

6. 「第3次障害者の生活の質の向上開発計画」(2007～2011年)

**PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE
DISABLED NO 3**

2007 - 2011

**THE COMMISSION FOR REHABILITATION OF THE CAPABILITY OF
THE DISABLED**

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN SECURITY

FOREWORD

The Plan for the Development of the Quality of Life of the Disabled No 3 2007-2011 is a strategic plan formulated for use as a framework and guideline for operation to develop the quality of life of the disabled during the National Socio-Economic Development Plan No. 10 (2007-2011); with the ultimate aim of providing protection to the rights of the disabled and their quality of life to optimal potential; and in order to bring them into the main stream of society and on equal basis under the environment free of obstacles; being the path to respect the value, right, equality and prestige of being human.

In formulating the National Plan for the Development of the Quality of the Disabled No 3 : 2007-2011, every sector concerned shall play a role in effectively drafting the Plan and jointly reviewing the circumstances, the trends of the disabled, a system for the development of life of the disabled; the concept and policy including the domestic and international context shall be taken into account as well as the assessment of the internal and external environment; the evaluation of the strategic potential of the internal and external environment to be processed into a concept framework, vision, objective target, strategy, guidelines and measure and implementation of the plan. Furthermore, a forum is arranged for brainstorming the ideas in relation to the draft plan as to improve the plan to be perfect as much as possible.

The Plan for Development of the Quality of Life of the disabled No 3 2007-2011 was approved by the Committee for Rehabilitation of the Disabled on 14 September 2006 and the Cabinet approved in principle the Plan on 24 APRIL 2007. The approved Plan besides being the driving force for both Government and Private sectors to formulate the Plan for implementation of the disabled affairs effectively and efficiently, it also provides guidelines for monitoring the evaluation of the implementation of the work plan effectually in order to realize the defined vision to ensure that the disabled persons are well protected in terms of their rights and the betterment of their quality of life.

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Introduction

The preparation of the Plan for the Development of the Quality of Life of the Disabled is the performance of work under the Rehabilitation of the Capability of the Disabled Act B.E. 2534 (2001), which provides the establishment of the Commission for Rehabilitation of the Capability of the Disabled which shall have the duty to make recommendations of the operational policies and the administrative plan in relation to the assistance, development and rehabilitation of the disabled to the Minister and for further proposal to the Cabinet for consideration and approval and for further implementation by the Government organizations concerned. Based on the said mandate, the first Plan came into being, namely, "THE NATIONAL REHABILITATION OF THE DISABLED PLAN 1997-2001." This is the point of the beginning in formulating a national level rehabilitation of the disabled plan. The plan was formulated in consistent with the National Socio-Economic Development Plan No 8 which prescribes the disabled people as being the target group worthy of being fully developed to their optimal potential as to give them the level of capability to adjust themselves to live together in the society with value; and with happiness. The emphasis is placed on the rehabilitation of the disabled persons in relation to medical, education, vocational and employment and social aspects.

In preparation of the 2nd Plan, that is, "The National Development of the Quality of Life of the Disabled People 2001-2006; covering the dimension of the quality of life the disabled by restoring the basic principles, concept and the operation in relation to the disabled. Based on the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand on the Declaration of the Rights of the Thai Disabled 1998, the education, health reforms including obligations and international agreement have been readjusted to agree with the Thai contexts, by emphasizing the participation from every sector of the society as to enhance the progress, rights, justice and equality for the disabled in every aspect of the process.

As for the National Development of the Quality of Life of the Disabled No 3 B.E. 2550-2554, it is a strategic plan which emphasizes the process in which every sector of the society will be playing effective role in the formulation of the plan taking into account the circumstances and trends of the disabled and the progress of the implementation of the National Development of the Quality of Life of the Disabled 2002-2006 including the internal and external assessment of the operation of the aspects of the disabled which is restoring the concept framework and the director of the plan formulation to be in consistent with the National Socio-Economic Development Plan No 10 2550-2554; including international obligations. This National Development of the Quality of the Life of the Disabled emphasizes introduction of a national coordination mechanism; the strengthening of the disabled organizations and network to ensure their participation and roles in the development of the quality of life of the disabled with favorable environment in terms of physical aspect and access to the data, information including the formulation of the plan, the projects for preliminary implementation as operational guidelines; which leads to actual implementation and monitoring and evaluation of the plan more clearly.

PART 1

THE OPERATION OF THE DISABLED

1. SITUATION AND TRENDS OF THE DISABLED

Based on the survey conducted by the National Statistical Office on the disabled people in Thailand, it was found that the trends are on the rise. In 1974, there were 2000 disabled people or equivalent to 0.5 percent of the total population and ever since the disabled population has increase to 1.1 million persons or 1.7 percent in the year 2545. The percentage of the disabled population during B.E. 2517 – 2529 was rather constant; but would steadily increase during the years 2534- 2545 thanks to the difference of the objectives and the nature of the questions as are shown in the Table.

TABLE 1 Survey conducted on the disabled people in Thailand

Year of Survey	Population (thousand person)	The Disabled Persons (thousand)	Percentage per population
1974	39,796.9	209.0	0.5
1976	42,066.9	245.0	0.6
1977	44,211.5	296.2	0.7
1978	45,344.2	324.6	0.7
1981	47,621.4	367.5	0.8
1986	51,960.0	385.6	0.7
1991	57,046.5	1,057.0	1.8
1996	59,902.8	1,024.1	1.7
2001	62,871.0	1,100.8	1.8
2002	63,303.0	1,098.0	1.7

Sources: 1. Survey conducted in relation to hygiene and welfare B.E. 2517-2544, National Statistical Office.

