

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Revision of the 1995 targets for the implementation of the Agenda for Action for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons (1993 – 2002) and the addition of new targets

1. National coordination

Target and Year	Revised Target Year: 2002
1.1 By 1996	1.1 Establish and strengthen a national coordination committee (NCC) on disability concerns with an appropriate mechanism to ensure its accountability to the legislature/head of government to promote a multisectoral approach to the implementation of the Agenda for Action for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002, and with representation at the policy-making level of all state/provincial and district governments, and concerned ministries/departments and government agencies, substantial representation of NGOs, including self-help organizations of disabled persons, parents' organizations of people with intellectual disabilities and women with disabilities, as well as with adequate allocation of resources.
1.2 By 1996	1.2 Establish and strengthen an executive committee with appropriate representation from State/provincial Governments, ministries/departments and government agencies, NGOs, including self-help organizations of people with disabilities, parents' organizations of people with intellectual disabilities and women with disabilities, to ensure timely follow-up and monitoring of the implementation of NCC decisions, as well as to facilitate its functioning.
New 1.3	1.3 Establish coordination and executive structures at the subnational levels, with adequate means of participation by grass-roots groups and bodies.
1.3 By 1996 Re-Numbered from here onwards	1.4 Formulate a national plan of action and incorporate it in national development plans with a time-frame and an in-built mechanism for monitoring and evaluation, as well as adequate multisectoral allocation of resources for the implementation of the Agenda for Action for the Asian and Pacific Decade, and specifically, the targets for national action contained in this document.

1.4 By 1996	1.5 Identify and prioritize, within the national plan of action, means of promoting the participation of poor persons with disabilities in all poverty alleviation programmes, including urban and rural development programmes and projects implemented within the country.
1.5 Immediate action	1.6 Specify the participation of persons with disabilities as a criterion for the approval of funding for poverty alleviation and other development programmes and projects.
1.6 By 2000	1.7 Strengthen the coordination and executive structures as permanent statutory bodies with adequate resources and infrastructure, for their effective functioning.
1.8 New	1.8 Pursue urgently means to promote a positive image of people with disabilities, including their potential, capabilities and achievements in the areas of education, training, employment, sports, arts and cultural activities, as well as in community life, including through the use of occasions such as national and/or international days of disabled persons, community festivities and other media opportunities, to promote a positive image of disabled persons.
1.9 New	1.9 Establish effective communication channels among all parties concerned with disability matters, at national and community levels, to ensure information flow, effective problem-solving as well as timely and adequate multisectoral consultation, especially with self-help groups and non-government organizations serving disabled people.
1.10 New	1.10 Ensure that information on all programmes, services and provisions for people with disabilities, including all legislation and amendments pertaining to equalization of opportunities for people with disabilities, are adequately compiled, disseminated and publicized in accessible formats and languages suited to the literacy levels of persons with disabilities and their families.
1.11 New	1.11 Set up appropriate mechanisms to obtain accurate data and regular updates on disability groups as well as information about their family and life situations, including case studies, and such other information that will encourage informed conclusions about disabled people's access to services and progress towards equalization of opportunities for people with disabilities, for the purpose of policy formulation, as well as to ensure responsible use of all personal data to protect the privacy rights of persons with disabilities.

