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11. 周辺国調査結果詳細（面談記録）

MINUTES OF MEETINGS
BETWEEN
THE JAPANESE TERMINAL EVALUATION TEAM
AND
THE AUTHORITIES CONCERNED OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THAILAND
ON
THE JAPANESE TECHNICAL COOPERATION

FOR THE ASIA-PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER ON DISABILITY PROJECT

The Japanese Terminal Evaluation Team (hereinafter referred to as “the Japanese Team”) organized by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (hereinafter referred to as “JICA”), headed by Mr. Takao TODA visited Thailand from September 5 to October 4, 2006, for the purpose of the joint terminal evaluation of Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability Project (hereinafter referred to as “the Project”).


During its stay in Thailand, the Japanese Team had a series of discussions with the Thai authorities concerned, jointly evaluated the achievements of the Project, and exchanged views of the Project.

As a result of the study and discussions, both sides agreed to report to their respective Governments the matters referred to in the document attached hereto.

Bangkok, October 4, 2006



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Leader,
Japanese Terminal Evaluation Team
Japan International Cooperation Agency
Japan



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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

It is estimated there are over 600 million persons with disabilities (PWDs) in the world today, two-thirds of them living in the Asia-Pacific region. Given the size of the population and the significance of the issues and challenges that they face, further efforts must be made to support PWDs in order to reduce the socio-economic gap that exists between disabled and non-disabled persons.

For two decades, considerable effort has been made to promote full participation and an improved quality of life of PWDs in the Asia-Pacific region. The United Nations (UN) declared 1981 as the International Year of Disabled Persons, and the years 1983 to 1992 as the UN Decade of Disabled Persons. During that period, the UN facilitated the implementation of government policies for PWDs in various countries. In 1992, the 48th General assembly of the UN ESCAP resolved that the decade from 1993 to 2002 would be the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons and that the governments in the region should be responsible for the implementation of the Agenda for Action in cooperation with relevant non-government organizations.

In this context, in October 2000, the Thai Government officially requested the Japanese Government's cooperation in establishing the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (APCD). In response, the Government of Japan decided to implement "the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability Project" (hereinafter referred to as "the Project"). The Record of Discussions (Hereinafter referred to as "the R/D") was signed on July 9, 2002. The duration of the Project is five years from August 1, 2002.

1.2 Objectives of the Evaluation

- 1) To grasp the inputs of the Thai and Japanese sides and summarize the achievements of the Activities of the Project.
- 2) To execute a comprehensive evaluation of the achievements of the Project from the viewpoints of five evaluation criteria (explained later in this document).
- 3) To make recommendations for the activities in the remaining period of the Project and after the completion of the Project, and also to note the lessons learned from the Project.

1.3 Major Activities of the Evaluation

Date	Major activities
Sep. 5 (Tue)	Arrival of a Japanese Evaluation Member (Evaluation Analysis) in Bangkok
Sep. 6 (Wed)	Meeting at JICA office Interview with Executive Board members, officials/staff of APCD, and JICA experts
Sep. 7 (Thu)	Explanation of evaluation method (evaluation grid, etc.) to the Thai evaluation members, officials/staff of APCD and JICA experts. Interview with Director of APCD, officials/staff of APCD, and JICA experts
Sep. 8 (Fri)	Visit to UN ESCAP Interview with Executive Board members

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Sep. 9	(Sat)	Interview with an Executive Board member Visit to the Center for Independent Living in Nonthaburi	
Sep. 10	(Sun)	Move to Myanmar (Yangon) Interview with representatives of associate organizations and ex-participants	
Sep. 11	(Mon)	Move from Yangon to Mandalay Interview with ex-participants	
Sep. 12	(Tue)	Visit to JICA Myanmar office Visit to Department of Social Welfare (Focal Point Organization)	
Sep. 13	(Wed)	Move from Myanmar to the Philippines (Manila)	
Sep. 14	(Thu)	Visit to National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Persons (Focal Point Organization) Interview with ex-participants	
Sep. 15	(Fri)	Interview with ex-participants Visit to the JICA Philippines office Move from Manila to Bangkok	
Sep. 16	(Sat)	Data analysis	
Sep. 17	(Sun)	Data analysis	
Sep. 18	(Mon)	Preparation of draft evaluation report	
Sep. 19	(Tue)	Preparation of draft evaluation report	
Sep. 20	(Wed)	Data analysis	
Sep. 21	(Thu)	Preparation of draft evaluation report	
Sep. 22	(Fri)	Attend APCD networking seminar (APCD South-to-South seminar)	
Sep. 23	(Sat)	Thai Evaluation members move from Bangkok to Pakistan (Islamabad) Main Japanese evaluation members move from Japan to Pakistan (Islamabad)	
Sep. 24	(Sun)	Visit to associate organizations and interview with ex-participants	
Sep. 25	(Mon)	Meeting with an ex-participant in Sesar (the earthquake affected area). (Visit to a school where an ex-participant works and APCD plans to assist in the renovation)	
Sep. 26	(Tue)	Visit to the Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education (Focal Point Organization) Visit to the JICA Pakistan office Move to Bangkok	
Sep. 27	(Wed)	Move to Viet Nam (A team to Hanoi, B team to Danang) [A team] Visit to National Coordinating Council on Disability (Focal Point Organization)	
Sep. 28	(Thu)	[A team] Visit to associate organizations and interview with ex-participants. Visit to JICA Viet Nam office	[B team] Interview with ex-participants Move to Hanoi
Sep. 29	(Fri)	Move to Bangkok Presentation of achievement of the Project by counterparts	
Sep. 30	(Sat)	Internal meeting and revise draft evaluation report	
Oct. 1	(Sun)	Document preparation	
Oct. 2	(Mon)	Visit to Office of Welfare Promotion, Protection and Empowerment of Vulnerable Groups (OPP) Visit to Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) Discussion on the Minutes of Meeting (evaluation report)	
Oct. 3	(Tue)	Discussion on the Minutes of Meeting	
Oct. 4	(Wed)	Joint Coordination Committee Signing of the Minutes of Meeting	