2. Survey conducted on handicap and incapacity in B.E.2545 by the National Statistical Office.

In the conduct of a survey on the population with handicap and incapacity or people with sustained health problems or suffering from injuries for the year 2545 by the National Statistical Office from 6 months upwards from a total of 49,997 sampling households nationwide; the findings are from the total population or 63,303,000 population, about 1,098,000 were the disabled or equivalent to 1.7 percent.

Under the Rehabilitation of the Capability of the Disabled Act 2534, it provides for the disabled wishing to receive the rights under the law must register as the disabled person. They must be the disabled person pursuant to the category and characteristics of the disability pursuant to the Rehabilitation of the Capability of the Disabled Act 2534. Based on the survey data of the National Statistical Office of 2545, it was expected these people would be the disabled under the law as 78% or approximately 858,000 people; while the statistics of the applications for registration

of the Office of Promotion and Protection of the Disabled Persons as of the 28th February 2006, there was a total of 540,366 people or equivalent to 62.98 percent.

The significant issues obtained from the survey conducted on the handicap and disability in 2002 by the National Statistical Office and from the database of the registered disabled of the Office of the Promotion and Protection of the Disabled People as at 28 February 2006 appear as follows:

Sources of Survey Issues	National Statistical Office	The Disabled Promotion and Protection Office
Density	Most of the disabled are in the Northeastern and the Northern Regions. For the Central and Southern Region, the population of the disabled is close to that of Bangkok Metropolis having the least number of the disabled.	The most number of disabled in the Northeast is 37.78 percent second only by the Central, the Northern and the Southern regions. For Bangkok Metropolis, there is the least number of the disabled.
Education	The majority of the disabled or 93.4 percent received the primary education or lower including not educated at all. The disabled who received higher education is proportionally negligible or 5.6 percent at secondary education level and 1.0 percent at college education.	About 39.23 percent of the disabled attained the primary education level; 34.34 was not educated at all, only 13.46 percent received pre-primary education; and the least 0.68 percent received college education.
Occupation	The disabled aged 15 years old upwards at 71.5 percent were unemployed. Out of 47.5 percent of the employed disabled, 29.0 percent are engaged in private business, assisting the household business; and 19.4 percent are employee of private business.	The 49.95 percent disabled aged between 15-59 years old are unemployed. Of the number of the disabled who are engaged, most of them are engaged in independent pursuit or 60.07 percent; second only to being employees, which is 34.46 percent.
Income	Most of the disabled earns low income, i.e., 69.9 percent earns less than 3,000 Baht per month. 18.1 percent earns between 3,001 -5,000 Baht and 11.9 percent earns monthly income of more than 5,001 Baht.	The disabled person who earns low income, about 69.17 percent earns more or less than 3,000 Baht per month.

Sources of Survey Issues	National Statistical Office	The Disabled Promotion and Protection Office
Characteristics of the Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Order 1: About 34.78 percent of the disabled are suffering from severed arm, leg, hand, finger, toe; shriveled unstretchable arm, leg; web-foot, tilted foot, inverted foot; crooked or twisted arm, leg, hand, trunk, taut up, bent; spasm, convulsion, shaking, paralysis, partial paralysis • Order 2: About 24.88 percent of the disabled are blinded on both eyes; the eye-sight blurs on both sides • Order 3: About 20.01 percent of the disabled are suffering from deafness on both ears; hard of hearing on both ears. Difficulty in communicating through speech and hearing; dumb; speaking abnormally • Order 4: About 12.62 * percent of the disabled are suffering from from blindness on one eye; with the eye-sight blurs on one eye. • Order 5: About 7.64 percent are suffering from cerebral disorder, mental retardation in aspect of learning. • Order 6: About 4.96 percent of the disabled are suffering from mental illness, nervous disorder, autistic. • Order 7: About 4.84* percent of the disabled are suffering from deafness on one side; hard of hearing on one side. • Order 8: About 3.74* percent are suffering from other abnormality such as hare-lip, cleft palate, abnormally large head, etc. <p>(Remarks: 1. Not classified as being the legal disabled person. 2. May answer more than 1 characterisic)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * About 48.42 percent are suffering from hysical disability or physical movement disability. * About 13.83 percent are suffering from hearing disability or communication. *About 13.21 percent are suffering from cerebral or learning disability *About 10.45 percent are suffering from sight disability * About 9.75 percent are suffering from multiple disability (more than 1 category) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 3.40 percent are suffering from mental disorder or abnormal behavior • About 0.94 are suffering from unspecified disability.
In need of assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 61.5 percent of the disabled is needing medical treatment, surgery and physical therapy. • About 31.6 percent of the disabled are in need of loans for start their occupation. • About 15.9 percent of the disabled are in need of the artificial organs or paraphernalia for the disabled. • 12.0 percent are in need of vocational training for the disabled. • About 11.7 percent of the disabled are in need of persons who can care for them occasionally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *About 44.70 percent are in need of hospitalization, disability paraphernalia, physical therapy, therapeutic activities, hearing practice, rectification of speech, clinical psychology * About 33.25 percent are in need of welfare money for family and living allowance * About 10.81 percent are in need of employment such as vocational training, referral to the new job, occupational loans. * About 4.95 percent are in need of various information in relation to rehabilitation of the disabled. About 4.26 percent are in need of education such as provision of the place for study, expense for education, educational media. * About 2.04 percent of others such as they are in need of counsellint, provision of persons to care for the disabled, translator for sign language.

