Side Event

Inclusive Education:
Ensuring the right of children with disabilities to fully participate in the society

Venue: Room OB-Smr2
Date: 27-Nov
Time: 18:00-19:00
Organizers: ASEAN Disability Forum and Handicap International

A. Description

In the context of social protection, access to education is an integral service to support the full and effective development of children with disabilities. However, many face barriers to participation in education, due to limitations of accessibility of educational environments and discrimination based on their perceived abilities or lack thereof.

This side event aims to complement the Meeting, with a focus on highlighting the right to education under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the efforts of Incheon Strategy to promote access to an inclusive and quality education for all.

Asia-Pacific is a unique region that consists of variety of cultures and localities, the contexts of which can determine the inclusiveness of education services. Barriers to inclusion of children with disabilities in education can be overcome across these cultures, areas and contexts by leveraging the expertise of stakeholders and aligning efforts in this regard with those toward implementation of the SDGs.

A transformation in culture, policy and practice in all formal and informal educational environment to accommodate the differing requirements and identities of individual students, together with a commitment to removing the barriers that impede full and effective participation can address this issue.

Another dimension of this challenge is, as demonstrated in the findings of the midpoint review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022, there remains a lack of disaggregated data and research on children with disabilities also exists as does a lack of
understanding on inclusive education. Discrimination on the access to education for children with disabilities (formal and no formal system) also remains a key challenge.

Inclusive education is the central means for achieving the goals of “Education for all” that promote a child-centered approach to teaching and learning for life. This side event will be the opportunity to share good practices and innovative experiences from various stakeholders, with a view to provide recommendations to the working group on Children with Disabilities, as well as build quality, inclusive educational systems in the region and across the world.

B. Key questions

1. How can we ensure equal access to education for children with disabilities?

2. What are the key considerations necessary in creating a nurturing and inclusive learning environment for children with disabilities?

3. How can policymakers work to create educational policy that respects the diverse characteristics of learners and promotes learning outcomes that build the skills of all, including children with disabilities?

4. What are some of the good practices in inclusive education for children with disabilities in the ASEAN region and in other regions?

C. Tentative programme

Welcome and Introduction to the topic

Panel discussion pointing out some good practices and strategies developed in the region on Inclusive Education

Q&A

Closing

D. Panelists and Moderator

Panelists

- Mr. Cyril Poulopoulos, Country Director, Handicap International China,
- Ms. Juan Lu, Deputy Secretary General, Inclusion China (National Association of Parents’ Organization of People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities - NAPO)
- Ms. Sischa Rosa Linda Solokana, Inclusive Education Project Officer, Handicap International Indonesia

Moderated by: Mr Lim Puay Tiak (PT), Founding Member & Steering Committee Member, ASEAN Disability Forum
E. Contact Person

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