1.4 Evaluators

The terminal evaluation was jointly carried out by both the Japanese and Thai Evaluators as follows:

(1) Japanese evaluators

	Field in Charge	Name	Position/ Organization
1)	Leader/ Management of the Center	Mr. Takao TODA	Group Director, Group II (Technical and Higher Education), Human Development Department, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
2)	Networking and Operation of the Center	Mr. Ryosuke MATSUI	Professor, Faculty of Social Policy and Administration, HOSEI University
3)	Information Support	Mr. Hiroshi KAWAMURA	Director, Department of Social Rehabilitation, Research Institute, National Rehabilitation Center for Persons with Disabilities
4)	Human Resource Development (HRD)	Ms. Yukiko NAKANISHI	President, Asia Disability Institute
5)	Cooperation Planning	Ms. Mariko KINOSHITA	Social Security Team, Group II (Technical and Higher Education), Human Development Department, JICA
6)	Project Evaluation	Mr. Isao DOJUN	International Project Department, Chuo Kaihatsu Corporation
		Ms. Chie YOSHIMURA	Personal Assistant for Ms. Nakanishi

(2) Thai evaluators

	Field in Charge	Name	Position/ Organization
1)	Leader	Ms. Ormporn NITTHAYASUTHI	Deputy Director General, Office of Welfare Promotion, Protection, and Empowerment of Vulnerable Groups (OPP), Ministry of Social Development and Human Security.
2)	Technical Cooperation Management	Ms. Suthanone FUNGTAMMASAN	Technical Support and Evaluation Unit, Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
3)	Project Evaluation	Mr. Mongkhol CHANTRABUMROUNG	Chief, External Relation, OPP, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security
4)	Networking and Collaboration/ HRD	Mr. Topong KULKHANCHIT	Executive Board Member of APCD
5)	Information Support	Mr. Monthian BUNTAN	Executive Board Member of APCD

1.5 Method of Evaluation

The original PDM jointly approved on July 8, 2002, and revised on August, 2006. The

revised PDM is a guideline for the evaluation. Achievements of the Project have been evaluated by the following five criteria:

(1) Relevance

Relevance refers to the validity of the Project Purpose and the Overall Goal in connection with the development policy of the Thai Government as well as the needs of the beneficiaries.

(2) Effectiveness

Effectiveness refers to the extent to which the expected benefits of the Project have been achieved as planned, and examines if the benefit was brought about as a result of the Project (not as that of external factors).

(3) Efficiency

Efficiency refers to the productivity of the implementation process, and examines if the Inputs of the Project are efficiently converted into the Outputs.

(4) Impact

Impact refers to direct and indirect, positive and negative impacts caused by implementing the Project, including the extent to which the Overall Goal has been attained.

(5) Sustainability

Sustainability refers to the extent to which the Thai side can further develop the Project in collaboration with people and countries in the Asia-Pacific region as well as other related international organizations, and the benefits generated by the Project can be sustained under Thai policies, technologies, systems and the finances of the Thai side.

1.6 Summary of the Project

1.6.1 Objectives of the Project

(1) Overall Goal

Empowerment of persons with disabilities and a barrier-free society will be strongly promoted in developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

(2) Project Purpose

The Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (hereinafter referred to as "The Center") will be established to promote empowerment of persons with disabilities and a barrier-free society in developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

1.6.2 Outputs of the Project

(1) Networking and Collaboration among focal point/ associate organizations will be facilitated by the Center.

(2) The accessible information support will be provided by the Center for focal point/ associate organizations, relevant organizations and persons concerning disability issues.

(3) Disability-related human resource development for focal point/ associate organizations

will be promoted by the Center.

(4) Operation and management system of the Center will be developed.

(Details: PDM revised version in Annex 1)

2. Project Achievement

2.1 Inputs

2.1.1 Inputs by Japanese side

(1) Dispatch of Japanese Experts

1) Long-term experts

The following 4 long-term experts have been dispatched.