When statistical comparison is made based on the survey conducted by the National Statistical Office in 2002 with the data on the registered disabled of the Office for Promotion and Protection of the Disabled, it was found that there are many issues that are consistent. That is to say, the data on the density of the population of the disabled that they are mostly live in the Northeastern Region; that most of the disabled are suffering from physical or movement disability and are in the majority of the category that they are registered as the disabled; that about 90 percent of the disabled received primary level education or lower. And that approximately a half of the disabled who are in the labor age are unemployed, this may very much thanks to their disability; lack of vocational skills; lack of educational qualification as required by the place of business; the problems of environmental condition not favorable to working condition. As regards those who are employed, more than a half of them earn less than three thousand Baht per month. Of this number, more than half of them are engaged in an independent occupation. As regards the assistance these disabled people want from the Government are in the main the medical treatment and the medical rehabilitation and employment.

2. Implementation of the National Plan for the Development of the Quality of Life of the Disabled 2002-2006

The operation in relation to the disabled people according to the National Plan for the Development of the Quality of Life of the Disabled 2002-2006, which was formulated to be in consistent with the National Socio-economic Development Plan No. 9 2002-2006 in which it provides for the strategy for the development of the disabled to ensure the disabled have the potentials to rely on themselves; have the better quality of life and can lead the life in the main stream of society with happiness and creativeness; with participation in the development of the country. The said operational results can be summarized as follows:

STRATEGY 1: PROMOTION OF THE AWARENESS AND ENHANCEMENT OF CREATIVE ATTITUDES

The emphasis is placed on the guideline to provide education to the disabled so that they will be aware of the value and the prestige of themselves; that they will be ready to develop themselves with the support of the family and the society give them the opportunity to be equal to the people generally through the production of creative media and publicizing of the information and data. Both the governmental and private organizations are organizing said projects, activities for them as to promote the knowledge about the disabled; to make presentation in relation to rights, duty and potentials of the disabled of various categories on yearly basis; the exhibition on the wonders of education of the disabled people; the organizing of the national and international sports for the disabled; an exhibition of products and goods made or produced by the disabled, publicity through the media of printed materials, electronic media such as via website, radio, television, etc.; to be able to respond to the needs strategically. This is one of the parts that enable the disabled and their family to readjust their attitude towards disability and the disabled from feeling of pity to society of virtues of the dimension based on their rights which helps them towards awareness and creation of a positive attitude towards disability at one level. Yet there is a weak which has remained to be restored, which is characterized by separate and unrelated activity including the frequency of presentation.

STRATEGY 2: THE ASPECTS OF RIGHT AND DUTY

The government and private organizations dealing with the disabled persons have provided knowledge about their rights and duty to them, their family, society, place of business including personnel from both government and private organizations who are performing the work concerning the disabled through organizing training, making of indicators in relation to the complaints of the disabled and there is an acceleration to improve on, amend the legislation, regulations, rules which pose obstacles to or restrict the rights of the disabled including the development of the legislations, rules, regulations to enable the disabled to increasingly have access to their rights. For instance, the Ministry of Education has issued the Ministerial Regulations of 2002 prescribing the criteria and methods to enable and facilitate the disabled to receive facilities, convenience in relation to the media, services and other assistance; and the Ministerial Regulations prescribing the criteria and method of allocating the budget for education for the disabled. This is to provide education to the disabled together with facilities and amenities corresponding to their needs individually; and this is to enable the disabled child to learn well more effectively. The Ministry of Education in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development and Human Society have amended the regulations governing the registration of the disabled as to enable the manifest disability to be able to apply for registration without certification documents from the physician. Moreover, the Ministry of Interior has also issued the Ministerial Regulations of 2005 prescribing the facilities and amenities inside the buildings for the disabled or the crippled and the elderly. This Ministerial Regulations were issued under the Building Control Act 1979. Furthermore, the regulations which were in the course of being formulated is the draft of the Promotion and the Development of the Quality of Life of the Disabled Act B.E. 2522. The Act if enacted is to ensure that the disabled will be protected, their potentials promoted and developed including the rights under the Constitution on equal basis; discrimination will be eliminated based on the principle of human right to be of more benefits to the disabled than that provided by the preceding legislation: the Rehabilitation of the Capability of the Disabled B.E. 2534. *The amendment to the related legislation governing the employment of the disabled* provides for places of business to have the duty to accept the disabled to employment instead of referral of the disabled to work in the government sector, which were frequently rejected by virtue of the qualification of the disabled did not agree with the requirements of the place of the business. The preparation of the plan for formulation of the drafting of a *legislation eliminating discrimination against the disabled* is in the making. The legislation if enacted would ease the operation of services provided to the disabled of all categories, levels as well as the registration of the disabled to enable them to access their rights under the law. The Ministry of Education is drafting the *Special Education Act B.E.* to provide special education to the disabled of every category, every age range in multi-format and a diversity of education systems. This is to develop them into the initial care and assistance system when the disabled had first experienced their disability continually throughout their life.

