

**Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific****High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012**

29 October-2 November 2012

Incheon, Republic of Korea

Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

Consideration of the membership of an Asia-Pacific working group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022**Terms of reference of the proposed working group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022****Note by the secretariat***Summary*

The present document contains the terms of reference of the proposed working group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022. The terms of reference were developed on the basis of discussions at two consultative meetings held in preparation for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting and are provided as background for the Meeting's consideration of the membership of an Asia-Pacific working group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022.

I. Introduction

1. The present document contains the terms of reference of the working group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022 as proposed in the draft Incheon strategy. The objective of the working group is to provide the ESCAP secretariat with technical advice and support in order to promote the full and effective implementation of the Decade. The terms of reference were developed on the basis of discussions at two consultative meetings organized by ESCAP, namely the Regional Stakeholder Consultation for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012 (Bangkok, 14-16 December 2011) and the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the High-level Intergovernmental

* E/ESCAP/APDDP(3)L.1.

Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012 (Bangkok, 14-16 March 2012).

2. On the expectation that the senior officials will have endorsed the establishment and terms of reference of the working group as proposed in the draft Incheon strategy, the Meeting will consider the composition of the membership of the working group. It is suggested that the working group be comprised of representatives of interested ESCAP members and associate members as well as civil society entities operating at the regional and subregional levels in Asia and the Pacific. Interested members and associate members of ESCAP may therefore wish to express their intention to join the working group. Similarly, civil society entities that fulfil the criteria, as set out in the terms of reference of the working group, are also invited to express their interest in joining the working group.

3. The Meeting may wish to submit a recommendation for the decision of the Commission at its sixty-ninth session regarding the size and composition of the working group for the first term, spanning the period 2013-2017.

II. Terms of reference of the proposed working group

Objective

1. The objective of the proposed regional working group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities is to provide technical advice and support to the ESCAP secretariat, to promote the full and effective implementation of the Decade, 2013-2022.

Functions

2. In pursuance of the objective stated in paragraph 1 above, the working group shall advise the ESCAP secretariat on the following:

(a) Reviews of Decade progress, especially concerning the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022, and the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific;

(b) Regional and subregional cooperation to advance implementation of the Ministerial Declaration and the Incheon Strategy;

(c) Research on the evolving situation of persons with disabilities in the Asia-Pacific region;

(d) Outreach to diverse disability groups at national and local levels, and networking.

Membership

3. The working group shall be composed of representatives of ESCAP members and associate members, as well as civil society entities operating at the regional and subregional levels in Asia and the Pacific.

4. The tenure of working group members shall be five years, with the possibility of extension for another five years.
5. All ESCAP members and associate members shall be eligible to serve on the working group.
6. A civil society entity that meets the following criteria shall also be eligible to serve as a member of the working group: (a) operate at the regional and/or subregional levels in Asia and the Pacific; (b) be an organization or network that represents, supports and/or promotes the interests of persons with diverse disabilities; (c) has technical expertise relevant to advancing the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration and the Incheon Strategy.
7. The announcement of interest by individual ESCAP members and associate members, and civil society entities, in serving as members of the working group shall take place at 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 held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 29 October to 2 November 2012.
8. The proposed composition of the working group shall be submitted to the Commission at the session that immediately follows the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting, for a final decision. Thus, the Commission at its sixty-ninth session, in 2013, will make the final decision on the composition of the working group for the first term, spanning the period 2013-2017. The second announcement of interest in serving on the working group shall take place at the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting convened on the occasion of the mid-point of the Decade (2017). The Commission at its seventy-fourth session, in 2018, will make the final decision on the composition of the working group for the second term, spanning the period 2018-2022.

Rules of procedure

9. The working group shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

Secretariat

10. The ESCAP secretariat shall serve as the secretariat of the working group. It shall, inter alia, disseminate working group documentation in accessible formats.

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