

**STATEMENT  
OF  
4<sup>TH</sup> ASEAN DISABILITY FORUM  
MYANMAR - 2014**



December 17-18, 2014  
HOSTED IN YANGON, MYANMAR

**We**, the participants of the Regional Conference on Raising Awareness of the 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Disability Forum (ADF) – A platform of engagement for DPOs and multi-stakeholders to promote and implement the ASEAN Decade of Persons with Disabilities, from 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> December 2014, in Yangon, Myanmar, organized by Myanmar Independent Living Initiative-MILI, Myanmar Disabled Women Affairs Association-MDWAA, Myanmar National Association of the Blind-MNAB, Myanmar Deaf Community Development Association-MDCDA, Myanmar Council of Persons with Disability-MCPD, Future Star Self-Advocacy ID Group and Handicap International-Myanmar in collaboration with ADF-Secretariat in Jakarta:

***Appreciate*** the commitment of the Government of Republic of Union of Myanmar in ensuring the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities.

***Follow up*** on the establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2015 made up of the three pillars namely the Political-Security Community, the Economic Community and the Socio-Cultural Community as laid down in the Siam Reap Declaration (2012).

***Refer and support*** the UNESCAP Incheon strategy “Make the Right Real” in the New Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2013-2022).

***Express*** hear and felt appreciation to the ASEAN Member states for the successful development of the ASEAN Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2011-2020).

***Do hereby agree*** to declare as follows:

#### **ASEAN Member States**

1. To encourage all ASEAN member states to ratify and to apply the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
2. To support ASEAN member states conducting rights-based approach in decision making in all matters affecting Persons with Disabilities, based on the UN-CRPD principles;
3. To recommend that ASEAN member states continue creating a sustainable system for Person with Disabilities to be gainfully employed to employment sector by considering norms; independent living, dignity, and inclusion;

4. To ensure that the ASEAN member states to promote public services of inclusion by ensuring accessibility to the built environment, transportation, and communication and information;
5. To study, share and adapt best practices in policy sectors of other ASEAN member states in terms of upholding the promotion and protection of disability rights;
6. To enhance creative support system for social protection on disability issues by transferring social welfare to social protection in order to promote sustainability development of social protection;
7. To accelerate awareness raising activities in close partnership with all the stakeholders including the mass media;

### **ASEAN Secretariat**

1. To urge ASEAN secretariat to work close with ADF and the mechanism to support technical on disability issues in ASEAN and include ADF into all ASEAN committee as disability is a cross-cutting issues and ADF are expert on disability
2. To urge ASEAN and donors to promote psychological disability movement and other severe disability types to raise their voice in ASEAN on disability
3. To encourage ASEAN secretariat to consider disability issue as prioritizing as EU did especially all ASEAN policies have to mention disability for all Persons with Disabilities in order to enjoy their rights and fully participate in in ASEAN region

### **ASEAN Disability Forum**

1. Encouraging ADF to make sure the priority agendas of ASEAN Decade of Person with Disability adopted as national strategic plan in all ASEAN member states.
2. ADF should advocate every regional activities inclusive to disability issue mainly in full participation of Person with Disabilities, accessible facilities in physical as well information such as ASEAN Games, etc.

## **Individual ASEAN Member Countries' Concerns**

1. To adopt the policy for intellectual disability system in term of education, health, law protection and public services mainly in Vietnam;
2. To ensure an effective inclusive education system by researching on many barriers to receiveing a proper quality education for people with disabilities in Myanmar;
3. To review and devolop the national policies and domestic legislations based on the CRPD in Lao.
4. To have long term program, to include persons with disabilities into economical group, by means of effective employment, self-employed, and entrepreneurship. Also to expand government services coverage especially education for entire Kingdom of Thailand.
5. To promote youths' movement and women issues into ASEAN agenda.
6. To urge the establishment of new law on disability and its commission on monitoring on the basis of CRPD in every countries mainly Indonesia.
7. To enact the disability rights law by the Government of the Republic of Union of Myanmar
8. To implement the upcoming general election in Myanmar making disability inclusive.

We, therefore respectfully submit these recommendations and request the Government of the Republic of Union of Myanmar to disseminate this document to ASEAN member states. We, Disabled Peoples' Organizations in ASEAN, encourage DPOs in Malaysia and ADF Secretariat to organize the ASEAN Disability Forum (ADF) in 2015.

The ASEAN Disability Forum expresses its utmost gratitude to the Government of Malaysia for its hospitality and successful implementation of 4<sup>th</sup> Event in Myanmar.