STRATEGY 3: THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE POTENTIALS OF THE DISABLED

This is to emphasize the health condition of the disabled in terms of physical, spiritual, social aspects; the promotion of the development of the disabled; eliminating illiteracy together with the development of the provision of education to the disabled on continual basis; giving support to the vocational training and the employment of the disabled besides independent occupation. The employment in the private and governmental organizations and the State enterprises as well as the arrangement of the welfare system for the disabled shall be provided.

The Governmental organizations, the State enterprises, the disabled organizations and private sector have develop normal mission to be consistent with the strategic guidelines by implementing the projects, activities, i.e., rehabilitation of the capability of the disabled by the community, the living allowance; the care of the disabled in the disabled welfare institution; preparation and the sending of disabled athletes to compete in various games; support to the operation of the development of the quality of life of the disabled at provincial level; the provision of disabled welfare service, i.e., vocational training provided to the disabled in the governmental organization and private sector; the occupational promotion for the disabled in the community; support given to independent occupation of the disabled by way of granting loan from the Fund for Rehabilitation of the Capability of the Disabled; the promotion of the employment of the disabled in the places of business and support given to the education of the disabled in addition to the special education, joint learning, education according to temperament at all levels until the college level; for both governmental and; the acquisition of the physical equipment; the disabled auxiliary apparatus. Even though the said projects, activities are regular activities of each sector, but they provide the impetus to the development of the potentials of the disabled through the government supplement budget as to support the enhancement of the potential of the disabled.

STRATEGY 4: RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WORK

To promote the research and development of the quality of life of the disabled; the evaluation of the project and the operation in relation to the disabled; an emphasis will be placed on support given to a research and development of the body of knowledge and support of the dissemination of the findings of the research work; the creation of the monitoring system and the evaluation of the development of the quality of life of the disabled on continual basis. It was found that there had been organized the projects, activities, i.e., the project for the research and development of Thai program in Braille characters; the project for research and development of the test model and the standard criteria to test the physical capability of the disabled athletes; the project for production of artificial organs. These project were being implemented in various universities; the pilot project for the independent living of the disabled; the research work on the development of the employment service for the disabled; the project for integrated strategic research in relation to the development of the quality of life of the disabled comprising 3 subjects of the research work, namely, the disability watch and prevention of the disability, the amenities for the disabled and for everybody in the society; and suitable welfare for the severely disabled persons in Thailand. All these activities lead to the development of the body of knowledge about the development of the quality of the life of the disabled. But, however, there was still a weak point in relation to the integration of the bodies of knowledge, the relevant documents concerned with the disabled both domestically and abroad; even though, in certain organizations, importance is given to the availability of the Resource Center or the Online library.

STRATEGY 5: ACCESS TO INFORMATION, DATA, COMMUNICATIONS, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

IT IS the strategy that emphasizes the development of access to the data information, communications, technology and environmental services to the disabled of each category of the disability; the implementation of the project, activities in

relation to the provision of the amenities to the disabled; the issuing of the Ministerial Regulations of 2005 prescribing the amenities in the building for the disabled; the provision of training to the disabled so that they would have the knowledge in respect of access to the various communications; the training of the officers at various levels to have the knowledge about the sign language so that they can communicate with the deaf; the support given to the training of the sign language translators to various organizations, both in the central and provincial area and the promotion of the development of technology for the disabled. However, the education institutions which provide special education for the disabled children at all levels are still facing the shortage of the budget to engage the sign language translator and insufficient availability of teachers who have the standard sign language ability. This shortage affects the disabled children to in a way that they lose the opportunity to study. Moreover, there has been established the Center for Development and Training of the Disabled People of Asia and Pacific Region, which helps crystallize at one level the picture of the operation relevant to the disabled, which emphasizes the enhancement of consolidation of the empowerment of disabled and disabled organization in tandem with the promotion of the barrier-free-society.

STRATEGY 6: CONSOLIDATION OF THE DISABLED ORGANIZATIONS

This strategy aims at creating the image of strength of the disabled organization to participate in the development of the quality of life of the disabled; the private disabled organizations exclusively for the disabled in which particular types of disability are integrated and in which all categories of the disability are included. These organizations will have the systematic operational structure, namely, there are organizations in the central areas and their network located in the provincial levels. There are 7 core organizations in the Central Region (in Bangkok Metropolis), namely, THE INCLUSIVE CATEGORIES OF THE DISABLED COUNCIL OF THAILAND; The Association of the Blinds of Thailand; The Association of the Deaf Thailand; The Association of the Disabled of Thailand; The Association for the Mentally Handicapped of Thailand; The Association for the Mentally Retarded Persons of Thailand and The Association of the Parents of the (Thai) Autistic Persons. For the provincial area, there are groups of each category of the disabled in almost every province. Moreover, there are also the foundations exclusively for specific types of the disability which operates to develop the target groups. These foundations also receive support and promotion from the Government sector with a support budget of 30 Baht per year and this budget is on the increase every year continually. The budget support from the Government was to support the implementation of various projects. Furthermore, the said budget support does not prescribe the systematic guidelines. As such, the disabled organizations still have weak points in terms of knowledge about and skills of administration and management, development, human resources as well as the lack of linkage mechanism for the integrated operation of the disabled.

STRATEGY 7: PARTICIPATION BY THE DISABLED PERSONS, THEIR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

The operating guidelines according to this strategy comprise the promotion of the disabled and their family to have participated in the decision process both at the level of policy, work plan, project including the service impacts on the dissembled and promotion of community, the local administration organization, the disabled organizations, private business sector to serve as a mechanism for development of the quality of life of the disabled.

