



Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**Seventy-fourth session**

Bangkok, 11–16 May 2018

Item 3 (g) of the provisional agenda*

**Review of issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure of
the Commission, including the work of the regional
institutions: social development****Report of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on
the Midpoint Review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of
Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022****Note by the secretariat***Summary*

The High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Midpoint Review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022, was convened in Beijing from 27 November to 1 December 2017. Organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and hosted by the Government of China, the Meeting consisted of a senior officials segment (27 to 29 November 2017) and a ministerial segment (30 November and 1 December 2017). More than 340 representatives of 33 members and associate members, civil society and the United Nations system attended.

The Meeting was held in pursuance of Commission resolution 69/13 with the following objectives:

- (a) To undertake a midpoint review of the progress made, including gaps and challenges, in the implementation of 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) To discuss the future policy direction for building disability-inclusive societies in Asia and the Pacific, bearing in mind the synergies between the Incheon Strategy and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- (c) To consider and adopt a ministerial declaration and action plan to accelerate the implementation of the Incheon Strategy for the remainder of the Decade.

The Meeting adopted the Beijing Declaration, including the Action Plan to Accelerate the Implementation of the Incheon Strategy.

The Commission may wish to consider taking note of the report of the Meeting and endorsing the proposed membership of the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022, for the remaining five years of the Decade (2018–2022).

* ESCAP/74/L.1.

I. Matters calling for action by the Commission or brought to its attention

1. The following recommendations of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Midpoint Review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022, are brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) for its consideration and possible action:

Recommendation 1

The Meeting recommends that the Commission at its seventy-fourth session endorse the Beijing Declaration, including the Action Plan to Accelerate the Implementation of the Incheon Strategy (E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/L.4).

Recommendation 2

The Meeting recommends that the Commission at its seventy-fourth session endorse the proposed list of members, associate members and civil society organizations to serve as members of the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022, for the remaining five years of the Decade (2018–2022). The proposed list will be finalized by the Chair of the Meeting in consultation with all those who have expressed an interest in serving on the Working Group.

II. Proceedings

A. Interlinkages of the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

(Agenda item 2)

2. The Meeting had before it the information document on leveraging the Incheon Strategy to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/INF/1).

3. The Meeting benefited from a panel on the interlinkages between the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The panel was moderated by Mr. Joon Oh, Professor, Kyung Hee University, and former Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations. The panel comprised Mr. Monthian Buntan, Member of the National Legislative Assembly, Thai Parliament, and Member of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; Mr. You Liang, Deputy Director General, International Affairs Department, China Disabled Persons’ Federation, and Member of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; Mr. Mohd Fazari Mohd Salleh, Deputy Director General, Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Malaysia; Mr. Eunsub Kim, Director General, Social Development Department, Korean International Cooperation Agency; Ms. Megan Smith, Inclusive Development Liaison, International Disability Alliance; and Mr. Setareki Macanawai, Chief Executive Officer, Pacific Disability Forum.

4. During the panel discussion, the synergies between the Incheon Strategy, the 2030 Agenda and the Convention were highlighted and the complementary nature of the three frameworks underscored, in particular the unique nature of the Incheon Strategy. The Incheon Strategy had helped to integrate disability issues into subregional development strategies, including the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, and had greatly enhanced the rights of persons with disabilities.

5. To implement the Incheon Strategy, high-level commitment, adequate budgetary allocation and mainstreaming of disability into other development plans were necessary. Furthermore, a multi-stakeholder and multisectoral approach were critical.

6. The need to collect timely data to implement the Incheon Strategy and to identify the particular barriers faced by persons with disabilities was noted. The adoption of the Incheon Strategy had contributed to increased data collection on disability and disaggregation of data. The consolidation of indicators for all three frameworks would be a comprehensive strategy to monitor progress in advancing the rights of persons with disabilities.

B. Review of progress in implementing the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific
(Agenda item 3)

7. The Meeting had before it the note by the secretariat on the midpoint review of the implementation of the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/1) and the note by the secretariat entitled “Midpoint review of the implementation of the Incheon Strategy to ‘Make the Right Real’ for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific: the value of a multi-stakeholder approach” (E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/2). The secretariat also made an introductory presentation based on its latest report, *Building Disability-Inclusive Societies in Asia and the Pacific: Assessing the Progress of the Incheon Strategy*.

