



PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM



Pacific
Disability
Forum

Seventh Pacific Regional Conference on Disability

“Nothing Without us: Deepening partnerships for an inclusive and equitable Blue Pacific Continent for persons with disabilities.”

OUTCOME DOCUMENT – TANOAA ACCORD

Older Persons with Disabilities

The Tanoa Accord on Inclusion of Older Persons with Disabilities is the outcome statement of the first Pacific Regional Consultation on Older Persons with Disabilities. The statement provides an overview of underlying issues and concerns encountered by older persons with disabilities in the Pacific.

It provides recommendations formulation of policies and programs targeting older persons with disabilities, to, the Pacific Disability Forum, Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPD's) and respective partners and stakeholders, including donors, development and technical partners, academia, private sector, civil society organizations and other stakeholders.

Outcome Statement

We are, the representatives of Older Persons with Disabilities from Vanuatu, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Palau, Nauru, Kiribati, Federated States of Micronesia, and Fiji at the 1st Pacific Regional Consultation on Older Persons with Disabilities and the 7th Pacific Regional Conference on Disability held at the Tanoa International Hotel in Nadi, Fiji from the 23rd of February to the 3rd of March 2023.

Recognise and acknowledge the need to:

Ensure:

1. Empowerment of all older persons with disabilities to assert their rights, needs and aspirations in peacetime and in humanitarian situation to their communities, and respective governments.
2. Dialogue between all older persons with disabilities and partners, to raise concerns, identify barriers and opportunities that enables effective participation in access to equitable and quality services.
3. Develop and/or establish a platform of best advocacy practices on protecting the rights, dignity, and respecting the independence and personal autonomy, of all older persons with disabilities.
4. Advocate for the recognition and formalization of the roles and contribution of caregivers, personal assistants and other support services provided to all older persons with disabilities.

Promote:

1. Information sharing to strengthen ability to withstand external shocks, build resilience and enhance confidence of all older persons with disabilities.
2. Establishment of platforms for advocacy and sharing of best practices on protecting the rights, dignity, independence, and personal autonomy of all older persons with disabilities.

Advocating and encouraging partners and all stakeholders across all sectors to:

Advocate for the

1. Respect for older persons with disabilities rights, dignity, autonomy, and independence through the development of prevention programs on age, gender, and disability-based violence.

Establish

2. Provision of special privileges to enhance the livelihood of all older persons with disabilities including those engaged in the informal employment sector. These privileges to include but not limited to Medicare programs, non-contributory pensions and social protection programs.
3. Partnership across all stakeholders to promote sustainable environment, to improve the situation of all older persons with disabilities focusing but not limited to strengthening access to health, employment and pensions, transportation and family and community support.
4. Promote the availability of age-appropriate technology targeting older persons with disabilities.

Ensure

5. Accessibility and sustainable age-friendly environment to guarantee access to services, activities and programmes and facilities for all older persons with disabilities at all levels.
6. The advocacy in the Pre-conditions to inclusion of persons with disabilities recognize the enablers to effective participation and access to equal opportunities of all older persons with disabilities.
7. Participation of older women with disabilities in communities and women's platforms.
8. Identification and adoption of creative programs that target de-institutionalization of all persons with disabilities.
9. Human rights-based approach is practiced across all legislations, policies, and programmes implementations to strengthening effective participation of all older persons with disabilities.
10. Work in partnership with WHO Pacific Office on the finalization of the assistive product listing for the Pacific and lastly to promote identification of older persons with disability through the capturing of disaggregated aged disability data in all services and programs of the Ministries of Health.

Recommendation:

Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs):

1. Facilitate and implement targeted programs on attitudinal change and respect, for all older persons with disabilities.
2. Establish committees and representations of all older persons with disabilities at national and local OPDs, to advocate with partners on issues concerning all older persons with disabilities.
3. Identify existing programs at national and local levels that benefit all benefits older persons with disabilities.
4. Facilitate and conduct CRPD, and other human rights trainings for all older persons with disabilities.
5. Promote ongoing advocacy and awareness and livelihood programs targeting all older persons with disabilities.
6. Identify and build networks with donors and sponsors to enhance issues of all older persons with disabilities.
7. Collaborate with national counterparts to simplify and translate CRPD into local dialects and languages.

Pacific Disability Forum (PDF)

8. Advocate to national government and OPDs to include concerns and recommendations on all older persons with disabilities, in human rights parallel reporting (State and shadow reporting)
9. To facilitate cross learning including training of older and younger persons with disabilities in the Pacific, recognizing the wealth of knowledge, skills, and experiences of all older persons with disabilities.
10. Facilitate inter-generational and cross country south to south learning and collaboration between younger and older persons with disabilities.
11. Facilitate donor and technical support to OPDs on programs for all older persons with disabilities.
12. Facilitate biennial conference for all older persons with disabilities.
13. Support OPDs to simplify and translate CRPD languages in the Pacific.
14. Support OPDs to facilitate CRPD training and other Human Rights training targeting all older persons with disabilities and their families, carers and support persons.
15. Establish and strengthen partnerships with donors and development partners to support inclusive programs of all older persons with disabilities.
16. Strengthen partnership with WHO and national health ministries to enable access to health facilities and services including but not limited to clinical health, mental health, and sexual reproductive health, for all older persons with disabilities.
17. PDF is to work towards establishing regional hubs for quality and age-appropriate assistive devices in partnership with OPDs, donors, UN and CROP agencies and national stakeholders.
18. Work in partnership with WHO Pacific Office on the finalization of the assistive product listing for the Pacific.