As regards the participation in the formulation of policy, the Rehabilitation of the Capability of the Disabled Act 2001 provides for various committees and sub-committees at various levels to have the representatives of the disabled to participate in the activities both regionally and provincially. For this purpose, various rehabilitation of the capability of the disabled committee must have not less than 2 representatives of the disabled organization to participate as a committee. Moreover, various sub-committees established to carry out any activity in relation to the disabled must have at least 1 disabled as a committee.

The participation of the disabled has covered nation-wide. In each province, there will be provincial sub-committee for the development of the quality of life of the disabled in which 4 disabled persons must participate as members of the committee. These committee and sub-committee is one of the important mechanisms that provides an impetus at the policy level for the development of the disabled.

Furthermore, the Prime Minister also has appointed a total of 12 advisors to the Prime Minister for Disabled Affairs who are also a disabled and specialized in the disability affairs. The disabled affairs advisors will have the duty to give direct advice to, offer opinion and make recommendations which are useful for the disabled affairs to the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister's advisors on disabled affairs shall have the power to ask for the data, information, comments from the government organizations, the States enterprises and other State organizations concerned in addition to inviting persons or organizations to make clarification regarding facts, to provide information to support the operation of the Advisors on Disabled Affairs.

As for the community level, there has been the consolidation of the Local Level Care and Capability Rehabilitation of the Disabled System by emphasizing participation by families and community in the rehabilitation and development of the disabled persons in their own community by utilizing local resources available. There are also some volunteers who will coordinate the work of providing services and motivating the families to play some roles in the rehabilitation of the capability of the disabled on various aspects. Works have been carried out in 25 provinces with 410 social development volunteers to assist the disabled in 33 districts. A total of 101,729 disabled persons and their families were assisted in relation of rehabilitation. This operation will cover every province in 2008.

This strategy is related to the Strategy 6 for effective participation by the disabled. The disabled organizations must receive support as to consolidate their organization into a network to push for the development of the quality of life of the disabled; for the participation by the disabled, their family and community.

STRATEGY 8: INTEGRATED ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

The operation emphasizes the administrative and management support for the development of the disabled with the objective to establish a national disability coordinating committee to an organization legally recognized by the law in order for it to serve as mechanism of the potentials of the disabled persons from the international level to the local level together with monitoring and auditing to ensure efficient implementation.

The said target may not be yet realized during this Plan, the establishment of the National Disabled Coordinating Committee is still in the course of formulating. It is expected that there will be established the said Committee after enactment of the Promotion and Development of the Quality of Life of the Disabled Act 20__.

However, the attempt was made to administer and manage affairs in an integrated style, particularly, as to provide service to the disabled by setting up in 2003 the One-Stop Service for the Disabled Center under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. The Center has the duty to provide information service to both the disabled and the people generally; the provision of services in the affairs of the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security such as service for registration of the disabled, lending for occupation, employment to the disabled as well as coordination and referral service to the organization concerned to ensure that disabled receives maximum service.

The operation of the One-Stop Service for the Disabled Center was expanded to 5 other pilot provinces. AS regards education, the Special Education Center was set up in 63 provinces in the budget year 2002. The center serves an education coordination center and the initial service began with the disabled children for whom access to the State education service was not yet possible as it was limited that the Provincial Center still tentatively relies on the location and facilities of other Governmental organizations as a place of providing service to the disabled children. There was no budget drawn up for the cost of the building of the center and there would be about 6 personnel per each center who would all be employed as temporary employees. This limitation would pose an obstacle to the provision of service in the development of the capability of the disabled children.

SUMMARY OF THE OPERATION

Based on the operation pursuant to the National Development of the Quality of Life of the Disabled Plan 2002-2006, the attitude of the disabled, their family and society had been increasingly readjusted creatively in the dimension on the basis of the rights. There had been drafted, preparation for drafting and amendment to several legislations to promote and protect the rights of the disabled. Moreover, there was strong organizational structure; the leadership had played a key role in policy at provincial, national and international levels; the disabled were aware of self-development including the expansion of service in the Government sector and there was innovation to increasingly rehabilitate and develop the disabled. But the said plan was absent of an indicator and core responsible organizations for the guidelines, measures for each strategy. This had rendered the parties concerned not to be clear about implementing the plan. The operation of the disabled affairs of the governmental and private sector concerned with the disabled is therefore more of the ordinary mission than the mission to serve as an impetus to move ahead the strategy. It therefore follows that it is impossible to assess the complete success of the Plan.

3 CONCEPT AND POLICY

During the past period, the operation in relation to the disabled affairs is moving in the direction of being increasingly creative. That is to say, it is more on the basis of right-orientated than assistance in the light of pity guidelines. The change in the said viewpoint process has resulted from national and universal trends.

3.1 The universal trend is lacking in the human rights concept in accordance with the Universal Charter on Human Rights. It is the Charter that accords the confidence in the basic Human Rights; that attaches importance to the prestige and honor of an individual and equal rights for man and woman coupled with the obligations among the countries in the capacity as the party country of the international level organization, that is, the United Nations and the regional level organizations, namely, the ESCAP, which the said international organization defines the policy, work plan in relation to the disabled as follows:

3.1.1 The United Nations has defined the World Operation Plan on the Disabled, the standard rules on the equality of opportunity to the disabled to be the guidelines for member countries to apply in the development of the disabled through promotion and support to introduce the preventative measures against the disability; the provision of medical treatment, rehabilitation of the disabled and emphasis the opportunity for the disabled to have full participation in the society.

