With some 90 experts from all over the Asia-Pacific region, including an expert with a psychiatric disability, the “Expert Group Meeting-cum-Stakeholder Consultation to Review the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012: The Biwako Millennium Framework for Action” was held at UNESCAP in Bangkok, Thailand from 23-25 June 2010. Mr. Akiie Ninomiya, the Executive Director of APCD participated in the meeting.

In the meeting, experts with different types of disabilities positively discussed various perspectives to enhance a practical consensus. Several government representatives from China, India, Japan, Pakistan, South Korea and Viet Nam also showed a positive attitude regarding a new Decade. The proposed purpose and primary focus of a new Decade include the key points listed below.

**Purpose and Primary Focus**

- Promote regional and international cooperation on good practices concerning the rights and needs of persons with disabilities;
- Accelerate the ratification, harmonization and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the Asia-Pacific;
- Promote the implementation of the Convention in all subregions of the Asia-Pacific;
- Keep a strong national focus on the inclusion of persons with disabilities as a development priority;
- Remove attitudinal, physical, institutional and policy-related barriers to increase the participation of persons with diverse disabilities in decision-making, self-determination and human-centred development;
- Strengthen multi-sector engagement and sustainability of resource allocations for disability-inclusive development;
- Facilitate local, national and subregional tracking of the Decade’s progress using measurable and achievable indicators;
- Improve community-based services for diverse groups of persons with disabilities.

(Source: UNESCAP)
EMPOWERMENT Perspectives Towards Support New

Dr. Adisak Sattam
National Professional Officer
(Monitoring and Evaluation)
Office of the WHO Representative to Thailand

Disability issue is not profoundly socially recognized as a need for treating disabled people so we need to promote awareness of not merely physical needs, but also, psycho-social and economic needs as well.

Mr. Sergey Puzin
Deputy Head
Research Institute of Occupational Health
Russian Academy of Medical Science

In the last 2 Decades, not all challenges have been overcome. Results need to be improved.

Ms. Emanuela Pozzan
Coordinator on Disability
ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

It is an important framework for persons with disabilities to keep promoting their rights on an equal basis towards an inclusive society.

Mr. Barney McGlade
CBR Coordinating Officer
CBM

To ensure the implementation of CRPD, we can use CBR for the inclusion of everybody, especially persons with disabilities.

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ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

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Mr. You Liang
Director of Liaison Division
Department of International Affairs
China Disabled Persons’ Federation

In line with CPRD, we hope to implement new-Decade activities strategically, with specific achievements and measures especially for good operations. We can go ahead with partners.

Mr. Ichiro Miyamoto
Regional Director
World Federation of the Deaf
Regional Secretariat for Asia and the Pacific

For a new Decade, it is important to strengthen the monitoring system which DPOs have been conducting. Government and ESCAP need to strengthen monitoring as well. Moreover, it is important to address gender issues. Women with disabilities suffer from barriers and difficulties because of a lack of information. Women need empowerment for self-advocacy.

Ms. Mega Irena
Senior Officer
Social Welfare Women’s Labor and Migrant Workers Division
Socio-Cultural Community Department ASEAN

The issue of disability needs greater attention and commitment of all stakeholders through concrete actions, resource allocation and closer partnership in the next decade.

Mr. Monthian Buntan
World Blind Union
Asia Pacific

As a realistic approach, the sub-regional mechanism should be focused on. Particularly, disability inclusive development should be the approach by taking all into implementation.

Mr. Osamu Nagase
Regional Coordinator, Inclusion International
Asia-Pacific Region

Issues of persons with intellectual disabilities and their family members should be further highlighted as we witnessed the actions and outcomes by APCD Project Phase 2.

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**Post-Decade Activities**

**Decade or Not? Why?**

Mr. Shoji Nakanishi  
**Regional Chairperson**  
Disabled People’s International Asia-Pacific

The objectives of the last and current Decades haven’t been achieved. For the realization of the UNCRPD concept and its implementation, we need a strategic plan for the next Decade.

Mr. Hiroshi Kawamura  
**President**  
DAISY Consortium

From the viewpoint of reasonable accommodation, fully accessible information and communication should be guaranteed for the new Decade.

Mr. Filipe Jitoko  
**Social Policy Adviser**  
Pacific Island Forum Secretariat

There are still a lot of things to be done in addition to the achievements of the last 2 Decades.

Mr. Tingyu Wang  
**Regional Representative**  
East Asia and Pacific Regional Office  
Leonard Cheshire Disability

In the last and current Decades, there have been some achievements, but others remained. To promote the rights of PWDs further, we will need a new framework.

Mr. Akira Terashima  
**Chair**  
International Committee  
Japan Disability Forum

We need such a new framework to negotiate with governments and other stakeholders.