Field of assignment	Name	Period of assignment
Chief Advisor	Mr. Akiie NINOMIYA	October 23, 2002 - July 31, 2007
Project Coordinator	Mr. Toshiyuki OKUI	August 1, 2002 - July 31, 2007
Development of Training for PWDs	Ms. Naoko ITO	August 1, 2002 - July 31, 2007
ICT (Information Support and ICT Accessibility)	Mr. Hisao CHIBA	August 1, 2002 - July 31, 2007

2) Short-term experts

In total, short-term experts have been dispatched 35 times (19 persons) (19 Persons/Month) to ensure smooth implementation of the Project. (Details: see Annex 2)

(2) Training of Counterpart Personnel in Japan

In total, 23 counterparts (8 Persons/Month) were trained in Japan. (Details: see Annex 3)

(3) Provision of Equipment by the Japanese side

The Japanese side has provided a van with a lift, wheelchairs, a digital camera, computers, etc. The total expenses for the equipment is 4.93 million Baht. (Details and list of equipment: see Annex 4. Most of the equipment being utilized by the Project was procured by Japanese Grant Aid.)

(4) Local Operation Expenses borne by the Japanese Side

The operational expenses from August 2002 to August 2006 paid by the Japanese side amount to 79.1 million Baht. Annual expenses are as follows:

(Unit: Baht)

	JFY2002	JFY2003	JFY2004	JFY2005	JFY2006 (until August 10)	Total
Expenses	8,823,633	17,726,231	23,519,412	24,177,930	4,895,308	79,142,515

JFY: Japanese Fiscal Year (from April to March of the next year)

2.1.2 Inputs by the Thai side

(1) Assignment of Counterpart Personnel

Currently 9 government officials and 12 temporary officials are assigned (as of September 2006). Total number of persons assigned in the past 4 years (from August 2002 until the present) is 42. (Details: see Annex 5)

(2) Allocation of Budget by the Thai side

The budget allocated by the Thai side is 26.1 million Baht. The annual budget is as follows:

(Unit: Baht)

Year	TYF2002	TYF 2003	TYF 2004	TYF 2005	TYF 2006	Total
Budget	2,105,376	5,328,872	4,309,018	9,103,321	5,299,275	26,145,862

TYF: Thai Fiscal Year (from October to September of the next year)

2.2 Outputs

2.2.1 Achievement of Output 1. "Networking and Collaboration among focal point/ associate organizations will be facilitated by the Center."

(1) Indicator 1.1: 33 organizations from Government and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in 30 countries in the Asia-Pacific region will agree to develop networking and collaboration with the Center as focal point organizations.

APCD mission teams were dispatched to countries in the Asia-Pacific Region in order to facilitate networking and collaboration among focal point organizations, associate organizations and other related organizations, and with the Center since the Project started in 2002.

As a result, 37 focal point organizations in 32 countries have been identified and signed the Minutes of Memorandum with the Center. Most of focal point organizations are governmental organizations. (List of focal point organizations: see Annex 6, and Number of Focal Point and Associate Organizations by country: see Annex 7)

Some focal point organizations have participated actively in Project activities but some others have provided cooperation mainly in the selection of candidate participants, information sharing, and procedures for their dispatch.

(2) Indicator 1.2: 100 NGOs in 30 countries in the Asia-Pacific region will be registered as associate organizations of the Center.

As a result of above mentioned activities, 140 associate organizations in 26 countries, which are engaged in PWDs support activities, have been identified and signed Minutes of Memorandum with the Center as of September 2006.

Some associated organizations cooperate closely with the Center while others have less participation in Project activities.

(3) Indicator 1.3: 30 collaborative activities with the Center will be organized.

As of collaborative activities in the area of human resource development, the Center collaborated with focal point organizations and/or ex-participants to implement national workshops or national seminars for follow-up, organized by focal point organizations and /or ex-participants. The duration of the workshops and national seminars were from 1 to 3 days. Thirty-three workshops and national/international seminars conducted by country are as follows:

	Country	Follow-up workshops		National seminar		Total number of participants
		Number conducted	Number of participants	Number conducted	Number of participants	
1	Cambodia	3	28	-	-	28
2	Fiji	-	-	1	12	12
3	India	-	-	1	10	10
4	Indonesia	-	-	1	150	150
5	Lao PDR	1	-	1	43	43
6	Myanmar	3	60	-	-	60
7	Malaysia	-	-	2	60	60
8	Pakistan	-	-	2	150	150
9	Philippines	-	-	4	200	200
10	Thailand	1	13	1	20	33
11	Vanuatu	-	-	1	60	60
12	Viet Nam	4	97	1	70	167
	Total	12	198	15	775	973

The Center also conducted the following seminars in order to promote networking and collaboration.

	Title	No. of courses conducted	No. of participants
1	South to South Cooperation "Introduction of APCD"	3	50
2	South to South Cooperation on Disability: Development of APCD Network	1	27
	Total	4	77

Two 5 days workshops "Capacity Building for Self-Help Organizations of People with Disabilities" (CBSHOD) were conducted in Vietnam (2004) and Pakistan (2005). The Center facilitated the workshops with relevant Government Focal Points and Associate Organizations as well as UNESCAP, the World Bank and Disabled Peoples' International (DPI).

	Country	Number of participants, observers and resource persons	Year
1	Viet Nam	150	2004
2	Pakistan	80	2005

As well as the above mentioned activities, there are many times that the Center facilitated activities of the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and Japanese NGO, etc.

2.2.2 Achievement of Output 2. "The accessible information support will be provided by the Center for focal point/ associate organizations, relevant organizations and people concerning disability issues."