8. Representatives of the following members and associate members of the Commission made statements: Australia; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; China; Fiji; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Kyrgyzstan; Lao People’s Democratic Republic; Myanmar; Nauru; New Caledonia; Pakistan; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Samoa; Singapore; Sri Lanka; Tajikistan; Thailand; Timor-Leste; and Turkey.

9. A consolidated statement was made on behalf of civil society organizations in attendance.

10. The Meeting reviewed regional progress made over the first half of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022, in implementing the Incheon Strategy, as well as remaining and emerging challenges to the full realization of the rights of persons with disabilities in Asia and the Pacific. Reaffirming continued commitment to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Incheon Strategy, the Meeting noted the momentum created by the 2030 Agenda in providing an opportunity to refocus and recalibrate national disability-inclusive development agendas by leveraging the outcome of the Incheon Strategy.

11. Many representatives expressed their deep appreciation to the Government of China for the support and hospitality provided to participants.

12. Significant achievements for creating enabling legal, political and institutional environments for effective coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the Incheon Strategy were outlined.

13. The importance of strengthening efforts towards poverty eradication and enhancing social protection schemes, in particular housing allowances, health insurance, accessible health care and rehabilitation services, was emphasized. In addition, the Meeting highlighted the importance of providing for inclusive education for children with disabilities — including through anti-discrimination laws, free education systems for all children and pilot programmes with specific facilities at secondary and post-secondary levels — thereby ensuring the right to education of persons with disabilities.

14. Many representatives reported measures to promote the right to decent work of persons with disabilities, including the creation of an online database on the working-age population with disabilities, vocational skills training and the provision of incentives to the private sector to support the gainful employment of persons with disabilities.

15. Several representatives emphasized the importance of promoting the political participation of persons with disabilities through their effective engagement in policy- and decision-making processes, with a view to ensuring the promotion of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of both women and men with disabilities. To that effect, many representatives recognized the vital need to increase the accessibility of the built environment, including polling stations, and to enable barrier-free access to public transportation as well as to information and communications technology.

16. The Meeting recognized the importance of mainstreaming a disability-inclusive approach to disaster risk reduction and management.

17. The lack of readily available, reliable and comparable data was a persisting challenge. The importance of generating reliable and comparable data, including through periodic and comprehensive data collection via survey responses, was underscored. The indicator framework of the Incheon Strategy was recognized as an important data collection and monitoring tool. In view of that, the Republic of Korea strongly encouraged member countries to participate in the Commission's project entitled "Towards the Incheon Strategy to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities in Asia and the Pacific."

18. The Meeting recognized the importance of strengthening interministerial coordination and multi-stakeholder partnership, as well as regional and international cooperation, particularly with a view to enhancing national capacities for reliable data collection.

19. The role of civil society in working with Governments to ensure the inclusion of voices of persons with disabilities in national legislation and policies was emphasized. Furthermore, there was a need to build national capacities, including through participation in the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022, to implement the Incheon Strategy, as well as with other regional and global development frameworks.

C. Generating reliable and comparable data to promote disability-inclusive development

(Agenda item 4)

20. The Meeting had before it the note by the secretariat on the midpoint review of the implementation of the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/1), and the information document on leveraging the Incheon Strategy to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/INF/1).

21. The Meeting benefited from a multi-stakeholder panel on the diverse dimensions of the generation of reliable and comparable statistics to enhance evidence-based policymaking in support of disability-inclusive development. The panel was moderated by Ms. Margaret Mbogoni, Senior Statistician, Statistics Division of the United Nations, and comprised Mr. Sitiveni Yanuyanutawa, Director, National Council for Disabled Persons, Fiji; Mr. Mateo A. Lee, Jr., Deputy Executive Director, National Council on Disability Affairs, Philippines; Mr. Kwang-Hee Kim, Deputy Director, Department of External Relations and Cooperation, Korea Disabled People’s Development Institute, Republic of Korea; Mr. Daniel Mont, Washington Group on Disability Statistics; and Ms. Alarcos Cieza, Coordinator, Disability and Rehabilitation, World Health Organization (WHO).

