Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Second Session of the Working Group on the

2-3 March 2015
New Delhi

Report on the First Session of the Working Group on the
Incheon, Republic of Korea
25-26 February 2014
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I. DECISIONS

1. At its inaugural session held at Incheon, Republic of Korea, on 25 and 26 February 2014, the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022, adopted the following:

   (a) Rules of procedure of the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022, as contained in annex I.

   (b) The draft road map for the implementation of the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific.

2. Concerning disability inclusion in the post-2015 development agenda, the ESCAP secretariat shall:

   (a) Keep the Working Group informed of updates on disability inclusion in the post-2015 development agenda, specifically through the work of the General Assembly Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, and revert with information on the intergovernmental processes that remain open for advocacy of disability inclusion;

   (b) Include this matter in the agenda for the second session of the Working Group.

Second session: 2015

3. The Working Group shall meet in India in February 2015, further to the offer of the representative of the Government of India to host the second session, which was warmly welcomed and appreciated by the Working Group.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS

4. The following recommendations emerged from Working Group discussions:

   (a) Working Group members should:

      (i) Express their commitment by mobilizing funds to finance their own participation in Working Group sessions.

      (ii) Support the ESCAP secretariat in its efforts to achieve a more even spread of its donor portfolio across the ESCAP region, including through mobilizing contributions of funding and in-kind resources for a range of regional cooperation activities in support of Incheon Strategy implementation.

      (iii) Strengthen strategic networking with each other and with allies in New York, to ensure the retention of disability inclusion in seven of the 19 focus areas of the draft framework for the post-2015 development agenda,
and to persevere towards increasing the number of focus areas that reflect disability inclusion, bearing in mind that this was still a draft with scope for amendment.

(iv) Explore the viability of e-communication for sharing information and conducting intersessional dialogue, to foster clearer mutual understanding on issues of common concern before decision-making at the next Working Group session.

(b) The ESCAP secretariat should:

(i) Prepare an operational guide to the provision of reasonable accommodation that would be useful for the hosts of Working Group sessions. The guide should cover, inter alia:

a. The definitions of “reasonable accommodation” and “accessibility”, as contained in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD);

b. A list of what has thus far been provided as “reasonable accommodation” in ESCAP disability meetings, along with cost implications and with attention to enable communication between deaf persons and deaf-blind persons and others, as well as to address overall accessibility needs of participants with disabilities, with information and tips to be provided by civil society organization (CSO) members of the Working Group;

(ii) Draft a standard format that is aligned with the road map for every Working Group member to use in preparing a structured and concise report on Incheon Strategy implementation and other actions in follow-up to Working Group sessions, for transmission to the ESCAP secretariat at least 80 days before the next session;

(iii) Upload, at least 60 days prior to a session, all reports received for web uploading with analysis of the reports, to facilitate results-focused discussion and decision-making at the session;

(iv) Provide audio captioning of film clips or other graphic material shown at a session, resources permitting, or alternatively arrange for a personal assistant to provide audio descriptions during the session;

(v) Draft ESCAP project ideas for promoting regional cooperation on accelerating Incheon Strategy implementation (reference to 1.2 above);

(vi) Attach the list of winners of the Global IT Challenge to the report on the First Session (annex V);

(vii) Include India as an ESCAP partner in implementing its project on disability statistics, further to India’s request.
III. VOTE OF THANKS

5. The Working Group expressed its deep gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Korea for funding the participation of all members in its inaugural session.

6. The Working Group also appreciated the effective preparations for and servicing of the session by the secretariat, including the provision of session documentation in an accessible format for blind participants, and the hospitality extended by the ESCAP Subregional Office for North and North-East Asia, where the inaugural session was held.

IV. BACKGROUND


The terms of reference of the Working Group (annex II) are contained in the Incheon Strategy.

8. The objective of the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities is to provide technical advice and support to members and associate members, to promote the full and effective implementation of the Decade, 2013-2022.

9. The terms of reference stipulate the composition of the Working Group: 15 from ESCAP members and associate members and 15 from CSOs. The High-level Intergovernmental Meeting noted the interest expressed by 17 ESCAP members, as well as 19 CSOs to serve on the Working Group for the first term covering the period 2013-2017.

10. The Commission, through its resolution 69/13 of 1 May 2013 endorsed the above-mentioned Ministerial Declaration and the Incheon Strategy.

11. Further to Commission Decision 69/4 of 1 May 2013 on the membership of the Working Group (annex IV) and in pursuance of Commission resolution 69/13, the ESCAP secretariat convened the inaugural session of the Working Group at the premises of the ESCAP Subregional Office for North and North-East Asia.

12. The Government of the Republic of Korea contributed funding support for hosting the inaugural session in Incheon, Republic of Korea.