(1) Indicator 2.1: 60 websites (including 40 accessible websites) of focal point/ associate organizations will be linked to the Center's website.

Seventy-one (71) websites of focal point/ associate organizations are linked to the Center's website as of August 2006. (20 focal point organizations and 51 associate organizations) Out of 71 websites, 41 websites are accessible websites. (Accessible website means the website in conformity with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0 ("Level A" or "10 Quick

Tips”) which is recommended by Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) of World Wide Web Consortium (W3C).)

(2) Indicator 2.2: 40 focal point/ associate organizations will provide information on disability issues to the Center to be shared among organizations of/for persons with disabilities in the region.

Nineteen (19) focal point organizations in 17 countries and 24 associate organizations in 14 countries provided information on disability issues such as country profile and disability news to the Center. (In total 43 organizations in 17 countries) In addition there are 13 relevant organizations (including international organizations) that frequently share information on disability issues with the Center.

(3) Indicator 2.3: Newsletters will be produced and distributed quarterly.

Sixteen (16) Newsletters (Vol. 1 to Vol. 16) have been published since October 2002 on a quarterly basis. These Newsletters contain regional news, case studies, APCD training course information, APCD mission reports, APCD Project activities, etc. The Newsletter Volume 16, for example, is sent to 775 organizations in 48 countries. Newsletters are primarily distributed to NGOs, governmental organizations including all focal point and associate organizations of APCD, and donor agencies, etc.

(4) Indicator 2.4: Databases on focal points and associate organizations, resource materials and country profiles will be developed and updated regularly by the Center.

Three databases have been developed and updated, 1) a list of focal point and, associate organizations and other related organizations, 2) a list of materials (documents, etc.) available in the resource room of APCD, and 3) disability country profiles (19 countries at present).

Thirty-seven (37) focal point organizations, 140 associate organizations (including organizations in developed countries) and 298 other organizations are included in the above mentioned organization list as of September 2006.

Regarding the disability country profile, information is available on Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vanuatu, and Viet Nam are developed (19 countries in total) and reviewed periodically. Two more disability country profiles (Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan) will be developed by the end of the Project.

More than 629 resource materials from 41 countries are available in the APCD Resource Room.

2.2.3 Achievement of Output 3. “Disability-related human resource development for focal point/ associate organizations will be promoted by the Center.”

(1) Indicator 3.1: Number of training courses conducted.

The Center conducted 23 training courses by August 2006. The detailed information including the title of the course and the number of participants is as follows.

	Training course	No. of training courses conducted	No. of participants
1	Training on Non-handicapping Environment	2	66
2	Workshop on Human Rights	1	35
3	Training on Community-based Rehabilitation	3	61
4	Training on Self-help Organizations of Persons with Disabilities	1	23
5	Training of Initiators for Self-help Groups of Persons with Disabilities	3	62
6	Training of Managerial Personnel of Independent Living Centers for People with Disabilities, and Training on Peer-Counseling for People with Disabilities	3	40
7	Training on Accessible Web-based Information Networking	3	57
8	Training of Information and Communication Technology for Visually Impaired Persons	3	40
9	Training of Digital Accessible Information System for Persons with Print Disability	2	24
10	Capacity Building for Self-help Organizations of People with Disabilities (CBSHOD)	2	80
	Total	23	488

Thai side initiated and conducted 2 Thai NGO Forums utilizing APCD.

The Center provided technical support for the following seminars and training workshops held in Bangkok.

	Date	Title of course	Venue	No. of participants
1	Jan. 27- Feb.1, 2003	The 2 nd National Seminar on Independent Living	Bangkok, Thailand	> 300 (Jan. 27 th) 37 (Jan.27- Feb. 1)
2	Jan 26-31, 2004	The 3 rd National Seminar on Independent Living	Bangkok, Thailand	236 (Jan. 26 th) 55 (Jan. 27-31)
3	Mar. 1-2, 2004	Training on the Promotion of Non-handicapping Environment (in-country training)	Bangkok, Thailand	110

(2) Indicator 3.2: Number of participants of the training courses.

As the above human resource development activities of the Center indicated, 488 persons have participated to date. (Number of participants in APCD training courses by country: see Annex 8)

Listing of participants by disability is as follows: (Number of participants in APCD training courses according to the type of disability: see Annex 9)

	Disability	(%)
1	Non-disability (including policy makers, parents and supporting persons)	37.3
2	With disability	53.6
	2.1 Physical (Mobility) (33.4)	
	2.2 Visual (12.9)	
	2.3 Hearing (4.1)	
	2.4 Psychiatric (1.8)	
	2.5 Intellectual (1.4)	

3	No data (No data on disability was available for local participants of CBSHOD in Viet Nam 2004 and Pakistan 2005)	9.1
	Total	100.0

As shown above, more than half of the participants are persons with disabilities.

Besides, women consist of approximately 40% of the participants. Since APCD strategically recruited persons with disabilities, especially women with disabilities, in all of the training courses, and ensured the necessary support and appropriate environment for their learning, the high ratio of their participation has been achieved.

(3) Indicator 3.3: Satisfaction-level with the training courses felt by the participants.

Questionnaire surveys on participant's satisfaction level with the training courses have been conducted in all training courses during the training period. According to the results of the questionnaire survey conducted in the past one year, more than 85% of the participants who responded to the questionnaire expressed their satisfaction on contents of training, methods and materials used, and lecturers/ resource persons.