22. During the panel discussion, the importance of generating baseline data as a starting point for tracking progress with respect to disability-inclusive development in the region was highlighted. Panellists elaborated on their experience in collecting disability data using various internationally recommended standards and methodologies. Challenges included the lack of common understanding of concepts and operational definitions related to disability among relevant national stakeholders, and resource constraints for data collection.

23. The Meeting noted the importance of consistently shifting away from the medical to the social model in improving disability data. The key features and uses of the Washington Group Short Set of Questions on Disability, the Extended Question Set on Functioning, and the Washington Group and the United Nations Children’s Fund’s Child Functioning Module were also noted, as well as the WHO and World Bank’s Model Disability Survey for improving disability data collection through population and housing censuses and household surveys. The critical importance of administrative sources of disability data was highlighted, although such sources generally contained information on persons with disabilities enrolled in programmes with specific eligibility criteria.

24. There was a need for a simple data collection instrument that exclusively covered disability issues in the context of environmental barriers, and for increased harmonization between the various questions and instruments that were available internationally, preserving a rights-based approach. In addition, it was important to explore and harness non-traditional data sources and innovative approaches, such as geospatial information, to improve data on disability-related policy negotiation. The need for enhanced measurement of disability issues in the employment sector and the labour force was also emphasized.

25. One representative expressed support for improving disability data collection and continuing a partnership with organizations such as the Washington Group on Disability Statistics and the United Nations Children’s Fund to advocate disability data collection for better evidence-based monitoring.

D. Report on the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022, and consideration of its membership for the next term
(Agenda item 5)

26. The Meeting had before it the note by the secretariat on the report on the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022 (E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/3).

27. A statement was made by Mr. Phuntsho Wangyel, Chief Research Officer, Gross National Happiness Commission, Bhutan, and Chair of the fourth session of the Working Group.

28. The Meeting expressed appreciation to the Working Group and noted that it was a useful tool for monitoring and strengthening implementation of the Incheon Strategy. The uniqueness of the Working Group, which allowed equal participation among Governments and civil society, was also highlighted.

29. Suggested measures to enhance the effectiveness of the Working Group included establishing thematic subgroups focusing on specific goals of the Incheon Strategy. Certain issues, such as access to information, cut across many goals of the Incheon Strategy and required a network approach. Several civil society organizations suggested that the participation of civil society should be supported, including financially and by allowing participation through web-based tools. The Working Group should adopt a gender-based approach and strengthen the participation of organizations of women with disabilities. Several representatives also highlighted that subregional representation should be strengthened by giving more seats to Pacific island countries.

30. One representative stressed that the Working Group should seek to address the specific barriers faced by persons with diverse disabilities, such as by promoting the enhanced recognition of sign language as a means of communication that was equal to spoken language.

31. Expressions of interest from members, associate members and civil society organizations in serving on the Working Group for the second term, covering the period 2018–2022, were recorded by the secretariat. However, the Meeting agreed that the secretariat would continue to receive expressions of interest by email until 30 December 2017. In addition, the secretariat, with guidance from Chair of the ministerial segment, would consult further with all members, associate members and civil society organizations that had expressed an interest in serving as members for the second term in order to determine the final composition of the Working Group.

32. The Meeting requested the secretariat to check the eligibility of the proposed civil society organizations in accordance with paragraph 7 of the terms of reference of the Working Group.

33. The Meeting recommended that the Chair, on behalf of the Meeting, should submit the proposed membership of the Working Group for the remaining five years of the Decade (2018–2022) to the Commission at its seventy-fourth session for its consideration and endorsement.

E. Consideration of the draft Beijing declaration and action plan to accelerate the implementation of the Incheon Strategy, in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
(Agenda item 6)

34. The Meeting had before it the draft Beijing declaration, including the action plan to accelerate the implementation of the Incheon Strategy (E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/4/Rev.1).

35. The senior officials endorsed the draft declaration, including the action plan, and decided to submit it to the ministerial segment of the Meeting for consideration and adoption by the ministers.