V. OBJECTIVES

13. The objectives of the First Session of the Working Group were to:

(a) Consider and adopt its rules of procedure;

(b) Review and adopt the draft roadmap for the implementation of the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the
Pacific, following which the roadmap would be submitted to the Commission, at its seventieth session for final adoption.

VI. OPENING SESSION

14. At the opening session, statements were delivered by the following:

(a) H.E. Mr. Younghyun Park, Assistant Minister, Office for Social Welfare Policy, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Republic of Korea;

(b) Ms. Nanda Krairiksh, Director, Social Development Division, ESCAP;

(c) Mr. Kilaparti Ramakrishna, Director, ESCAP Subregional Office for North and North-East Asia.

VII. BUREAU

15. The Working Group at its inaugural session elected the following as Bureau officers:

Chairperson: Mr. Park Yong Hyun, Assistant Minister, Office for Social Welfare Policy, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Republic of Korea)

Vice-Chairperson: Mr. Awanish Kumar Awasthi, Joint Secretary, Department of Disability Affairs, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (India)

Vice-Chairperson: Mr. Setareki Seru Macanawai, Chief Executive Officer, Pacific Disability Forum

VIII. ATTENDANCE

16. The representatives of 14 ESCAP members and 14 CSOs attended the First Session (annex V). The ESCAP members were: Bangladesh; Bhutan; China; Fiji; India; Indonesia; Japan; Malaysia; Mongolia; Pakistan; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; and Thailand. The CSOs were: ASEAN Disability Forum; Asia-Pacific Development Centre on Disability; Asia-Pacific DPO United; Asia Pacific Disability Forum; Central Asian Disability Forum; DAISY Consortium; Disabled Peoples’ International Asia-Pacific; Inclusion International Asia Pacific; Pacific Disability Forum; Rehabilitation International Asia Pacific Region; South Asian Disability Forum; World Blind Union Asia-Pacific; World Federation of the Deaf Regional Secretariat for Asia and the Pacific; and World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry Asia-Pacific.
IX. AGENDA

17. The Working Group at its inaugural session adopted the following agenda:


2. Election of officers.

3. Adoption of the agenda.


5. Review and adoption of the preliminary draft ESCAP road map for the implementation of the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific.

6. Other matters.

7. Closing of the Session.
Annex I

Rules of Procedure of the
Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of
Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022

As drawn up and adopted on 26 February 2014 by the Working Group on
the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022, (hereinafter
“Working Group”) at its first Session held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 25 to 26
February 2014.

Rule 1
Sessions

The following principles shall apply as regards the convening of
sessions of the Working Group:

1.1 Regular sessions of the Working Group shall be held annually.

1.2 Sessions shall be convened by the secretariat of the United
Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (hereinafter
“ESCAP”).

1.3 The ESCAP secretariat may also convene ad hoc sessions of the
Working Group, if requested by more than half of the members of the Working
Group in consultation with the Chairperson.

1.4 The ESCAP secretariat shall transmit a written invitation to each
regular session of the Working Group, together with a provisional agenda, at
least sixty work days in advance of the start of the session, and, whenever
practicable, a written invitation to each ad hoc session, together with a
provisional agenda, at least thirty work days before the start of each session.

1.5 An invitation to a session shall be sent to the senior official
designated to represent the member of the Working Group at the
correspondence address conveyed to the ESCAP secretariat for official
correspondence. Responses to invitations shall be sent via electronic mail to the
ESCAP secretariat within the requested time frame, that is, no later than thirty
work days before a regular session and fifteen work days before an ad hoc
session.

1.6 All formal correspondence addressed to government members of
the Working Group shall be copied to the permanent representatives of
member States that are members of the Working Group, in accordance with
existing rules and procedures of ESCAP, through official channels of
communication. Furthermore, formal correspondence shall be addressed to the
functional titles, and not to the personal names, of those designated to serve as
standing members of the Working Group.
Rule 2

Venue

2.1 Working Group sessions shall ordinarily be held at the Headquarters of ESCAP in Bangkok.

2.2 Members of the Working Group may make known at a session their offers to host subsequent sessions at an alternate venue.

2.3 A session may be held away from ESCAP Headquarters in Bangkok, provided that the Working Group member representing a member State or civil society organization that proposes to host the session covers the additional costs to be incurred as a result of the change in venue, in accordance with a cost estimate prepared by the ESCAP secretariat.

Rule 3

Secretariat

The ESCAP secretariat shall serve as the Secretariat of the Working Group.

Rule 4

Participation

4.1 Members of the Working Group shall participate in its sessions on a self-financing basis.

4.2 For meetings held away from ESCAP Headquarters, the host government or host organization may consider defraying the cost of travel, accommodation and subsistence of Working Group members.