Dr. Hyung-Shik Kim  
**Professor**  
Division of International Cooperation  
Korea University of International Studies

There are still unsolved problems. We have to move forward to support society and to put CRPD in place.

Mr. Setareki S. Macanawai  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
Pacific Disability Forum

In the last two Decades, there was a big gap. With a sub-regional platform, persons with all types of disabilities and their families can fully exercise their rights.

Ms. Noor Yasmin Abdul Karim  
**Chairperson**  
CBR Asia-Pacific Network

With a new Decade, there will be more implementation. We need such a mechanism.

Ms. Hitomi Honda  
**Disability Adviser**  
World Vision International

We can be more specific to ensure that disability will not get lost and to further promote the realization of CRPD and its inclusion.

Mr. Khandaker Jahurul Alam  
**Chairperson**  
Asia and Pacific Disability Forum

Based on this CRPD, lots of actions can be done in a new Decade. It is time for all stakeholders to start new initiatives.
After group discussion among experts, strategy for a new Decade was summarized with further discussions to follow. These strategies include to:

- Reflect on evidence-based research findings;
- Embody the spirit and intent of the Convention;
- Emphasize, in Decade action, gender equality and the inclusion of all groups of persons with disabilities that had hitherto been excluded from mainstream policies and programmes, including deaf persons, persons who are deaf-blind, persons with multiple disabilities, persons with intellectual disabilities and their families, persons with psycho-social disabilities, persons with higher brain dysfunction, persons with intractable diseases, persons with autism, and women and children with disabilities;
- Support concrete and practical implementation that would yield tangible results;
- Encourage the promulgation, implementation and review of anti-discrimination legislation to uphold the rights of persons with disabilities;
- Promote multi-sector, wide stakeholder and grass-root participation in fostering change for disability-inclusive development;
- Enhance the sustainability of more resource allocations, including through disability-sensitive budgeting, mobilization of corporate social responsibility and adoption of business models, such as social enterprise;
- Promote networking and collaboration among disability-inclusive business enterprises;
- Emphasize the role of disabled people’s organizations in all processes concerning a new Decade;
- Highlight the role of organizations of parents and families of persons with disabilities in relevant processes concerning a new Decade;
- Ensure capacity development of persons with disabilities, including more effective advocacy;
- Ensure capacity development of families and allies of persons with disabilities for more effective advocacy and support;
- Use diverse approaches, for example, community-based rehabilitation and independent living, to empower persons with disabilities and accelerate the implementation of the Convention;
- Address the need for stronger and more inclusive community-based development and rehabilitation;
- Reinforce a paradigm shift towards a social model of consumer-driven, community-based service delivery and independent living;
- Employ the use of accessible ICT as a tool for social change;
- Promote the mainstreaming of disability perspectives in all policy domains, programmes and services;
- Utilize subregional mechanisms, including ESCAP subregional offices, for Decade implementation.
New Autism Movement Initiated by CDSHOD Participants

The 5th APCD Workshop for the Capacity Development of Self-Help Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (CDSHOD) in January 2010 was the first one to focus on ASEAN regional collaboration as well as the first cross-disability CDSHOD with persons with a mobility disability, deafness, intellectual disabilities and autism. The participants shared their experiences of good practices in promoting SHOs and Inclusive Development. An idea to establish Autism Networking in the ASEAN region was proposed and informally agreed to by family members of the Autism community from Brunei, Myanmar, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Thailand. Common issues faced in each country were actively discussed such as a lack of information on technical assessment/intervention and collaboration with the central and local governments. It was proposed that the Network to be a platform to engage and empower all self-help organizations on autism working for an autism-friendly ASEAN region.

ASEAN Autism Network Workshop 13-15 December 2010

*Background:
After the CDSHOD participants on Autism got to know each other in January 2010, they started contacting and supporting one another on their own initiative from a regional perspective. As the first practical step for this regional movement, Family Associations of Autism in 5 countries agreed to join a regional Workshop/Congress in December 2010 organized by APCD. Thirty family members of the Autism Community in the ASEAN countries are expected to participate.

*Purpose:
The purpose of the workshop is to formally establish an Autism Network in the ASEAN region. It also aims to be a platform to share of knowledge and develop a regional support system on autism.

*Expected Outcomes:
1. Autism Network in the ASEAN Region will be formally established
2. An Action Plan will be developed to implement activities at the national and international levels
3. A report on the ASEAN Autism Network Workshop will be publicized
4. A regional support system on Autism will be developed.

*Venue and Date:

*Tentative Topics:
1. DAY 1 Establishment of an ASEAN Autism Network
2. DAY 2 Situational analysis of each country and region; develop an Action Plan
3. DAY 3 Presentation of Action Plan and field visit to an inclusive school and vocational center for autistic persons in Thailand
A Logo Contest for the CBR AP Network was conducted as a springboard to create awareness of the Network among the 24 existing members, as well as potential member countries. It also opened an avenue for wider participation for sharing and synergy.