(4) Indicator 3.4: 60% of the participants will share their acquired skills and knowledge in their countries.

The Center has dispatched follow-up missions to several countries in the Asia-Pacific Region in order to survey whether ex-participants share their acquired skills and knowledge learned in the training courses of APCD with their colleagues or related persons.

According to the "APCD Human Resource Development Training Participants Monitoring Results (as of August 2006)", the Center monitored 297 ex-participants. Almost all persons (98%) monitored shared their acquired skills and knowledge in their respective countries. Summary of the monitoring results is as follows:

	Category of Ex-participants	No.	%
1	Reported/shared new learning from APCD with relevant people of his/her Organization and others concerned in his/her country.	86	29.0
2	Did the above and initiated/strengthened/improved relevant activities utilizing his/her learning from APCD.	178	59.9
3	Brought about social impact through his/her continued activities mentioned above.	26	8.8
0	Did none of the above.	7	-
	Sub-total	297	100
N	Not monitored and his/her information are insufficient at APCD.	191	-
	Total	488	-

(5) Indicator 3.5: 30% of the participants will initiate activities on disability-issues with utilization of skills and knowledge obtained in the Center's training courses.

As indicated in the table above, 59.9% of the ex-participants initiated/strengthened/improved relevant activities utilizing their learning from APCD; 8.8%

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of the ex-participants brought about a social impact through his/her continued activities. Therefore, at least 68.7% of ex-participants surveyed initiated activities on disability-issues utilizing their skills and knowledge obtained in the Center's training courses.

(6) Indicator 3.6: Database of 80 ex-participants, who can be resource persons (trainers, facilitators, implementers, course planners and advocates) for the training courses, will be developed for the Center.

According to the follow-up survey mentioned above, 134 can be resources persons. Out of 134 ex-participants, 108 ex-participants have sufficient knowledge/skills/experiences to serve as an "in-country resource person" in their countries and 26 ex-participants have sufficient knowledge/skills/experience to serve as an "international resource person".

2.2.4 Achievement of Output 4. "Operation and management system of the Center will be developed."

(1) Indicator 4.1: Roadmap to become an appropriate independent regional organization will be decided.

Tangible efforts have been made to create the roadmap, although it is not yet decided and a schedule for APCD to become an appropriate independent regional organization is uncertain.

The APCD Executive Board discussed the future organizational structure of APCD and in December 2005 decided that "APCD should become a public organization as soon as possible". Since then, a draft of the Royal Decree for establishing APCD as a public organization (PO) has been made which draft was approved by the APCD Executive Board (on April 20, 2006) and the Joint Coordination Committee of the Project was informed. The Ministry of Social Development and Human Security has agreed in principle with the idea of transformation of APCD. This draft will be submitted to the Cabinet of the Thai government. However, this process has been delayed due to political circumstances in Thailand. Separate from the draft of the Royal Decree, APCD prepared a PO proposal that explains the reason why it was necessary to change the organizational structure, mission, strategy, financial sources, budgetary plan, human resources, main activity, target of activity, etc. This PO proposal was submitted once to the Office of Welfare Promotion, Protection, and Empowerment of Vulnerable Groups (OPP), Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. Then, the OPP instructed APCD to revise the document. Accordingly, APCD is revising the document at the present time.

(2) Indicator 4.2: Operational strategy of the Center beyond 2007 will be developed.

The operational strategy of the Center is not being developed at the present time.

When the Center becomes PO, a new Executive Board will be formed. After that, the Executive Board of the PO will discuss and prepare an operational strategy for the Center

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beyond 2007.

(3) Indicator 4.3: An appropriate number of persons with disabilities will participate in policy making in the Executive Board.

APCD Executive Board consists of 21 members at the present time. There are 10 members of disabled persons organizations (including 7 persons with disabilities) as members of the Executive Board representing disability related organizations (NGOs).

When the Center becomes PO, as stipulated in the draft Royal Decree, the executive board will be composed of 11 board members. Among them, at least 5 persons with disabilities will be appointed from a list nominated by disability-related organizations. The ratio, that persons with disabilities occupy in the Executive Board as members, will be increased to nearly half (50%). Persons with disabilities will have more active roles in policy making in the Executive Board.

(4) Indicator 4.4: Necessary international advisory mechanism will be studied in alignment with the roadmap.

International advisory mechanism is not yet developed.

The Center obtains opinions of UNESCAP, ILO, FAO, DPI (Disabled Peoples' International), World Blind Union, World Federation of the Deaf, etc. respectively.

After the Center becomes PO, it will establish a Special Advisory Committee. International organizations, capable of providing technical, financial and technological support can become members of this committee.

(5) Indicator 4.5: Financial and other related logistic plans of the Center will be developed beyond 2007.

As mentioned already, APCD is preparing a PO proposal that explains the reason for a change of organizational structure, mission, strategy, financial sources, budgetary plan, personnel, main activity, target of activity etc.

The Foundation of APCD was established on July 19, 2004 in order to assist APCD's activities and has been conducting fund raising activities.

(6) Indicator 4.6: Personnel Plan of the Center will be developed beyond 2007.