2. Legislation

Target and Year	Revised Target Year: 2002
2.1 By 1997	2.1 Establish a suitable mechanism to examine and identify all substantive and procedural laws, such as those covering inheritance, marriage and properties, as well as criminal and civil procedure codes and policy provisions on various subjects.
2.2 By 1998	Deleted.
2.3 By 2000 Re-number from here onwards	2.2 Amend substantive and procedural laws to include enabling provisions which would provide equal legal protection to persons with disabilities, including women with disabilities and people with intellectual disabilities, repeal provisions that restrict their full participation and equalization of opportunities, or which are discriminatory.
2.4 By 2000	2.3 Enact a basic law with an effective in-built implementation and enforcement mechanism to protect the rights of people with disabilities, including women with disabilities and people with intellectual disabilities, to promote affirmative action in their favour and to eliminate discriminatory practices as well as architectural and communication barriers.
2.5 By 1998	2.4 Introduce a national scheme of social security measures covering financial assistance and subsidies for persons with extensive disabilities and their families living in poverty, as well as primary breadwinners who become disabled and have no other means of income support for their dependants.
2.6 By 1998	2.5 Review laws relating to customs duties and introduce amendments to provide exemption from customs duties on the import of vehicles, assistive devices, health and medical supplies, including all equipment and materials needed to improve the quality of life and, in particular, to facilitate the education, employment as well as sports, leisure and cultural pursuit and daily living of people with disabilities, including women with disabilities.
2.7 By 1998	2.6 Review laws pertaining to taxation to provide tax benefits to persons with disabilities and incentives to employers of disabled persons, and manufacturers of indigenous assistive devices, including exemption from excise duties for such products and establish an in-built mechanism for periodic review of the list of items.
2.8 By 2000	2.7 Enact and/or amend laws and regulations, including traffic and industrial/labour laws, for promoting health and safety in the workplace, in public places, in transport and in the home, as well as set safety standards for modes of conveyance, equipment, implements and other items of industrial, domestic and personal use, with particular attention to the needs of users with disabilities.

2.8 New	2.8 Establish a mechanism for periodic review of the list of items for exemption from customs duty.
2.9 New	2.9 Provide for the coverage of people with disabilities in existing free legal aid service or develop a free legal aid service for people with disabilities.
2.10 New	2.10 Establish implementation and enforcement (such as ombudsmen) mechanisms for basic laws for the protection of the rights of people with disabilities and notify such rules and regulations for their effective implementation and enforcement.
2.11 New	2.11 Amend laws relating to copyright and make provisions for the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities to have access to educational, informational and recreational materials and for the transcription, transference, translation and reproduction of all such materials.

3. Information

Target and Year	Revised Target Year: 2002
3.1 By 1998	3.1 Establish, in collaboration with NGOs and self-help organizations, and national and local focal points on disability, a regularly-updated database on the disability situation, including demographic data on persons with disabilities, as well as social and economic dimensions, including educational level, employment status, housing, household composition and membership in registered organizations of people with disabilities for the purpose of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Indexing available information related to disability within various ministries and organizations; and (ii) Disseminating, through appropriate means and to local-level organizations, information in formats and languages that are accessible by people with disabilities and their families.
3.2 By 1998	3.2 Strengthen the capability of national statistical offices, develop and apply common functional definitions of disabilities that will facilitate region-wide comparisons, and advocate the conduct of national disability-related surveys.
3.3 Immediate action	3.3 Pursue immediate action to translate into national and local languages the Agenda for Action for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, and the revised targets to facilitate implementation, and disseminate the translations through the mass media, folk media, government agencies and voluntary organizations.

4. Public awareness

Target and Year	Revised Target Year: 2002
4.1 Immediate action	4.1 Undertake immediate action to ensure that the national and provincial print and electronic mass media, including private sector and folk media, feature Decade-related issues through regular and accurate coverage that improves public awareness and attitudes concerning people with disabilities.
4.2 Phased action (1995-2002)	4.2 Undertake phased action to encourage all education and training institutions, government agencies and NGOs that implement programmes and projects for children and youth to identify and provide means of ensuring that disabled children and youth are included in activities designed for all children and young persons.
4.3 Immediate action	4.3 Encourage immediate action by Ministries of Education and all other relevant agencies to initiate a review of all educational and functional literacy materials, in different formats, in use in each country and area, with a view to excluding contents that are derogatory towards persons with disabilities, and to including illustrations and references that support the inclusion of persons with disabilities in mainstream community life.
4.4 Immediate action	4.4 Encourage immediate action to ensure the issuance of first-day covers and commemorative stamps promoting the full participation and equality of persons with disabilities in the Asian and Pacific region.
4.5 By 1996	4.5 Advocate for the inclusion of disability issues in information and media policies and programmes, as well as for the provision of appropriate time and space for disability concerns, and for prohibition of the depiction of negative as well as inaccurate images of persons with disabilities in performances, especially comedies, films and cartoons.
4.6 By 1998	4.6 Encourage government agencies and NGOs to establish a press clipping service to collect documentation on media efforts concerning the raising of public awareness and the improvement of attitudes towards persons with disabilities.
4.7 New	4.7 Promote, at regional, national and sub-national levels, all cultural activities (including art and the performing arts) and sports by people with disabilities, as part of public awareness campaigns to highlight the abilities and aspirations of persons with disabilities.
4.8 New	4.8 Develop and include, in the curricula for pre- and in-service training of public administration and technical personnel in all sectors, disability as a mainstream development issue, in order to facilitate multisectoral collaboration on disability issues, and to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities in all mainstream development activities.