F. Ministerial panel on disability-inclusive sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific
(Agenda item 8)

36. The Meeting benefited from a ministerial panel on advancing disability rights through legislative action in line with the Convention and the Incheon Strategy. It was moderated by the Director of the Social Development Division of ESCAP and comprised Mr. Kourabi Nenem, Vice-President and Minister for Women, Youth and Social Affairs, Kiribati; Ms. Mereseini Vuniwaqa, Minister, Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Fiji; Mr. Thaawarchand Gehlot, Union Minister, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, India; Mr. Win Myat Aye, Union Minister, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Myanmar; and Ms. Saima Wazed Hossain, Chair, National Advisory Committee for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders, Bangladesh.

37. The panellists shared their experiences of harmonizing national laws with the Convention following ratification. Some countries revised their constitutions as a first step towards harmonization. Several countries also introduced fines for non-compliance with laws guaranteeing the rights of persons with disabilities. They had involved civil society groups, disabled persons' organizations and individuals in the review and change of laws.

38. The Meeting also benefited from a panel on innovative measures to promote disability-inclusive sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific. It was moderated by the Deputy Executive Secretary of ESCAP and comprised Mr. Vong Sauth, Minister, Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation, Cambodia; Mr. Yong Lu, Vice-Chair, State Council Working Committee on Disability, and President, China Disabled Persons Federation, China; Ms. Faimalotoa Kika Stowers, Minister, Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development, Samoa; and Ms. Ayşe Kardaş, Deputy Undersecretary, Ministry of Family and Social Policy, Turkey.

39. The panellists shared actions taken to integrate the Incheon Strategy and the Convention into national plans, including by establishing cross-ministerial bodies. The implementation of the Convention and the Incheon Strategy had required a multi-stakeholder approach, involving Governments, civil society organizations, including disabled persons' organizations, faith-based organizations and the private sector.

40. The panellists also discussed measures to support data collection to monitor the Incheon Strategy indicators, such as the inclusion of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics sets of questions in censuses, and the development of additional national monitoring indicators. The cost of excluding persons with disabilities would be higher than the investments

needed for inclusion. Countries were at different development stages and needed to implement the Incheon Strategy according to national circumstances. However, the panellists also noted the important role of regional cooperation and sharing of experiences.

G. Forward-looking policies to accelerate the implementation of the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific

(Agenda item 9)

41. Statements were made by the representatives of the following members and associate members: Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; China; Democratic People’s Republic of Korea; Fiji; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Japan; Kiribati; Lao People’s Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Myanmar; Pakistan; Republic of Korea; Samoa; Tajikistan; Thailand; and Turkey.

42. A consolidated statement was made on behalf of the civil society organizations in attendance.

43. The Meeting expressed appreciation for the secretariat’s work promoting the rights of persons with disabilities since the adoption of the Incheon Strategy, culminating in the convening of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting. A number of representatives requested ESCAP to continue providing technical assistance and capacity-building support for disability-inclusive development.

44. The Meeting underscored the centrality of the Convention to upholding the rights of persons with disabilities, and many representatives outlined efforts made by their Governments in preparation for ratification of the Convention. Some representatives also referred to the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works by Visually Impaired Persons and Persons with Print Disabilities. The Meeting further recognized the linkages between the Incheon Strategy and the 2030 Agenda, noting that the realization of disability rights was central to fulfilling the promise of leaving no one behind.

45. Several representatives highlighted that equal rights for all, including persons with disabilities, had been enshrined in their national constitutions. Many representatives also reported progress in establishing both disability-specific and disability-inclusive legislation that further supported the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities. In addition, a number of representatives highlighted their efforts to raise awareness of these rights, including in the workplace and with respect to barrier-free environments.

46. Many representatives shared information about their Governments’ efforts to mainstream disability policy into national and sector-specific development plans, strategies and programmes. Several representatives also reported significant current and planned increases in budget allocation for disability-related activities.

47. Several representatives acknowledged the importance of international and regional cooperation, including sharing country experiences for mutual learning and exchange. In that context, the representative of Myanmar expressed interest in being a member of the Working Group for the second half of the Decade and offered to host a session of the Working Group, while another representative urged equitable geographical representation with regard to the composition of the Working Group.