Discussion of the personnel plan initiated this year (2006). At present, document including personnel plan is under revision at APCD.

(7) Indicator 4.7: Knowledge, know-how and skills will be transferred from the Japanese experts to 10 official/staff and 12 resource persons of the Center.

Knowledge, know-how and skills are transferred from the Japanese experts to

officials/staff and resource persons of the Center through implementation of the Project's activities. Numbers of officials/staff and resource persons are 34 and 15 respectively.

(8) Indicator 4.8: 10 monitoring and 2 evaluations to assess the Center's activities will be conducted.

As a monitoring activity, JCC meetings have been held 8 times until September 2006. Mid-term evaluation was conducted in 2005 and the terminal evaluation done in September-October 2006.

2.3 Project Purpose

"The Center will be established to promote empowerment of persons with disabilities and a barrier-free society in developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region."

(1) Indicator 1: The Center is able to operate and manage international cooperative activities of persons with disabilities.

The Center has implemented various activities reflecting the operation and management of international cooperative activities of persons with disabilities; 23 training courses, information exchanges, follow-up workshops, CBSHOD and South-to-South dialogue seminars. These activities have been well recognized by persons concerned such as persons with disabilities, governmental, NGOs and international organizations in the region. In this regard, the Center is capable to operate and manage international cooperative activities of persons with disabilities at present. In order to sustain and increase international cooperative activities, it is necessary for the Center to become a PO and subsequently an international organization.

(2) Indicator 2: The Center's network to cover 120 focal points and associate organizations in 30 countries in the Asia-Pacific region will be developed.

The Center's network covers 37 focal point organizations in 32 countries and 140 associate organizations in 26 countries.

(3) Indicator 3: 30 resource persons including ex-participants in the Asia-Pacific region will be engaged in the Center's activities.

More than 90 resource persons in the Asia-Pacific region have engaged in the Center's activities such as training courses for human resource development and seminars under networking and collaboration. Among them, 7 ex-participants have become resource persons and 6 other persons have become resource persons after participation in counterpart training in Japan. This indicator is achieved.

2.4 Prospect of achievement of Overall Goal

“Empowerment of persons with disabilities and a barrier-free society will be strongly promoted in developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region.”

There are 3 indicators for the Overall Goal as follows. Judging from the facts and observing the significant impact made by the Project, it is likely that the Overall Goal will be achieved by 2012, in the event that the Center continues activities of the Project in the same manner. It depends on the Center’s sustainability in terms of operation and management.

(1) Indicator 1: In 15 of 30 developing countries with the Center’s focal point organizations in the Asia-Pacific region, policies, legislation, and programs concerning empowerment of persons with disabilities and/or a barrier-free society will be initiated by 2012.

(2) Indicator 2: The number of activities concerning empowerment of persons with disabilities and a barrier-free society conducted by the Center’s associate organizations will increase to 50 by 2012.

(3) Indicator 3: The number of activities concerning empowerment of persons with disabilities and a barrier-free society initiated by ex-participants of the Center will increase to 60 by 2012.

3. Evaluation Results

3.1 Relevance

Relevance of the Project is high.

“The 2nd Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons 2003 - 2012” was proclaimed by UN ESCAP in order to promote “an inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based society for persons with disabilities”. The Overall Goal and the Project Purpose is consistent with the goals of Biwako Millennium Framework of the 2nd Decade.

The long-term development vision of Thai government focuses on the alleviation of poverty and the upgrading of the quality of life for the Thai people. Empowerment through equal access to social services and social security for persons with disabilities is emphasized. The Japanese government has a policy that Japan will actively promote South-to-South cooperation in partnership with more advanced developing countries in Asia, strengthen regional cooperation frameworks, and support region-wide cooperation that encompasses several countries. Also the Japanese government emphasizes cooperation in “human security” in order to reduce the vulnerabilities faced by people, communities and countries.

Therefore the Project is in conformity with the policy of the Thai government and the ODA policy of Japan.

As for the Project's approach, it is very appropriate that the Project has recognized PWDs as “Agents of Change” in promoting the empowerment of persons with disabilities and a barrier-free society. Also, the selection of 3 project approaches, that is, networking and collaboration, information support, and human resource development, was appropriate to promote a barrier-free society and empowerment of PWDs.

3.2 Effectiveness

Overall effectiveness of the Project is at a satisfactory level. The only concern that remains is about the operation and management of international cooperative activities of persons with disabilities (continuity of the ongoing operation and management system of the Center in a sustainable way.) There might be some room for improvement when it comes to the effectiveness of the Project vis-à-vis the various types of disabilities.

Effectiveness is assessed by the achievement of the Project's Purpose; the extent of its Outputs have contributed towards achieving the Project's Purpose.

As mentioned in the previous chapter, the degree of achievement of the Outputs in 1) networking and collaboration, 2) information support, and 3) human resource development is at a satisfactory level. In regards to Output 4 “Operation and management system of the Center”, it is uncertain whether the current level of operation and management will remain in a sustainable way.

3.3 Efficiency

Efficiency of the Project is at a satisfactory level.

Inputs of the Thai and Japanese sides were appropriate in term of quantity, quality and timing, etc., and have been utilized well for the activities in general.

