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**High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to Conclude the Asian and Pacific
Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002
25-28 October 2002
Otsu City, Shiga, Japan**

**CONSIDERATION OF A REGIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION
TOWARDS AN INCLUSIVE, BARRIER-FREE AND RIGHTS-BASED
SOCIETY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN ASIA AND THE
PACIFIC**

(Item 6 of the provisional agenda)

**BIWAKO MILLENNIUM FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION TOWARDS AN
INCLUSIVE, BARRIER-FREE AND RIGHTS-BASED SOCIETY FOR
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

Note by the secretariat

SUMMARY

The Commission, at its fifty-eighth session, adopted resolution 58/4 of 22 May 2002 on promoting an inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based society for people with disabilities in the Asian and Pacific region in the twenty-first century, by which it proclaimed the extension of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002, for another decade, 2003-2012. The present document sets out a draft regional framework for action that provides regional policy recommendations for action by Governments in the region and concerned stakeholders to achieve an inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based society for persons with disabilities in the new decade, 2003-2012. The regional framework for action identifies seven areas for priority action in the new decade. Each priority area contains critical issues, targets and the action required.

The regional framework for action explicitly incorporates the millennium development goals and their relevant targets to ensure that concerns relating to persons with disabilities become an integral part of efforts to achieve the goals.

CONTENTS

I.PREAMBLE (<http://www8.cao.go.jp/shougai/english/biwako/1.html>)

II.PRINCIPLES AND POLICY DIRECTIONS OF THE BIWAKO MILLENNIUM FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

(<http://www8.cao.go.jp/shougai/english/biwako/2.html>)

III.PRIORITY AREAS FOR ACTION

(<http://www8.cao.go.jp/shougai/english/biwako/3.html>)

IV.TARGETS AND ACTION IN THE PRIORITY AREAS

(<http://www8.cao.go.jp/shougai/english/biwako/4.html>)

- A. Self-help organizations of persons with disabilities and related family and parent associations
- B. Women with disabilities
- C. Early detection, early intervention and education
- D. Training and employment, including self-employment
- E. Access to built environments and public transport
- F. Access to information and communications, including information, communication and assistive technologies
- G. Poverty alleviation through capacity-building, social security and sustainable livelihood programmes

V.STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE THE TARGETS OF THE BIWAKO MILLENNIUM FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

(<http://www8.cao.go.jp/shougai/english/biwako/5.html>)

- A. National plan of action (five years) on disability
- B. Promotion of a rights-based approach to disability issues
- C. Disability statistics/common definition of disabilities for planning
- D. Strengthened community-based approaches to the prevention of causes of disability, rehabilitation and empowerment of persons with disabilities

VI.COOPERATION AND SUPPORT IN PURSUANCE OF THE BIWAKO MILLENNIUM FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

(<http://www8.cao.go.jp/shougai/english/biwako/6.html>)

- A. Subregional cooperation and collaboration
- B. Regional collaboration
- C. Interregional cooperation

VII.MONITORING AND REVIEW

(<http://www8.cao.go.jp/shougai/english/biwako/7.html>)

- A. Organization of regional and subregional meetings
- B. Regional working group to coordinate and monitor the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action
- C. Mid-point review of the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action