Organization attended (including the title of the meeting, venue and dates).

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(Limit each entry to max. 50 words)

2.2. Please describe which goal(s) of the Incheon Strategy your intervention specifically targeted at the above meeting(s).

- ☐ All areas covered by the 10 Goals of the Incheon Strategy
- ☐ Only specific area(s), e.g., Goal 1 on poverty reduction

WNUSP targets Inclusion of persons within psychosocial disabilities within Development.

People with psychosocial disabilities in the Asian region are struggling for a Seat within Development, unfortunately, due to legal and social barriers. UNESCAP and other regional bodies involving in transforming communities for inclusion may please intervene to re-structure the Development discourse for our inclusion.

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