There were 29 entries from designers from Asia-Pacific countries as well as other global regions. The CBR AP Network would like to thank everyone who submitted an entry for this meaningful activity. Through this contest, CBR AP Network could communicate internationally. On 14 June 2010, the Executive Committee (EC) chose the winning logo. Please see the attachment.

In order to have the logo artwork as a masterpiece for all applicable uses, there will be some additional work done as needed and agreed upon by the EC Members.

**Concept of the Logo**

The overall shape is designed as a circle representing the globe, featuring Asia and the Pacific in the forefront. Encircling the globe are persons holding hands to raise an awareness in the AP region, especially with young people, of the need and importance to promote the development of an inclusive society. The hands are to promote the participation of all the CBR approaches.
Follow-up of On-going Activities

Executive Committee Meeting
14 June 2010 at APCD Foundation, Bangkok, Thailand

The CBR AP Network Executive Committee (EC) Meeting was held on 14 June 2010 at the APCD Foundation, Bangkok, Thailand. The main agenda was to monitor and follow up on on-going activities e.g. Plan of Action, publication of the 1st CBR Congress, CBR research and collection of good practices, and approaches for new members including major CBR events at the AP CBR Convention scheduled for November 2010 in Kuala Lumpur and the 2nd CBR Congress scheduled for November 2011 in Manila, the Philippines. Another important agenda was to select the best entry of participating logos to be a corporate identity of the Network’s communication. See the winning logo on page 6.

1. The AP CBR Convention will be held from 13-15 November 2010 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The theme is to promote an inclusive and sustainable development as well as introduce the new CBR Guidelines. A leading local DPO, CBR Network Malaysia will serve as the focal point of coordination. For details and more information regarding registration fees and other administrative matters, please contact the Network’s Secretariat at cbrapnetwork@apcdfoundation.org

2. A 2nd CBR Congress is planned preliminarily for 29 November – 1 December 2011 in Manila, the Philippines. The theme of the Congress is now being finalized. The coordinating team led by Christoffel Blinden Mission (CBM) is preparing the Congress’s programs including other relevant administrative & logistic arrangements with partner organizations and the local government. For more information or inquiries, contact CBR AP Network’s Secretariat at cbrapnetwork@apcdfoundation.org
With the following 10 Chapters consisting of 53 Articles, the National Assembly of Vietnam adopted a Law on Disability on 17 June 2010. The Vietnamese Law on Disability will come into effect on 1 January 2011.

Chapter 1: General Regulations (14 Articles)  
Chapter 2: Determination of Types and Categories of Disability (6 Articles)  
Chapter 3: Health Care (6 Articles)  
Chapter 4: Education (5 Articles)  
Chapter 5: Vocational Training and Employment (4 Articles)  
Chapter 6: Culture, Sports, Entertainment and Tourism (3 Articles)  
Chapter 7: Accommodation, Public Projects, Transportation, ICT (4 Articles)  
Chapter 8: Social Protection (5 Articles)  
Chapter 9: Responsibilities of Government Agencies Relating to Disability (2 Articles)  
Chapter 10: Article of Implementation (3 Articles)

According to the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs, APCD’s Focal Point in Vietnam, there are several new perspectives included in this Law which:

(1) Systemize the policies and regulations of the Government relating to PWDs with a rights-based approach to PWDs recognizing disability issues and development (medical barriers as well as barriers in society); the Law creates favorable conditions for PWDs to participate fully in all activities of society to enhance integration into the community;

(2) Receive, inherit and maintain regulations in the Ordinance on Disabilities 1998, relevant Regulations related to disabilities which are still appropriate and to amend inappropriate Regulations in order to ensure the feasibility of implementing the Law in accordance with socio-economic development levels;

(3) Systemize the legislation, clearly regulating the responsibilities of the Government, families and society in removing barriers and providing favorable conditions for PWDs to participate fully in all activities of society;

(4) The Law on Disabilities of Vietnam is consistent with the Convention on the Rights of PWDs and the legislation of countries in the region as well as globally;

(5) Clearly reflect the increasing attention to promote information on education for persons with disabilities as well as monitor.

Nguyen Xuan Lap (Mr.)  
Deputy Director, General Department of Social Protection,  
Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs
COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION
FOR INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

Since 2005, World Vision Vietnam (WVV) has joined the Network APCD to share experiences and practices, and seek capacity-building opportunities for staff. The “Training Course on CBR and Inclusive Development” organized in April 2010 for WVV’s staff and local partners in 8 districts in central Vietnam where WVV is implementing its Area Development Programs (ADP), was regarded as one of the important collaboration events of WVV and APCD.