One of the factors that facilitated the efficiency is participation of not only officials and staff of the Center in the project activities, but also resource persons with disabilities as task force members as well as lecturers of the training courses.

Counterparts were assigned appropriately in terms of the number and capability in general although there were some frequent changes of counterparts.

Joint Coordinating Committee meetings have been held twice a year, and managerial meetings have been held weekly. Also, monthly meetings for all officials and staff of the Center and Japanese experts, and periodical meetings of each section of the Center have been held. These meetings have been functioning appropriately and contributed to the efficiency of the activities.

3.4 Impact

Many impacts of the Project have been observed.

Followings are a part of impacts related to policies, legislation, or programs concerning empowerment of persons with disabilities and/or a barrier-free society. (Other examples: see Annex 10.)

- 1) In Thailand, former participants of the Independent Living (IL) course established IL Centers in 3 provinces in 2004, formed a National Council of IL Centers in 2005, and made a proposal to the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security in 2006 to accommodate the IL approach in the national policy to support PWDs. Also, a former participant from the Ministry in cooperation with the National Electronic and Computer Technology Center (NECTEC) has been engaged in drafting an ICT accessibility guideline. In the Ministry, the CBR (Community Based Rehabilitation) project of a comprehensive and participatory approach has been promoted in several rural districts and implemented by Sub-district Administration Organizations (local government at the community level). (Impacts in Thailand: see Annex 11)
- 2) In China, a group of former participants (Non-handicapping Environment course) from the China Disabled People Federation contributed in revising the law on physical accessibility.
- 3) In India, former participants have contributed to developing a "Disability Resource Center" in Delhi University with the support of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India. The Center is not only accessible to persons with motor disability/reduced mobility but also has facilities for visually impaired students to

- access reading materials in the e-text format. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has decided to assist the State governments to set up such disability resource centers in at least one university in each of the 35 states/ Uts (Union Territories).
- 4) In Lao PDR, the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MLSW) and the Secretariat of National Commission for Disabled People (NCDP) are preparing a draft on disability legal framework by implementing tasks such as translating legal documents of other countries and international standard rules, collecting data about disability issues, and appointing a working team.
 - 5) In Myanmar, Department of Social Welfare (DSW), through network facilitated by APCD, was able to develop a closer relationship with the JICA Myanmar Office and proposed a project for "Capacity Development of Social Welfare Administrators"; and a technical cooperation project started in August 2006 (3 years project) to develop a common sign language in Myanmar.
 - 6) In the Philippines, a group of former participants (Non-handicapping Environment course) (e.g., a blind architect, officials of National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Persons, etc.) participated in revising the Accessibility Law in the Philippines and have been disseminating it throughout the country in cooperation with the local authorities concerned.
 - 7) In Vanuatu, a former participant of the 2003 South-to-South Cooperation Seminar initiated a workshop to translate the UN ESCAP Biwako Millennium Framework (BMF) and develop a national policy related to the BMF.

3.5 Sustainability

(1) Political aspect

Commitment of collaboration with APCD by the governments in the Asia-Pacific region is important. And also continuation of political support to APCD by the Thai government is important not only for becoming a public organization but also after becoming a public organization.

(2) Organizational aspect

The governments concerned in the Asia-Pacific region have high expectations for the activities of APCD and they have confidence in APCD. From this point of view, organizational sustainability of APCD is high.

Under the Director of APCD, there are 20 officials and staff in 3 sections i.e. administration, information support, and human resource development. And there is an Executive Board of APCD with 21 members. APCD has good capability regarding the operation and management of the activities with a suitable number of officials and staff. Sustainable operation of the organization (APCD) depends on the continuous commitment of Thai government toward becoming a public organization including recruitment of new qualified staff and training for them.

(3) Financial aspect

The Thai side has allocated their budget as planned. In order to continue the same quality of activities, effective utilization of various resources should be considered.

(4) Technical aspect

Officials and staff of ACPD, and also resource persons have the necessary capability to conduct the activities of the Center in general. After the APCD becomes a PO, change of officials/staff may occur and recruitment of new qualified staff may be scrutinized carefully in order to assure the technical sustainability. In regards to the human resource development activities, resource persons have been participating in the training activities continuously and will participate in the future.

4. Conclusion

The overall results of the Project are outstanding from the viewpoint of empowering persons with disabilities and promoting a barrier-free society, primarily for the following reasons:

- 1) There has always been a shared notion among the stakeholders of the Project that it is imperative to put persons with disabilities in the center of the activities and networks created through the Project while the Center plays the role of a facilitator.
- 2) The holistic approach which consists of three components: a) networking & collaboration, b) information support, and c) human resource development, has been so effective that the synergetic effect among the three is remarkable.
- 3) The commitment of the stakeholders, including persons with disabilities from both Thai and Japanese sides, has been extraordinary.

It is commonly recognized that the networks created and strengthened through the activities of the Project, are so useful and widely recognized by 32 countries in the Asia Pacific region. Various actors, such as organizations of persons with disabilities, local communities, governments in the region, and some related international organizations, express their interest in further collaboration with the Center.

It should also be noted that in addition to the above, the expectations of the various actors resonate a variety of impacts in Thailand such as, the promotion of a barrier-free environment, ICT accessibility and the establishing/strengthening of Independent Living Centers. The synergetic effects on both the region and Thailand have resulted in further enhancing the reputation of APCD.