48. Several representatives highlighted the importance of collecting reliable and comparable statistics, as stated in goal 8 of the Incheon Strategy and in accordance with other international frameworks and commitments. Some representatives shared that their Governments had incorporated the Washington Group on Disability Statistics sets of questions on disability into their most recent censuses.

49. Many representatives emphasized decent work as a path towards escaping marginalization and poverty for persons with disabilities and their families. Several initiatives were shared, such as the enactment of relevant supportive legislation, the provision of accessibility incentives to employers and the introduction of quotas for hiring persons with disabilities. To enhance the employability of persons with disabilities, the role of technical and vocational skills training for persons with disabilities was also highlighted.

50. Several representatives highlighted efforts to strengthen inclusive education, while working to include children with disabilities into mainstream education. Initiatives included the provision of free education for persons with disabilities, community-level programmes to improve the quality of inclusive education, early childhood intervention initiatives and the provision of accessible learning materials.

51. Several representatives reported their progress in strengthening social protection programmes, such as disability allowances, social rehabilitation services and housing allowances. Access to affordable health care, including reproductive health-care services and mental health-care support, was emphasized as a priority for Governments aiming to make concrete improvements to the daily lives of persons with disabilities.

52. In recognizing that more work was needed to improve the accessibility of the physical environment, public transportation, and information and communication in their countries, a number of representatives shared the initiatives undertaken by their Governments. Some reported on improving the accessibility of public transportation services, public buildings and polling stations, as well as information and communications technology and systems. Others had established national accessibility guidelines and building codes and launched accessibility campaigns.

53. The importance of integrating disability perspectives in disaster risk reduction plans was highlighted, especially given the risks posed by climate change. Other remaining challenges included resource mobilization and limitations in human resource capacity to effectively address disability issues.

54. The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran stated his country's robust commitment to its treaty commitments and to standing up for the rights of persons with disabilities. The representative reiterated that nothing in the Beijing Declaration and Action Plan would infringe or change the reservation of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and that it held the same effect on the Beijing Declaration and Action Plan.

55. A consolidated statement was made on behalf of the civil society organizations in attendance. It included recommendations, including on measures to ensure the meaningful participation of all in meetings and consultations, for ESCAP, Governments and disabled persons' organizations.

H. Adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Action Plan to Accelerate the Implementation of the Incheon Strategy

(Agenda item 10)

56. The Meeting adopted the Beijing Declaration, including the Action Plan to Accelerate the Implementation of the Incheon Strategy, by consensus on 1 December 2017 (E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/L.4).

I. Adoption of the report of the Meeting

(Agenda item 11)

57. The Meeting adopted the present report by consensus on 1 December 2017.

J. Closing of the Meeting

(Agenda item 12)

58. Closing statements were made by the Chair of the Meeting, Ms. Haidi Zhang, Vice-Chair, State Council Working Committee on Disability, and Chair, China Disabled Persons' Federation, China, and by the Deputy Executive Secretary of ESCAP.

III. Organization

A. Opening, duration and organization of the Meeting

59. The High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Midpoint Review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022, was held in Beijing from 27 November to 1 December 2017. The Meeting comprised two segments: the senior officials segment (27 to 29 November 2017) and the ministerial segment (30 November and 1 December 2017).

60. The ministerial segment was opened by Mr. Wang Yong, State Councillor, and Chair, State Council Working Committee on Disability, China. Mr. Jinping Xi, President, China, sent his congratulatory remarks to the Meeting. The Secretary-General of the United Nations sent a message recognizing the importance of the Meeting. Statements were also delivered by Mr. Young-ho Lee, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Republic of Korea, and the Deputy Executive Secretary of ESCAP.

B. Attendance

61. The Meeting was attended by the following members and associate members: Australia; Azerbaijan; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; China; Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Fiji; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Japan; Kiribati; Kyrgyzstan; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Macao, China; Malaysia; Myanmar; Nauru; New Caledonia; Pakistan; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Samoa; Singapore; Sri Lanka; Tajikistan; Thailand; Timor-Leste; and Turkey.