5. Accessibility and communication

Target and Year	Revised Target Year: 2002
5.1	5.1 Initiate immediate action to incorporate barrier-free features as a standard requirement in designs and plans for all new construction, renovation and expansion of buildings and facilities used by members of the public, including transport systems, educational facilities, housing schemes and recreational facilities, with measures to ensure effective implementation, particularly for the renovation and new construction of government infrastructure.
5.2	5.2 Undertake immediate action to make external built environments accessible, including by installing pavements with kerb ramps and by providing adequate signage and facilities for all disability groups.
5.3	5.3 Take immediate action to initiate the introduction of barrier-free features in mass transport systems and services, beginning with the main lines and trunk routes, and to ensure that all further modifications of, and additions to, mass transport systems incorporate barrier-free features at the outset of the planning stage.
5.4	5.4 Take immediate action to promote the inclusion of barrier-free design in the curricula for the training of architects, engineers, as well as urban and rural planners.
5.5	5.5 Pursue immediate action to incorporate access provisions for people with disabilities into existing building by-laws.
5.6 New	5.6 Establish and strengthen access-related networking among governments and organizations concerned with disability issues in the ESCAP region, especially to promote the exchange of information on skills development, standards, procedures, experiences and resources.
5.7 New	5.7 Undertake immediate promotion of studies on the layout of work places, as well as the design of tools, equipment, machinery, and instruments to make them more usable by persons with disabilities.
5.8 Corresponds to original 5.6	5.8 Initiate urgent action towards the development of official indigenous sign languages, with mechanisms for the certification of sign language interpreters.
5.9 Corresponds to original 5.7	5.9 Work towards guaranteeing the right of access to sign language interpretation services in television programmes (especially news and documentaries) and in vital public services and facilities, particularly police departments, hospitals, law courts, and financial institutions, and provide alternate means of communication in other public places.

5.10 Corresponds to original 5.8	5.10 Work towards guaranteeing the right of access to reading materials in Braille, large print, computer diskette, audio cassette and other suitable formats for people who have difficulty in reading regular print, and who need access to human readers.
5.11 Revised Corresponding to original 5.8	5.11 Introduce and enhance captioning and audio descriptions, as well as improve the availability of, and access to, computer applications, websites, radio, telephone, fax machines, and visual media for information and entertainment purposes, to benefit all disability groups.

6. Education

Target and Year	Revised Target Year: 2002
6.1 By 2002	6.1 Increase the enrolment of children and youth with disabilities to close the gap between their current level of enrolment and the net enrolment rate of non-disabled children in each respective country or area in the ESCAP region, and achieve this through formal and non-formal education systems, including open schools and distance education systems.
6.2 By 1997	6.2 Include boys and girls and women and men with disabilities in all policies, plans and programmes to ensure Education for All (EFA), with adequate financial allocations and appropriate technical assistance; the financial allocations should also adequately cover the provision of necessary and appropriate supports to ensure effective educational outcomes for children and youth with disabilities in inclusive settings.
6.3 New	6.3 Ensure the provision of appropriate teaching aids, assistive devices and facilities for promoting effective educational outcomes for children and youth with disabilities.
6.4 By 1997	6.4 Introduce and expand early intervention programmes for children with disabilities, with provision for the active involvement of their families and communities, in both rural and urban areas, and promote the inclusion of children with disabilities in regular preschools.
6.5 By 2000	6.5 Increase progressively the retention rates of all children and youth in education systems, including the retention of children and youth with disabilities.
6.6 By 1997	6.6 Strengthen pre- and in-service teacher preparation programmes to ensure the effective teaching of children with diverse capabilities, including those with disabilities.
6.7 By 1997	6.7 Introduce the entire educational curricula for all children, including children and youth with disabilities, and ensure that the curricula include the teaching of science, mathematics, technical, pre-vocational and vocational education.