3.1.2 The ESCAP has announced the Decade of the Disabled of Asia and Pacific continually for 2 decades to ensure that the development of the quality of life of the disabled can concretely continue and be progressive. Presently it is in the period of the 2nd Decade: 2003 -2012, during which it clearly defines the framework for the operation concerning the disabled, namely: "The Operational Framework of the Millennium from Biva Lake to the Integrated Obstacle-free Society and Based on the Foundation of Rights for the Disabled in Asia and Pacific Region". This serves as the guideline for the development of the disabled in the region on the basis of the rights for the disabled, the disabled women, the provision of education to the disabled, the employment of the disabled, the access to the created environment

. There has been the ranking of the matters to be carried out and the public transportation; the access to the data, information and communications as well as information technology and communication including the technology amenities and mitigation of poverty.

3.2 National level: the concept and policy framework which defines the operation on the basis of the rights for the disabled have resulted from the development of the concept and the operation under the provisions of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand 1997 which defines the basic rights, the protection of the rights of the disabled and the assistance received from the State on equal basis to people generally. In addition, the disabled are in the trends of the National Economic and Social Development Plan No 10 2007-2011, of which "human being" is adhered as the center of the development, which has the objective for Thailand to achieve sustainable, balanced development economically, socially and environmentally. The three core strategies are proposed as a guideline for the development of the country. In relation to the disabled, they are mentioned in the strategy for the development of the quality of the human being and Thai society to become the society of intellectual and learning.

In addition, the disabled are also promoted to have more opportunity and the rights to receive assistance in terms of development and rehabilitation medically, educationally and socially. Based on the legislation directly relevant to the disabled, that is: THE REHABILITATION OF THE DISABLED ACT 1991 and the Ministerial Regulations concerned including the right to receiving education pursuant to the National Education Act B.E. 2542, which was amended for the second time in 2002. This Act provides for education for person who is disabled physically, mentally, intellectually, emotionally, socially as well as disabled in communication and learning; who is crippled physically or persons who are unable to care for themselves or rely on themselves alone; or persons who do not any persons who take care of them or who have become disadvantaged. The arrangement must be made for these persons to have access to the right and opportunity to receive basic education on special case basis. This opportunity to education should be made available to them at birth or at the first detection of their disability. The education they are to receive should be free of charge and the said persons shall be also entitled to amenities, services and any other assistance in education according to the criteria and methods as prescribed in the Ministerial Regulations.

The concept and policy internationally and nationally may also play a participating role in prescribing the operational mechanism for the disabled both governmental and private sectors as well as the disabled organizations on continual basis. There should be the organizational structure for the disabled both internally, nationally, and provincially. The disabled leadership should be able to play a operational role in collaboration with the government sector. However, the integrated working of the aid party network has not yet been united due to the lack of effective mechanism for coordination for the disabled nationally to have the duty to define, supervise the policy, work plan and the budget for the disabled integrally. Moreover, the disabled organization and network have not yet been consolidated adequately in addition to the belief, negative attitude to the disability and the disabled coupled with the unfavorable environment. These factors are viewed as material obstacle to the development of the quality of life of the disabled.

4. EVALUATION OF STRATEGIC POTENTIALS

The party government and private sector which are involved in the disabled affairs as well as those who are interested have jointly collaborated in assessing the strategic potentials in relation to the environment both internally and externally of the disabled-related operation as to ascertain the strong point, the weak point, the opportunity and limitations which may affect the development of the quality of life of the disabled as follows:

4.1 STRENGTHS

- 1) The organizational structure for the disabled at national level is rather strong; it is recognized by other governmental and private sectors;
- 2) The leadership of the disabled has played a role in policy both at provincial, national and internal.
- 3) The disabled has embarked upon movement for self-development;
- 4) The governmental sector service has been expanded with a view to rehabilitate and develop the disabled;

4.2 WEAKNESSES

- 1) The National Plan for the Development of the Quality of Life of the Disabled 2003-2006 is lacking in the indicator and core persons to be responsible for each strategy; the party government and private sector concerned are not following the prescribed plan;
- 2) The lack of coordinating mechanism for the disabled at national level for coordination and audit of the operation related to the disabled;
- 3) The operation related to the disabled was unable to bring the disabled people into the main stream of society and create the awareness in the disabled organizations to understand their roles;
- 4) The government organizations are lacking in the administrative and management mechanism for the development of the quality of life of the disabled in every aspect;
- 5) Information technology, amenities, ergonomic equipment and auxiliary apparatus are undeveloped; the acquisition, repair and maintenance and the distribution to meet the needs of the disabled have not been achieved;

- 6) There have been inadequate number of personnel for the disabled affairs and their capability has not been developed;
- 7) The disabled organizations are lacking in working integrally in aspect of the disabled collaboratively;
- 8) The disabled are poor people and they are lacking the opportunity for education;
- 9) The disabled are lacking in equality in access to information technology advancement for the disabled.