“CBR for Inclusive Development” is a new initiative of WVV and the training course in April was the first capacity-building event. Participants composed of WVV staff, local government officers, and persons with disabilities, will act as key resource persons in the central region to support WVV and the community to implement CBR practices and promote active participation of PWD in the development programs.

The training has really raised the understanding of the participants with the new initiative. Action Plans developed by the groups of participants reflect their willingness to apply the new initiative. Some groups plan to create changes in the Awareness of the Community, Advocacy for Accessibility, Inclusive Education, and/or Self-help Groups of PWD.

From the viewpoint of sustainable program management that WVV has experienced, it is crucial for us to raise awareness about disability issues in communities, especially among WVV’s staff and local partners. WVV and its ADPs are committed to address the issues related to disability through the social model of CBR to design programs and inclusive projects. Recognizing the importance of collaborating with APCD, we will continue this partnership with a second capacity-building event in the year 2010 as well as develop more collaboration in the coming years.

Phuong, Nguyen Hoang (Mr.)
National Disability Officer, World Vision Vietnam

DEVELOPING 3 PROJECT PROPOSALS
AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL

The 2nd Follow up Workshop on Blind Future Leaders’ Dialogue (BFLD) organized by APCD held in Kuala Lumpur on 7-9 April 2010, was sponsored by the Nippon Foundation (TNF), and supported by the Malaysian Association for the Blind (MAB). Five Delegates from Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Vietnam participated in the Workshop. The Network among key delegates, resource persons and organizers of BFLD was strengthened through this Workshop. All members mutually shared disability-related information which will be beneficial for future networking and collaboration.

OUTCOME: 3 PROJECT PROPOSALS

a) Strengthening the financial capacity and publicity programs of the Mitra Netra Foundation through publicizing the professional-commercial-managed magazine, named “Diffa”

b) ASEAN Fund-Raising Workshop for Blind Organizations

c) ASEAN Employment Network for Blind Entrepreneurs (AENBE)
A Workshop, Orientation of Stakeholders to National Plan of Action and Community-Based Rehabilitation was held in Myanmar from 10-14 May 2010. It was sponsored by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in cooperation with Leprosy Mission International (TLMI), APCD, UNDP, UNESCAP, and Christian Blind Mission (CBM). Key points shared with participants included the following positive news!

**<News 1> Myanmar Government to Sign the CRPD**

In his opening speech, Mr. U Kyaw Myint, Deputy Minister of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, stated that the government plans to sign the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in the near future. In fact, the Government has been collaborating closely with UN agencies as well as NGOs on this matter.

**<News 2> 1.3 Million Persons with Disabilities**

According to a survey conducted by the Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in cooperation with TLMI, the number of persons with disabilities in Myanmar numbers approximately 1.3 millions persons or 2.6%.

**<News 3> National Plan of Action and CBR Adopted in the Orientation**

Community-based Rehabilitation (CBR) has been emphasized to facilitate activities relating to disability issues in Myanmar. In response to the presentation of the National Plan of Action and CBR by the Myanmar government representatives, Mr. Akiie Ninomiya, Executive Director of APCD, shared the global situation of the disability movement and CBR matrix including empowerment and environment models which APCD has been promoting.

TMLI, CBM and other participants utilized APCD’s CBR matrix in addition to the original by the World Health Organization.
### APCD Activities

Tentative APCD Activities for the next 6 months (July – December 2010)

#### July 2010

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>6 - 9</td>
<td>Mission to the Philippines: Collaboration with ADB, Inclusive Business Development</td>
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<td>18 - 21</td>
<td>Mission to China: Collaboration with CDPF and Sub-regional Collaboration</td>
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<td>28 - 3 Aug</td>
<td>Mission to Pakistan: Leadership Conference and Promotion of Sub-regional Collaboration</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 - 16</td>
<td>Working Group Meeting on IDPP Project, Thailand</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 - 31</td>
<td>Regional CBR Training of Trainers for Asia-Pacific Countries, Thailand</td>
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<td>19 - 20</td>
<td>Senior Officials’ Meeting on South-to-South Cooperation on Disability in Collaboration with UNESCAP, Thailand</td>
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**What is it!**

Our new section, “What is it!” will focus on “Community-based Inclusive Development” to introduce relevant terms from individual perspectives.

**Mobilization of local resources through networking and collaboration**

*Mr. Nguyen Dinh Phuoc (Vietnam) / Mr. Renato Banaga Cada (Philippines)*

Persons with disabilities are part of the community. They have varied skills that can be used to participate in development. Besides, persons with disabilities are also persons that have the same rights as other members of the community. They have the right to a barrier-free society in order to be mainstreamed into society. But…

If you are interested to learn more about the concept of “Community-based Inclusive Development”, please check our upcoming booklet on “CBR and Community-based Inclusive Development: Principles and Practice” which will be launched in November 2010.