6.8 By 1999	6.8 Promote the adaptation of teaching approaches and materials to facilitate effective educational outcomes for children with disabilities, and ensure that this includes appropriate provisions for teaching children and youth who are intellectually disabled, deafblind, multiply disabled, autistic, and those who have learning disabilities, as well as behavioural, speech and communication problems.
6.9 New	6.9 Develop appropriate policies and legislation to change the focus of education systems from a subject-focused to a learner-centred approach to benefit children and youth with disabilities.
6.10 New	6.10 Strengthen support mechanisms and systems, including the provision of teacher aides, assistive devices and other necessary supports, to facilitate the effective inclusion of children and youth with disabilities in inclusive educational settings.
6.11 New	6.11 Promote and support the involvement of families and communities in the provision of inclusive education for children and youth with disabilities.
6.12 New	6.12 Target policy makers, public administration and technical personnel, school administrators and educators to promote the inclusion of children and youth with disabilities in education programmes.
6.13 New	6.13 Encourage Ministries/Departments of Education to assume responsibility for the education of children and youth with disabilities.
6.14 New	6.14 Ensure appropriate transition processes from early childhood education to primary and secondary levels to ensure access, with supports, to post-school activities, including pre-vocational and tertiary education, and employment.
6.15 New	6.15 Assert the legal rights of disabled people to educational, informational and recreational materials in accessible formats, including the right to transcribe, transfer, translate, reproduce and use materials currently subjected to copyright laws.

7. Training and employment

Target and Year	Revised Target Year: 2002
7.1 By 1997	7.1 Make accessible mainstream training programmes and revise entry requirements and eligibility criteria where necessary, so that people with disabilities can participate in them, with due attention to gender equity and the participation of disabled persons from low-income and poor families.

7.2 By 1998	7.2 Develop and strengthen curricula and support services (for example, physically accessible training sites and equipment, Braille text, sign language interpreters and trainers' aides) to enable persons with disabilities to participate fully in all pre-vocational and vocational training and apprenticeship programmes leading to gainful employment and self-employment in rural and urban areas.
7.3 By 1997	7.3 Set national targets for the placement and promotion of the employment of persons with disabilities in the public and private sectors and formulate a government policy to promote the achievement of these targets (such as through a mandatory quota scheme, employer incentives, focused awareness-raising campaigns targeted at employers and employees, and technical support to employers).
7.4 By 1996	7.4 Establish a collaborative body, including representatives of the public and private sectors, disabled people's organizations (DPOs) and other NGOs, to compile, on an on-going basis, information on new employment and self-employment opportunities in the formal and informal sectors, as well as provide training in skills relevant to these opportunities and discontinue training in skills that are obsolete.
7.5 By 1997	7.5 Establish and fulfil annual training and job placement targets that are gender-equitable for people with disabilities, for joint action by all ministries (for example those responsible for employment, human resources development, rural development), government development programmes, as well as employers' and workers' organizations and organizations of people with disabilities.
7.6 By 1998	7.6 Provide appropriate training and employment opportunities for people with extensive disabilities and those who require a supportive environment (through, for example, the establishment of production centres, the provision of support services and assistive devices for self-employment and supported employment, and, where necessary, arrangement of accommodation).
7.7 By 2000	7.7 Introduce measures to ensure the equitable participation of persons with disabilities in all rural and urban schemes for poverty alleviation, income-generation in the formal and informal sectors, and the promotion of self-employment.
7.8 By 2000	Amalgamated with 7.6
7.9 By 1997 Re-numbered from here onwards	7.8 Introduce and undertake effective implementation of a national scheme for entrepreneurial skills development (including identification of business opportunities, development of a business plan, management and book-keeping skills); support services to marketing and production; and access to interest-free or low-interest loans.