4.3 OPPORTUNITIES

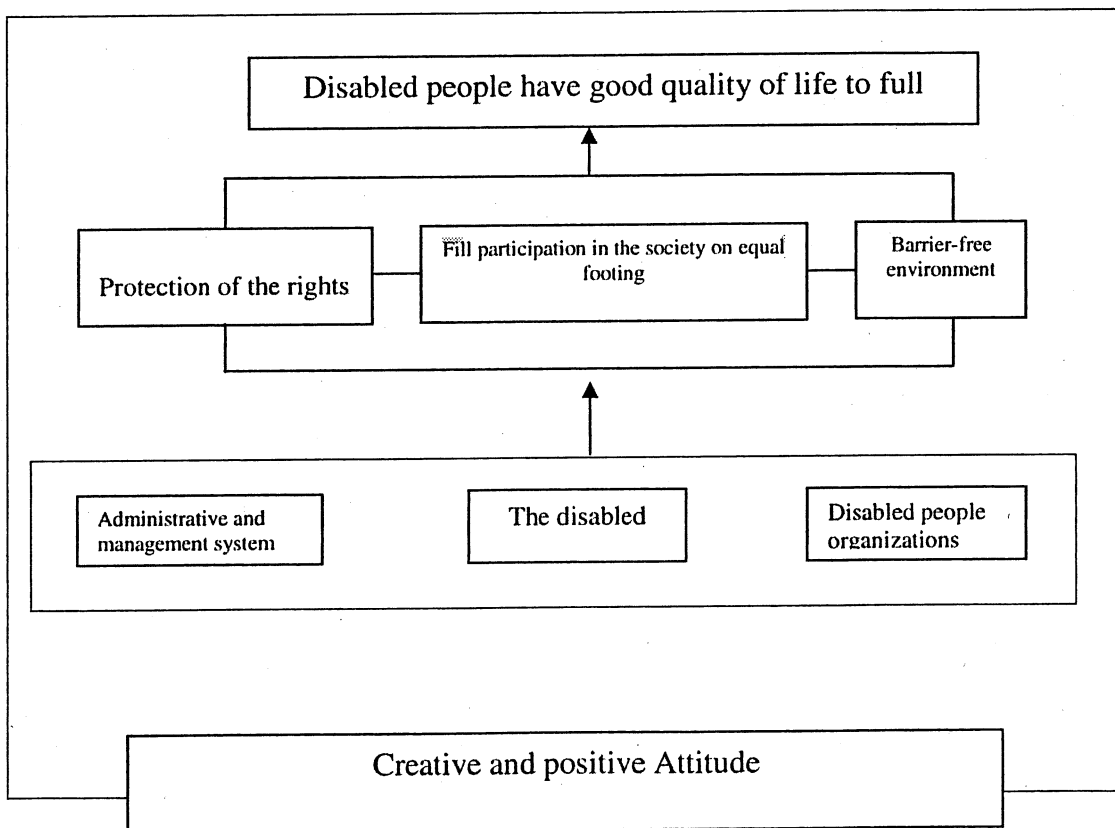
- 1) The Constitution, legislation, policy of the Government has laid down the foundation for the development of the disabled in every aspect;
- 2) The trends of bureaucratic reform have resulted in the development of the disabled to move towards betterment.
- 3) The State has the plan, policy, budget to give support to the disabled and disabled organizations;
- 4) The trends of globalization and the advancement in information technology have provided the opportunities for the disabled to have increasing access to better information technology;
- 5) The geographical location makes Thailand most suitable for being the center for international organization such as the ESCAP, ILO and the FAO and the APCD;
- 6) There are organizations whose operations are related to the disabled both domestically and internationally;
- 7) The State opens the opportunity to the disabled organizations to play an increasing role in the disabled.
- 8) The State provides education to the disabled in multi-form and in every level.

4.4 THREATS

- 1) The economic conditions of the country have impact on the development of the disabled;
- 2) Political instability has disrupted the continuity of the policy for the disabled;
- 3) The existence of negative belief, attitude of society towards the disabled and disability;
- 4) The governing legislation is discriminating against the disabled persons;
- 5) Thai society is lacking the encouragement in terms of virtues, ethics and good morals;
- 6) The amenities provided by the State to the disabled persons are inadequate; it is lacking in the promotional nature and organizing the environment that is favorable to the disabled;
- 7) The budget allocation is not in consistent with the present circumstances; thus depriving the disabled of the expected funding they are to receive;
- 8) The State is lacking an organization in restoration of the budget related to the development of the disabled.
- 9) Local organizations are lacking in knowledge, understanding about the disabled.

5 .THE CONCEPT FRAMEWORK

Based on the assessment of the strategic requirements by analysis of the circumstances and the trends of the disabled people; the review of the results of operation according to the National Plan for Development of the Quality of Life of the Disabled People 2002-2006; the review of the concepts and policy including the assessment of strategic potentials based both internal and external circumstances of the past operation in relation to the disabled people, it can be summarized into the Concept Framework on the National Development of the Quality of Life of the Disabled of 2007 – 2011 in order to attain the top target, namely, the disabled people have good quality of life to full potentation. There are 3 interrelated essential components, namely, the protection of the rights of the disabled; full participation in the society on equal footing and the barrier-free environment. This can be attained through the reform of administrative and management system in the development of the quality of life of the disabled in the context in which the disabled, their family, community, society has adjusted its view from the ism of pity to compassion to ensure that the disabled will receive assistance to move toward the dimension on the basis of the rights of the disabled people.