4.3 In the event that a member does not attend two consecutive sessions (regular or ad hoc), that member shall relinquish its seat on the Working Group.

Rule 5

Reasonable Accommodation

Every effort shall be made to provide reasonable accommodation to representatives of Working Group members.

Rule 6

Conduct of business

6.1 The Working Group shall at each session elect a Chairperson, as well as two Vice Chairpersons, one from a government and one from a civil society organization, who would serve until the next regular session.
6.2 The Chairperson may, if required, appoint a task force composed of interested Working Group members to undertake in-depth review of specific issues for consideration by the Working Group.

6.3 Before a proposal is agreed upon, the Chairperson shall call on the ESCAP secretariat to provide a statement on the financial implications of the proposal.

6.4 Decisions and recommendations of the Working Group shall, in principle, be made by consensus. In the event that consensus cannot be reached, decisions shall be made by a majority of the Working Group members present at a session and voting.

**Rule 7**

**Voting**

7.1 Each Working Group member shall have one vote.

7.2 The Working Group shall normally vote by a show of hands. If the Chairperson requests a roll-call, it shall be taken in the English language alphabetical order of the names of Working Group members, that is, the names of the member States followed by the names of the civil society organizations.

**Rule 8**

**Agenda**

8.1 The provisional agenda for each regular session of the Working Group shall be drawn up by the ESCAP secretariat. Working Group members may suggest amendments to the agenda in writing in advance of the session or orally and in writing at the start of the session itself.

8.2 The provisional agenda for the regular session shall include:

1. Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of the Chairperson and two Vice Chairpersons.
3. Review of the implementation of decisions emanating from the previous session of the Working Group.

4. Review of progress in the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022, particularly concerning the following:

   a. National-level 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, including

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the implementation of the road map as endorsed by the Commission at its seventieth session in 2014;

(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, including women with disabilities, at the national and local levels, and networking.

(5) Review of resource mobilization for Decade progress:

(a) ESCAP trust fund for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022;

(b) Make the Right Real Fund of the Republic of Korea;

(c) Other funding sources.

(6) Date and venue of the next regular session.

(7) Other matters.

8.3 The provisional agenda for ad hoc sessions of the Working Group shall be drawn up by the ESCAP secretariat, as required.

Rule 9
Language

The sessions of the Working Group shall be conducted in English and documentation shall be issued in English.

Rule 10
Report on the sessions of the Working Group

10.1 The draft report on each session of the Working Group shall be prepared by the ESCAP secretariat and transmitted to Working Group members within thirty work days of the end of a session. Working Group members shall transmit any comments on the draft report to the ESCAP secretariat within thirty work days of receiving the draft report. The ESCAP secretariat shall transmit the final report to Working Group members and observers as soon as possible, and in no event later than ninety work days after the session.

10.2 The report of each session of the Working Group shall, among others, include its decisions and/or recommendations. This decisions and/or recommendations shall be discussed and agreed upon during the respective session of the Working Group.
10.3 Unless otherwise mandated, until the end of the Decade the outcomes of the sessions of the Working Group and other Working Group endeavours shall be incorporated in the triennial reports of the Executive Secretary to the Commission on the implementation of Commission resolution 69/13 on 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.

10.4 Official documents for the sessions of the Working Group shall be made available in accessible formats, as required. A digital version of the official documents for the sessions of the Working Group shall be made available in universally accessible formats, such as EPUB3 or DAISY.

**Rule 11**

**Representation and Tenure**

11.1 The tenure of Working Group members, namely member States and civil society organizations, shall be five years spanning the period 2013 to 2017, bearing in mind Rule 4.3, with the possibility of extension for another five years. The Commission, at its seventy-fourth session in 2018, shall make the final decision on the composition of the Working Group for the second term spanning the period 2018-2022.

11.2 Each member State and civil society organization represented on the Working Group shall inform the ESCAP secretariat in writing of the name of its senior representative, and confirm the address, including electronic mail address, to which official correspondence concerning the Working Group should be sent.

11.3 In the event that the designated representative of a Working Group member, whether a member State or a civil society organization, is unable to continue her/his duty on the Working Group, that member State or civil society organization shall designate another senior official to represent it in the Working Group.

11.4 Any member or associate member of ESCAP interested in attending a session in an observer capacity and on a self-financing basis shall express such interest in writing to the ESCAP secretariat well in advance of the convening of a session.

11.5 A civil society organization of an ESCAP member or associate member that is interested in attending a session of the Working Group, in an observer capacity and on a self-financing basis, must meet the eligibility criteria specified in paragraph 7 of the Terms of Reference of the Working Group. Such a civil society organization shall express its interest in writing to the ESCAP secretariat well in advance of the convening of a session.

