

Resolution 68/7
Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,

Recalling also previous General Assembly resolutions on the internationally agreed goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in which the Assembly recognized the collective responsibility of Governments to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level, and stressed the duty of member States to achieve greater justice and equality for all, in particular persons with disabilities,

Recalling its resolutions 48/3 of 23 April 1992 and 58/4 of 22 May 2002, in which it proclaimed the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons from 1993 to 2002, and its extension from 2003 to 2012, as well as the establishment of the United Nations trust fund for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons,

Expressing appreciation to the members and associate members as well as to the other stakeholders in the Asian and Pacific region, including persons with disabilities, for their commitment to promoting the rights of persons with disabilities, including through their financial contribution to the aforementioned fund and other funds,

Recognizing the positive impact of previous regional decades in increasing national action on the rights of persons with disabilities, while noting that many challenges remain,

Emphasizing the importance of a participatory, comprehensive and multi-sectoral approach in order to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities effectively, especially with the active and meaningful involvement of persons with disabilities,

Acknowledging that there has been much improvement in the political, social and economic environment that has been conducive to the enhancement of the rights of persons with disabilities, and that technological advances, including information and communications technologies, have become instrumental in promoting, protecting and ensuring the rights of persons with disabilities,

Taking note of the recommendation of the Committee on Social Development at its second session that the Commission proclaim a new decade, from 2013 to 2022, to promote the rights of persons with disabilities, with a view to addressing both remaining and emerging challenges,

Reaffirming the significance of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012, to be hosted by the Government of the Republic of Korea in Incheon from 29 October to 2 November 2012, which will conclude the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012, and is expected to adopt a strategic action framework for a new decade, 2013-2022,

Noting the significance of mechanisms, including national financing and international cooperation, to support the full and effective implementation of a new decade, 2013-2022,

Expressing appreciation for the proposed establishment by the Republic of Korea of a multi-donor trust fund, to be called the Make the Right Real Fund initiated by and based in the Republic of Korea and which will be founded on a public-private partnership, to support the successful implementation of a new decade, 2013-2022,

1. *Proclaims* the period from 2013 to 2022 the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, with a view to addressing both remaining and emerging challenges, promoting, protecting and ensuring the rights of persons with disabilities, increasing ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015;

2. *Urges* all members and associate members to participate actively in the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting, and to consider and adopt a strategic framework to guide the implementation of the Decade that is based on the general principles and obligations stipulated in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

3. *Invites* all members and associate members of the Commission, international development assistance agencies and the private sector to ensure the successful implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to support members and associate members upon request, including through capacity-building and technical assistance, in developing and pursuing national programmes and international cooperation during the forthcoming Decade;

5. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its sixty-ninth session, and triennially thereafter until the end of the Decade, on the progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

*Fifth plenary meeting
23 May 2012*

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