62. Representatives of the following office of the United Nations Secretariat attended: Statistics Division.

63. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and funds attended: United Nations Development Programme; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women);

United Nations Population Fund; WHO; and World Intellectual Property Organization.

64. A representative of the Asian Development Bank attended.

65. Representatives of the following non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and other entities attended: Alchin Consulting; ASEAN Autism Network; ASEAN Disability Forum; Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability Foundation; Asia and Pacific Disability Forum; Asia-Pacific Women with Disabilities United; Association for Aid and Relief Japan; Blind and Visually Impaired Society of Maldives; Centre for Sign Linguistics and Deaf Studies, Chinese University of Hong Kong; China Administration of Sports for Persons with Disabilities; China Assistive Devices and Technology Center for Persons with Disabilities; China Association for Intellectual Disabilities and Friends and Relatives; China Association for the Physically Disabled; China Association of Persons with Psychiatric Disability and their Relatives; China Association of the Blind; China Association of the Deaf; China Council of Lions Clubs; China Disabled People's Performing Art Troupe; China Foundation for Disabled Persons; China Rehabilitation Research Center for Hearing and Speech Impairment; Chula Company Limited; Chungcheongbukdo Association for the Disabled; Chungcheongdo Differently Abled Federation; Cork Centre for Architectural Education; Daejeon Association for the Disabled; Digital Accessible Information System (DAISY) Consortium; Disability Council of Maldives; Disability Discrimination Act of Solidarity in Korea; Disabled People's Association; Disabled People's International; Disabled Persons' Magazine; Genashtim Innovative Learning Pte Ltd; Golden Circle Foundation; Gwang-Ju Federation of Organizations for Differently Abled; Handicap International; Hankook Jangaein Moonwha Kwhangwang Jinheoungheoi; Hong Kong Joint Council For Persons with Disabilities; Hope House Beijing Spinal Cord Injury; Huaxia Publishing House; Incheon Differently Abled Federation; Inclusion International; Indonesian Association of Women with Disabilities; Industrial Injured Member Association; International Disability Alliance; International Disability Cultural Exchange Association; International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; Japan Disability Forum; Japanese Federation of the Deaf; Jeju Differently Abled Federation; Jeollanamdo The Disabled; Korea Association of the Deaf; Korea Blind Union; Korea Culture Association for the Disabled; Korea Differently Abled Federation; Korea Differently Abled Women United; Korea Disabled People's Development Institute; Korea Federation of Organizations of the Disabled; Korea International Cooperation Agency; Korea Kidney Patients Association; Korea Mission Association for People with Disabilities; Korea Ostomy Association; Korea Paralympic Committee; Korea Spinal Cord Injury Association; Korean Association for Special Education; Korean Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities; Korean Disability Forum; Malaysian Confederation of the Disabled; Maldives Association of Physical Disabilities; Maldivian Network for Empowering Women; MNA-Disabled Peoples International Maldives; Myanmar Independent Living Initiative - Political Institute; National Legislative Assembly, Thai Parliament; Nippon Foundation; Pacific Disability Forum; Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies – Inclusive Emergency Management Strategies LLC; People with Disability Australia; Rehabilitation International Korea; Shah Muqem Trust; Shaw Trust; Shuchona Foundation; Solidarity Against Disability Discrimination; South Asian Disability Forum; The Korean Parents Society for the Disabled; University of Melbourne – Nossal Institute for Global Health; Women with Disabilities Arts and Cultural Network; World Blind Union; World Federation of the Deaf Regional Secretariat for Asia; and World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry.

C. Election of officers

66. The Meeting elected the following officers for the senior officials' segment:

Chair: Ms. Mereseini Vuniwaqa (Fiji)
 Vice-Chairs: Ms. Fatima Mustafa (Singapore)
 Mr. Md. Golam Rabbani (Bangladesh)

67. The Meeting elected the following officers for the ministerial segment:

Chair: Ms. Haidi Zhang (China)