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2 See the composition of the Working Group, 2013 – 2017, as annexed.
11.6 Subregional intergovernmental agencies, United Nations agencies, development cooperation agencies and development banks may be invited to attend Working Group sessions in an observer capacity and on a self-financing basis.

11.7 Any member of the Working Group may contribute the technical inputs of subject specialists to facilitate consideration of a matter on which a decision or recommendation would be required of the Working Group. The ESCAP secretariat may also invite such specialists to facilitate recommendations by the Working Group. An invitation to a specialist to provide technical inputs to a session in an observer capacity shall be limited to that specific session and such an observer shall not participate in decision making by the Working Group.

Rule 12
Entry into force and amendments to these Rules of Procedure

12.1 These Rules of Procedure shall enter into force on the date of their adoption by the Working Group.

12.2 Any aspect of these Rules of Procedure may be amended or overridden during a Working Group session, provided the amendment or exception is consistent with the spirit and intent of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022, and agreed to by the Working Group.

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Annex II

Terms of reference of the working group on the
Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities

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 members and associate members, 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 members and associate members 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 the 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 organizations 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. The working group should be composed of 30 members, taking into account gender equality: 15 from members and associate members and 15 from civil society organizations. At least half of the seats allocated for civil society organizations should be guaranteed for persons with disabilities and emerging civil society organizations.
7. A civil society entity that meets the following criteria shall 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.

8. The announcement of interest by individual ESCAP members and associate members, and civil society organizations, 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, Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 29 October to 2 November 2012.

9. 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 midpoint 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.

10. ESCAP members and associate members, civil society organizations, in particular, organizations of persons with disabilities, subregional intergovernmental agencies, United Nations agencies, development cooperation agencies and development banks can attend meetings of the working group as observers.

Rules of procedure

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

Secretariat

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


First 5 years of the Decade (2013-2017)

Members

15 Government Members:

1. Bangladesh
2. Bhutan
3. China
4. Fiji
5. India
6. Indonesia
7. Japan
8. Kiribati and Samoa share a seat (Samoa: first 2.5 years; Kiribati: second 2.5 years)
9. Malaysia
10. Mongolia
11. Pakistan
12. Philippines
13. Republic of Korea
14. Russian Federation
15. Thailand

15 Civil Society Organization (CSO) Members:

1. Asia and Pacific Disability Forum
2. Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability
3. ASEAN Disability Forum
4. Asia-Pacific DPO United
5. Central Asia Disability Forum
6. South Asian Disability Forum
7. Pacific Disability Forum
8. Disabled People’s International Asia-Pacific
9. Inclusion International Asia-Pacific
10. World Blind Union Asia-Pacific
11. World Federation of the Deaf Regional Secretariat in Asia and the Pacific
12. World Federation of the Deafblind Asia and the Pacific
13. World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry
14. Digital Accessible Information System (DAISY) Consortium
15. Rehabilitation International Asia Pacific Region
Observers

1 Government Observer:

1. Myanmar

3 CSO Observers:

1. ASEAN Autism Network
2. Christian Blind Mission
3. Community-based Rehabilitation Asia-Pacific Network
Annex IV

2013 Global IT Challenge for Youth with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific
List of winners

■ Special award category

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award category</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Disability Type</th>
<th>Name of winner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global Leader</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Visual</td>
<td>Pawin Piemthai</td>
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<tr>
<td>Super Challenger</td>
<td>Republic of Korea</td>
<td>Physical</td>
<td>In Ja Jeong</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Physical</td>
<td>Jidaporn Onta</td>
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■ E-Tool (Microsoft Office) category

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<th>Disability Type</th>
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<td>Byeong Gwon Kim</td>
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<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Visual</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Republic of Korea</td>
<td>Hearing</td>
<td>Ji Hye Jeong</td>
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<td>Thuong Minh Vo</td>
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<td>E-Tool Excellent</td>
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### E-Life (Internet) category

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### E-Sport (Online Game) category

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<td><strong>E-Sports Good</strong></td>
<td>Republic of Korea</td>
<td>Intellectual</td>
<td>Yu Jin Kang</td>
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<td>Brunei Darussalam</td>
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<td>Republic of Korea</td>
<td>Physical</td>
<td>Hye Min Kim</td>
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Annex V

List of participants

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Fiji

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India

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Asia and Pacific Disability Forum (APDF)

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Asia-Pacific DPO United

Representative

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Central Asian Disability Forum (CADF)

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Digital Accessible Information System (DAISY) Consortium

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Alternate

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Disabled Peoples' International (DPI) Asia-Pacific

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Pacific Disability Forum (PDF)

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Rehabilitation International (RI) Asian-Pacific Region

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Alternate

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