

KOREAN ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR THE 2007 7TH DPI WORLD ASSEMBLY IN KOREA

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*Our Rights, Our Convention
But For All*

July 16, 2007

Mr. Peter Tan
Independent Living Program
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Dear Mr. Peter Tan,

It gives us great pleasure to invite you to the Disabled Peoples' International 7th World Assembly, to be held in Seoul, South Korea, September 5-8, 2007. This event follows the success of the 6th World Assembly in 2002 in Sapporo, Japan, where over 3,500 persons with disabilities from around the world gathered to establish priorities for DPI's work over the last 4 years. During the Sapporo meeting DPI committed to supporting the process to draft a new international convention on the human rights of persons with disabilities. It is with great joy that our 7th World Assembly will celebrate the adoption and, we hope, rapid entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The central theme of the 7th World Assembly, *Our Convention, Our Rights – but for All*, is intended to be both a celebration of the adoption of the CRPD, as well as an opportunity for serious deliberation on the mechanisms and approaches for effective implementation of the Convention at the national and international levels. Furthermore, given the unprecedented level of civil society participation in the successful negotiation and adoption of the CRPD, we hope that this World Assembly will also be a celebration of the contributions that civil society can continue to make towards the implementation of this historic Convention.

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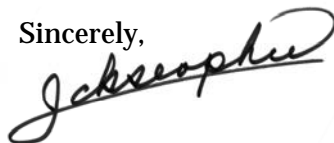
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In this regard, we are planning a workshop titled "Independent Living in Developing Countries" where we would discuss the history, issues, and visions for independently living in developing countries. We would like to cordially request that you speak in a panel with Sang-ho Lee (South Korea), M. Miric, M. Knezevic, and L. Lukacic (Croatia), and Udomchock Churut (Thailand). Your insights and experiences in Malaysia would contribute greatly to the discussion.

We would be greatly honored if you would be able to join us for our gathering in Seoul. It is unfortunate, but we will be unable to provide funding to support your attendance at the 7th World Assembly, but do hope that you will be able to find the necessary funds to participate in the forum.

We at DPI and the Korean Organizing Committee are excited about the opportunity to celebrate the groundbreaking new Convention, and keen to explore ways in which DPI members can meaningfully contribute to the Convention's effective implementation. We sincerely hope that you will be able to join us for these global celebrations.

Sincerely,



Ick-Seop Lee, Ph.D.

Chairperson of the Korean Organizing Committee