68. Following past practice, the Meeting decided to elect all ministerial-level heads of delegation as Vice-Chairs:

Vice-Chairs: Ms. Saima Wazed Hossain (Bangladesh)
 Mr. Vong Sauth (Cambodia)
 Ms. Mereseini Vuniwaqa (Fiji)
 Mr. Thaawarchand Gehlot (India)
 Mr. Kourabi Nenem (Kiribati)
 Mr. Khampheng Saysompheng (Lao People's Democratic Republic)
 Mr. Win Myat Aye (Myanmar)
 Mr. Young-ho Lee (Republic of Korea)
 Ms. Faimalotoa Kika Stowers (Samoa)

D. Agenda

69. The Meeting adopted the following agenda:

Senior officials segment

1. Opening of the senior officials segment:
 - (a) Opening statements;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda.
2. Interlinkages of the Incheon Strategy to "Make the Right Real" for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
3. Review of progress in implementing the Incheon Strategy to "Make the Right Real" for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific.
4. Generating reliable and comparable data to promote disability-inclusive development.
5. Report on the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022, and consideration of its membership for the next term.
6. Consideration of the draft Beijing declaration and action plan to accelerate the implementation of the Incheon Strategy, in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Ministerial segment

7. Opening of the ministerial segment:
 - (a) Opening statements;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda.
8. Ministerial panel on disability-inclusive sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific.
9. Forward-looking policies to accelerate the implementation of the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific.
10. Adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Action Plan to Accelerate the Implementation of the Incheon Strategy.
11. Adoption of the report of the Meeting.
12. Closing of the Meeting.

E. Other events

70. The following seminars, side events and special events were held in conjunction with the Meeting:

(a) 27 November 2017: Sign languages and linguistics rights as core components of inclusive development, organized by the World Federation of the Deaf Regional Secretariat for Asia, the Nippon Foundation and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

(b) 27 November 2017: Employing a multi-stakeholder approach to promoting disability rights, organized by the Korean Disability Forum;

(c) 27 November 2017: Inclusive Education: ensuring the right of children with disabilities to participate in education, organized by the ASEAN Disability Forum and Handicap International;

(d) 28 November 2017: Regional-level work of civil society to support the implementation of the Incheon Strategy, organized by Rehabilitation International Korea, Rehabilitation International Asia-Pacific Region, the Asia and Pacific Disability Forum and Asia-Pacific Disabled People’s Organizations United;

(e) 28 November 2017: Accessibility – Activities and Future Strategies in Asia and the Pacific, organized by the Japan Disability Forum in cooperation with the Nippon Foundation, under the auspices of the Embassy of Japan in China;

(f) 29 November 2017: Putting disability-inclusive development into practice, organized by ESCAP;

(g) 29 November 2017: Disability-inclusive business: from CSR to mainstream employment opportunities for persons with disabilities, organized by the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability and Chula Fashion;

(h) 30 November 2017: Leaving No One Behind: Inclusion of Persons with Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders in the 2030 Agenda, organized by the Government of Bangladesh and ESCAP;

(i) 1 December 2017: Launch of ESCAP e-learning course on disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction, organized by ESCAP.

Annex

List of documents

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<i>General series</i>		
E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/1	Midpoint review of the implementation of the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific	3 and 4
E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/2	Midpoint review of the implementation of the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific: the value of a multi-stakeholder approach	3
E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/3	Report on the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022	5
E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/4/Rev.1	Draft Beijing declaration, including the action plan to accelerate the implementation of the Incheon Strategy	6
E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/5	Beijing Declaration, including the Action Plan to Accelerate the Implementation of the Incheon Strategy	
E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/6	Report of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Midpoint Review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022	
<i>Limited series</i>		
E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/L.1/Rev.1	Provisional agenda	1 and 7
E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/L.2	Annotated provisional agenda	1 and 7
E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/L.3	Draft report	11
E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/L.4	Draft Beijing declaration, including the action plan to accelerate the implementation of the Incheon Strategy	10
<i>Information series</i>		
E/ESCAP/APDDP(4)/INF/1	Leveraging the Incheon Strategy to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	2 and 4
<i>Information available online</i>		
www.unescap.org/disabilityhighlevelmeeting2017	Information for participants	
www.unescap.org/disabilityhighlevelmeeting2017	List of participants	
www.unescap.org/disabilityhighlevelmeeting2017	Tentative programme	