As for the sustainability of the Center and its networks, some important issues remain such as, a) formulating a roadmap and operational strategy beyond 2007 in view of converting the Center into an international organization, in particular for this project, via a public organization, b) establishing an international advisory mechanism, etc.

5. Recommendations and Lessons Learned

5.1 Recommendations

5.1.1 Recommendation to be considered before termination of the Project

It is confirmed that all the activities specified in the PDM (Project Design Matrix, see Annex 1) should continue to be implemented in the course of the Project. Above all, it is particularly important to establish the status of the Center as a public organization under the concerned Thai legislation by the time the Project terminates. APCD needs to prepare for PO status by developing a more concrete working system regarding finances and human resources.

On

5.1.2 Recommendations regarding the future of the Center

- (1) The holistic approach which consists of the three components: a) networking & collaboration, b) information support, and c) human resource development, and in which PWDs play a central role, should be continually pursued. In particular, it is of great importance to monitor and follow up on activities of the ex-participants.
- (2) In order that networks, which have already been established and strengthened by the Center, can be further developed, it is expected that the Center should continue to promote a mutually beneficial mechanism, and provide facilities for various activities including information/knowledge/experience sharing. While enlarging and strengthening the networks, the establishment of sub-regional focal points and/or the partnership with existing sub-regional institutions such as, ASEAN, the South Pacific Forum of the Governments of the Pacific Island Countries, and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), etc. should be considered.
- (3) From the viewpoint of sustainability of the Center and its networks, it is of critical importance to formulate and implement a roadmap to convert the Center to an international organization, in particular for this project, via a public organization. In the process the proactive participation of PWDs, as well as governments in the region in addition to those from Japan and Thailand should also be encouraged.
- (4) In addition to responding to the common needs of persons with disabilities, due consideration should also be given/taken to meet the specific needs vis-à-vis respective disabilities.
- (5) It is necessary to study the possibility of including families, advocates and other significant actors to persons with disabilities, noting their respective particularities, which might result in supporting communities in a more comprehensive and effective way.

5.2 Lessons Learned

- (1) Empowered PWDs empowering other PWDs: Role model approach

The key success factor to promote empowerment of PWDs and a barrier-free society is “empowered PWDs empowering the other PWDs” by a role model approach which enables the target group of PWDs to recognize how to become empowered themselves. The majority of trainers (resource persons) of the training courses of the Center are empowered PWDs. The role model approach of “Empowered PWDs empowering the other PWDs”, therefore, can be effectively utilized by the participants of training courses in their community and they themselves can be role models of empowerment in their society.

- (2) Promotion of accessible physical environment, transportation and, information and communication

The Center provides PWDs with accessible facilities as well as accessible information as a Center to promote empowerment of PWDs and a barrier-free society. Ensuring accessible built environments and information are prerequisites to realize an inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based society for PWDs.

(3) Participatory Management and Operation

The participation of PWDs in the management and operation led to the significant impacts of the Project since the needs of PWDs for empowerment and a barrier-free society were well-identified by the PWDs. It also promoted an increase in public awareness of disabilities which leads to an inclusive and accessible society for the empowerment of PWDs.

(4) Role of facilitator and catalyst of the Center

In developing countries, there is limited contact between the governments and organizations of PWDs, which is one constraint in promoting the empowerment of PWDs and a barrier-free society. The Center as a regional cooperative entity endorsed by the regional initiative for the implementation of the BMF, played the role of facilitator or catalyst by making contacts between governments and organizations of PWDs which increased the awareness of disabilities.

(5) Pre-assessment of APCD Collaborators

In order to implement effective activities to realize the empowerment of PWDs, it is essential to assess the needs and commitment of groups/organizations of PWD and other supporting organizations who would like to collaborate with APCD. However, document information is often not enough to properly assess groups/organizations at the grass-roots level since their capacity and priority for documentation might not be high due to a lack of educational opportunities, etc. To have live information and up-date it, the Project made efforts to visit these groups/organizations and meet people, some of whom can be candidates as training participants and practice the model of empowerment in their communities. In addition, the Project visited and regularly communicates with its Government Focal Points so that they can fully understand the APCD's unique vision and collaborate with APCD and its Associate Organizations in their countries. The process of such pre-assessment of APCD's potential collaborators and their follow-up has enabled the Project to achieve the outcomes expected.

6. Others

In the event that both the Government of Japan and the Government of Thailand study the possibility of further cooperation regarding issues related to disabilities based on the current achievement of the Center, both sides should take into account the following additional points:

- 1) There have been increasing expectations of the Center and its network on the part of various actors such as organizations of persons with disabilities, local communities,

governments in the region, and some related international organizations.

- 2) In the years 2007 and 2012, the mid-term evaluation and final recapitulation of the Biwako Millennium Framework are expected respectively, to which the Center is closely related.
- 3) Since the UN Ad-hoc Committee approved the draft text of a Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in August 2006, there has been increasing interest in and an awareness of a rights-based approach to issues related to disability in the international community.
- 4) In the year 2007, both Japan and Thailand will celebrate their 120th anniversary of a diplomatic relationship between the two countries.