7.10 New	7.9 Identify disabled people to place them in jobs or to assist them in self-employment in rural and urban areas, through appropriate public and private agencies (including employment placement services) and NGOs.
7.11 New	7.10 Use funds to promote training and employment opportunities for people with disabilities (for example, through adaptation of the environment, provision of support services and assistive devices) to also benefit people with extensive disabilities.
7.13 New	7.11 Protect the rights of disabled workers in all laws, policies and collective agreements relating to employment (including provisions on recruitment, promotion, dismissal and retrenchment).
7.14 New	7.12 Identify and commission appropriate institutions to carry out research studies in the areas of ergonomics, workplace adaptations, safety devices and other topic relevant to the training and employment of disabled persons in the context of Asian and Pacific developing and least developed countries and areas, encourage innovations, and identify research topics in consultation with service providers, user groups and the collaborative body for the identification of new work opportunities, and other relevant agencies.
7.15 New	7.13 Establish a monitoring and evaluation mechanism, with the active participation of representatives of disabled persons, to ensure that legislation relating to training and employment is effectively enforced, policy is effectively implemented and the relevant Decade targets are achieved.
7.16 New	7.14 Establish an international clearing house to identify, gather and disseminate information on existing employment-related equipment and facilities for people with disabilities, as well as similar clearing houses at national, regional, state/provincial and district levels.

8. Prevention of causes of disability

Target and Year	Revised Target Year: 2002
8.1 By 1996	Transferred to and amalgamated with item 8.2.
8.2 By 1997 Re-numbered from here onwards	8.1 Initiate public education campaigns, including gender sensitive demographic data, associated with and directed at the prevention of the five most prevalent preventable causes of disability along with smoking, consumption of alcohol and other addictive substances. Such campaigns, while targeting problems, should uphold the dignity of persons with disabilities.
8.3 By 2000	8.2 Eliminate iodine deficiency, Vitamin A deficiency, poliomyelitis and leprosy as major public health problems.

8.4 By 2002	8.3 Achieve a substantial reduction in the incidence of three other preventable causes of disability, without neglecting good disability prevention efforts that may already be under way.
8.5 By 1997	8.4 Formally join the international campaign to ban the production, use and sale of anti-personnel and land mines, which has led to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction.
8.6 Immediate action	8.5 Mount an immediate campaign to prohibit the manufacture and sale of laser weapons whose sole purpose is to cause total blindness.
8.7 Immediate action	8.6 Initiate, develop and implement legislation for road safety and the safe design and use of the built environment and equipment, as well as the compulsory use of personal, protective and employer-provided equipment for workers whose wages do not cover the provision of such equipment.
8.8 New	8.7 Develop mechanisms for the very early detection of new-born babies who are at risk of developing disabilities.
8.9 New	8.8 Promote, through the government and NGO sectors, early intervention services related to childhood disabilities.
8.10 New	8.9 Provide training for existing grassroots workers in early detection and early intervention of childhood disabilities.
8.11 New	9.0 Initiate special measures for prevention, early detection and intervention services for persons with psycho-social problems.
8.12 New	9.1 Initiate services for the early detection and management of age-related disabilities and promote activities to improve the quality of life of older persons with disabilities.

9. Rehabilitation services

Target and Year	Revised Target Year: 2002
9.1	Amalgamated with item 9.4 to read as: 9.1 Increase substantially the involvement of people with disabilities and their families in the entire process of action to address disability-related issues and services.
9.2 By 1996	Deleted.
9.3 By 1997	9.2 Develop and adopt a comprehensive national strategy to address prevention, rehabilitation and measures for the improvement of the quality of life for persons with disabilities, including community-based rehabilitation as a preferred approach.
9.4 By 1997	Amalgamated with 9.1.

9.5 By 2000	9.3 Integrated disability issues, including those which specifically concern women and girls with disabilities, into mainstream programmes, especially those for poverty alleviation, health, housing, transport, human resources development, labour, education, communications, culture, tourism, political activities, and disaster management programmes.
9.6 By 1997	9.4 Strengthen the coordination of all government and NGO efforts to support CBR programmes.
9.7 By 2000	9.5 Include prevention and rehabilitation issues in the training curricula for personnel in the health, education and social development sectors, and initiate the integration of disability-related issues in the training of other professionals concerned with the improvement of the quality of life of persons with disabilities.
9.8 By 2000	9.6 Include rehabilitation services in all primary health care programmes and projects, as underlined in the Alma Ata Declaration of Primary Health Care, 1978, to support CBR programmes.
9.9 New	9.7 Facilitate and support the inter-country sharing of specialized personnel, materials and good practices between governments and NGOs.
9.10 New	9.8 Initiate and promote action research and innovative approaches on disability and rehabilitation.
9.11 New	9.9 Promote social security measures for persons with disabilities living in poverty as identified through appropriate means.