PART 2

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE QUALITY THE DISABLED 2007-2011

The Plan for the Development of the Disabled No 3: 2007-2011, was formulated to serve as a framework, direction of the operation for the disabled so that the party government and private organizations concerned with the disabled can use it as a guideline for administration and management according to the defined mission of the organization to be in agreement with the strategy and obligation to move towards the vision of the defined plan as follows:

THE VISION

The disabled people can receive the protection, enjoy the better life to full potential; can participate in society optimally and equally under the obstacle-free environment.

OBLIGATIONS

- 1 To reform the administrative, management system for the development of quality of life of the disabled to full potential to enable them to lead independent life;
2. To promote recognition of the disabled, the disabled organization by society and participation by the disabled and disabled organizations in the society fully and equally;
3. To promote the obstacle-free environment for the disabled people to participate in the society.

OBJECTIVES

1. To make available an effective administrative and management system for the development of the quality of life of the disabled; so that the administrative and management system can define and supervise the policy, work plan, the budget for the disabled in perfect fashion;
2. To enable the disabled to have access to the right and opportunity for self-development in every dimension of the society; can choose suitable format of the service according to the needs of each individual and can lead and maintain independent life;
3. To solidify the disabled organization and disabled network in sustainable fashion as to promote the potentials; protect and maintain the rights of the disabled;
4. To bring about recognition by the society and provide opportunity for the disabled and disabled organizations to have full , effective and equal participating roles in every social activity;
5. To enable the disabled to access to and make of use of services in the buildings, vehicles, information and communication, amenity technology and other public services.

STRATEGIES

1. THE MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION STRATEGY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF DISABLED SYSTEM.

GUIDELINES AND MEASURES

- 1) To establish the National Coordinating Committee for the Disabled to coordinate the Development of the Quality of Life of the Disabled System in accordance with the objective by the application of the good governance principles;
- 2) To develop in every aspect the comprehensive services for the disabled in terms of medicine, education, occupation and society;
- 3) To promote the government organizations and private organizations to arrange for the availability of media, amenities and any other assistance; the sign language translators; the documents of Braille characters, sound and voice books, ergonomic equipment, disabled auxiliary apparatus related to the rehabilitation of the capability of the disabled and the leading of independent life;
- 4) To promote production and development of the personnel for the disabled to sufficient number and these personnel will be knowledgeable, have the ability to provide services in every aspects as to accommodate the needs of the aspects for the development of the quality of life of the disabled and the globalization trends;
- 5) To push for the availability of the Budget, Subsidy and Receipts of the Fund Allocation System to enable the governmental and private organization to enable the governmental and private organizations to provide services in all aspects to the disabled persons comprehensively and qualitatively;
- 6) To promote the research and development in respect of innovation on the development of the quality of life of the disabled in every aspect and application of the results of the research to the development of the disabled.
- 7) To support the Research Fund and dissemination of the work results;
- 8) To support the organizations concerned with the formulation of the database on the disabled to be effective uniform.

2. PROMOTIONAL STRATEGY, SUPPORT TO THE SOLIDIFICATION OF THE DISABLED ORGANIZATIONS AND THE NETWORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE DISABLED.

GUIDELINES AND MEASURES

- 1) To promote and support the establishment and/or the operation of the disabled organizations and the network in relation to budget, academic and the development of personnel concerned;

- 2) To support the disabled organization and disabled network to play a counseling role or to participate in local level committee up to the national level so that they can offer opinion to aid the decision-making by the government and the organizations concerned with the affairs of the disabled;
- 3) To upgrade the ability to solve problems and develop the learning process of the disabled organizations and the disabled network;
- 4) To promote the local administrative organization to have knowledge, understanding and participation in support of the disabled organizations.

3. STRATEGY FOR PROMOTION OF GOOD ATTITUDE OF THE DISABLED, THEIR FAMILY AND SOCIETY TOWARDS THE DISABILITY AND THE DISABLED

GUIDELINES AND MEASURES

- 1) To develop the format of organizing social activities in every system, both in the governmental and private organizations concerned with the disabled and their family to enable them to participate comprehensively;
- 2) To promote the disabled women to have the opportunity to express their potentials and participation in social activities;
- 3) To promote and support the governmental and private organizations to organize activities in creating good, correct and creative attitude towards the disability and the disabled and their family;
- 4) To support the production of quality media, useful to the promotion of the potentials for participation by and equality of the disabled;
- 5) To promote and support the employment among the disabled;
- 6) To promote the governmental and private organizations to monitor, evaluation the number of the disabled who are able to lead independent life.

4. STRATEGY ON PROMOTION OF ORGANIZING THE OBSTACLE-FREE ENVIRONMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION BY THE DISABLE

GUIDELINES AND MEASURES

- 1) To push for formulation of policies, and national agenda in arranging for the availability of the Accessible Environment and promotion of the access to the information, data to move towards the barrier-free society for all and push for the approved policy for implementation;

- 2) To draft/ amend various legislations, rules, regulations governing buildings, premises, places, transportation, public service, telecommunication; the information and communication including assistive technology; to promote the access to data, information so as to have the environment free of barrier and availability of all aspects of services to the disabled;
- 3) To promote and arrange the curriculum and learning process with universal and fair design;
- 4) To promote and support education and provide for the availability of the teaching on universal design;
- 5) To develop and expand the promotion and demonstration center to provide service in universal and fair design both at learning level and community level;
- 6) To create the monitoring mechanism, supervision, care and inspection on the environment aspects and access to barrier-free data and information.