10. Assistive devices

Target and Year	Revised Target Year: 2002
10.1 By 1998	10.1 Take immediate action to set up sustainable systems and procedures, including subsidy schemes, to ensure the production and distribution of assistive devices, as well as repair and maintenance services, with due attention to addressing the needs of all, especially the needs of the most marginalized groups of disabled persons.
10.2 By 1998	10.2 Work with the department responsible for customs duties to introduce exemption of customs and other duties on the import of assistive devices, as well as components, materials and equipment for their production, repair and maintenance, especially items from within the ESCAP region.
10.3 By 1998	10.3 Take immediate action to simplify customs clearance procedures to facilitate the import and export of assistive devices, as well as components, materials and equipment for their production, repair and maintenance, especially those items from within the ESCAP region.

10.4 New	10.4 Encourage research, innovation and improvements concerning indigenous assistive devices, especially those using local resources, by associating leading institutions in such activities, allocating funding, personnel and facilities for this purpose, and promoting inter-country exchange of information on related issues.
10.4 By 1998	Deleted as it is included in 10.1.
10.5 New	10.5 Encourage immediately the development of appropriate and sustainable local technology for providing quality standard assistive devices for people with disabilities.
10.6 Corresponds to 10.5 Immediate action	10.6 Take immediate action to introduce schemes to actively encourage NGOs and private entrepreneurs, through tax incentives and subsidies, to pursue research on, as well as the indigenous production, distribution and maintenance of, assistive devices.
10.7 New	10.7 Promote the training of personnel on indigenous technology for assistive devices to improve services at subnational levels where the need is greatest.

11. Self-help organizations

Target and Year	Revised Target Year: 2002
11.1 By 1997	11.1 Establish and strengthen a national forum of self-help organizations of persons with disabilities to include groups and organizations from rural areas, as well as of particularly marginalized disabled persons such as women and girls with disabilities, persons with psycho-social disabilities, users of psychiatric services, persons with intellectual disabilities, persons who are HIV-positive and leprosy-affected persons.
11.2 By 1997	11.2 Develop self-help organizations of diverse disability groups, which focus on addressing the needs of rural people with disabilities in the provision of mutual support, advocacy and referrals to programmes and services, and which collaborate actively with rural and urban development NGOs.
11.3 By 1997	11.3 Establish mechanisms under the direction of the national coordination committee on disability, aimed, <i>inter alia</i> , at increasing consultations between self-help organizations of persons with disabilities and diverse government ministries, as well as civil society and the private sector, to strengthen the implementation of the Agenda for Action for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons.

11.4 By 1997	11.4 Establish a national policy with the requisite resource allocations to support the development and formation of self-help organizations of persons with disabilities in all areas, and with a specific focus on slum and rural areas.
11.5 By 1998	11.5 Develop programmes for capacity building to empower all persons with disabilities, including youth and women with disabilities, as trainers in the leadership and management of self-help organizations, with the skills and confidence to work in the community.
11.6 New	11.6 Introduce the concept of independent living to all concerned with disability matters and promote the achievement of independent living in the community by implementing measures to respect the self-determination and control by people with disabilities over their own lives.

12. Regional cooperation

Target and Year	Revised Target Year: 2002
12.1 New	Small countries, including those that have recently joined as signatories to the Proclamation on the Full Participation and Equality of Persons with Disabilities in the Asian and Pacific Region, will approach the United Nations Development Programme and other concerned members of the United Nations system to mobilize the requisite funding and technical support to strengthen their capacity for developing and implementing policies that will lead to increased public awareness of disability issues and achievement of access by persons with disabilities to prioritized areas of development identified by each country and area from the Decade targets listed above.