

# Joining Hands

WHO Collaborating Centres In The Western Pacific Region Sharing Rehabilitation Good Practice

E-Newsletter- Issue No. 3 (September, 2012)

Edited by Sheila Purves and Ortal Shamay-Lahat

## In This Issue

### Part 1

Highlights of WHO CCs Work in the Western Pacific Region

*A letter from Ms. Pauline Kleinitz  
Technical Officer for Disability and Rehabilitation,  
WPRO*

### Part 2

Past & Upcoming Events

CBR Guidelines and to work with WHO in development of appropriate technology in assistive devices.

The staff of the newly re-designated WHO CC in Guangzhou is much encouraged by the new responsibilities and challenges. They believe that with effective cooperation with partners through networking and with the inspiration by various Guidelines from UN and WHO, such as CRPD, WRD and CBR Guidelines, they will try their best to go through another productive four years working with WHO.

For further information please contact Prof. Zhuo Dahong: [dhzhuo@gmail.com](mailto:dhzhuo@gmail.com)

## Part I Highlights Of WHO CCs Work In The Western Pacific Region

**From Guangzhou**  
Reported by Prof. Zhuo Dahong, China



### A New Term of Collaboration for WHO CC in Guangzhou

Recently the WHO CC for Rehabilitation in Guangzhou China, located in the First Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-sen University, was re-designated by WHO, with the new term starting from 23/Apr/2012 through 23/Apr/2016. Terms of Reference have been revised in accordance with the current priorities of work for people with disabilities.

The TOR focus on efforts to contribute to WHO's work in the implementation of the

**From Wuhan**  
Reported by Prof. Nan Dengkun, China



### Joint Position Paper on the Provision of Mobility Devices in Less Resourced Settings

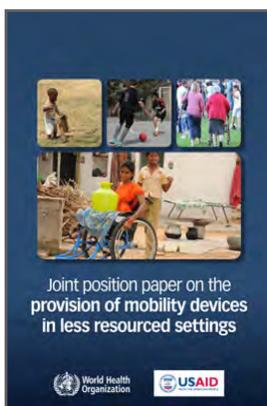
This joint position paper is an important document aims to support the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) related to personal mobility and the provision of mobility devices.

Wuhan, in collaboration with HKSR, has granted permission from WHO Press to publish the Chinese version of the paper.

A significant part of the paper is the description of the key principles of **acceptability, accessibility, adaptability, affordability, availability, and quality.**

It is essential to implement these principles in the process of provision of mobility devices and related services in order to achieve successful outcomes.

The full document is available online at [http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2011/9789241502887\\_eng.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2011/9789241502887_eng.pdf) and we strongly recommend you to review it.



For further information please contact Prof. Nan Dengkun: [nandk@126.com](mailto:nandk@126.com)

### From HKSR

Reported by Ms. Sheila Purves, Hong Kong



## Re-designation of the Hong Kong WHO Collaborating Centre for Rehabilitation (2012-2016)

In July, we were honored to hear from Dr. Shin Young-soo, Regional Director, that our re-designation was approved, with streamlined terms of reference. We will continue our capacity-building and advisory activities in rehabilitation and CBR, and work with WHO to promote CBR inclusive development, sharing best practice and expertise.

We have agreed to undertake three major projects: (1) to explore and document

early intervention strategies for children with disability in rural areas of China, and training of staff and child carers to integrate the most basic actions into a child's daily schedule; (2) to explore the reality of discharge planning in China and to develop case studies for training; and (3) to develop strategies to introduce self-management training for CBR programmes in China.

We will certainly share our findings with you, over the coming four years. And we are happy to collaborate with sister centres if you are working on similar issues.

For further information please contact Ms. Sheila Purves: [sheila.purves@rehabssociety.org.hk](mailto:sheila.purves@rehabssociety.org.hk)

### From NRCDC

Reported by Dr. Fumio Eto, Japan



## NRCDC New Building Opens!

A new building in NRCDC (Figure 1) aims to provide persons with disabilities with opportunities for experiencing assistive technology, assistive products and some artificial environmental conditions. The place is also useful for information transfer and exchange among NRCDC and those persons.



Figure 1. The new building with three glass walls

The building includes a multipurpose room (approximately 10m x 11m) where test drive of electric wheelchairs is available, a temperature-humidity controllable room where persons can experience the condition of a hot summer day or cold winter day, and a restroom and bathroom where persons can adjust the height and position of a toilet stool, a bathtub, handrails, a toilet paper holder, and switches in their own ways (Figure 2).

There are also a normal bath unit and a restroom in order to consider how to make them useful for persons with disabilities. The restroom has two types of doors; one is in front of the toilet stool and another is on the left side of the toilet stool, enabling wheelchair users to experience both situations.



Figure 2. The toilet with adjustable devices

For further information please contact Ms. Yoko Nishimura: [nishimura-yoko@rehab.go.jp](mailto:nishimura-yoko@rehab.go.jp)

**From NORFI**  
Reported by Ms. Anna Maria M. Gennai  
The Philippines



## 26 Below Elbow Amputees Fitted with LN4 - Hands

For 2 years in a row, NORFI was again tasked by the St. Scholastica's Academy-Bacolod Alumnae Foundation and the

Aloha Medical Mission to look and identify below elbow amputees in the province.

The fittings were done on March 7, 2012 at the Teresita Locsin Jalandoni Memorial Provincial Hospital in Silay City, about 30 minutes by car from Bacolod City. After the briefing of Dr. Brad Wong, head of the medical mission, two of NORFI's technicians who were trained last year by Mr. Art Fine of the Ellen Meadows Prosthetic Hand Foundation (EMPHF), showed the 26 clients earlier identified how to put on and use the hands.



The EMPHF has designated St. Scholastica's Academy-Bacolod Alumnae Foundation and NORFI as the contact organization and center for the distribution of the free LN4 - Hands in the Philippines.

The giving-out of the hands and fittings were just one of the activities done during the 5-day Aloha Medical Mission last March 5 – 9, 2012.



## PDC Annual General Planning

The Provincial Development Council (PDC) of the Province of Negros Occidental held its Annual General Planning last July 12 – 13, 2012 at the Business Inn, Bacolod City.

Participants were line agencies (different departments of the Provincial Government) and non-government organizations who are receiving subsidy from the province for their different programs and projects.

Results or outputs of this planning session will be considered in the annual budget planning of the Provincial Government sometime in October.

For NORFI, program areas are divided into three main areas:

(1) Operation of the Rehabilitation Center including: (a) upgrading equipment of Physical Therapy section; orthotic/prosthetic shop; (b) production of assistive devices; (c) repairs and maintenance of building, tools and equipment; and (d) salaries of technical staff.

(2) Funds for persons with disabilities mostly for maintenance medications for persons with fits/seizures and mental health problems.

(3) Community-Based with focus on one-week re-training workshop for local supervisors.

## The 34<sup>th</sup> NRPD Week Celebration

The 34<sup>th</sup> National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Week kicked off last July 17, 2012 with the Angel Walk within one of the famous shopping mall here in Bacolod City.

This was participated by the Department of Social Services and Development (DSSD), City Health Office (CHO), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), schools and other non-government organizations involved with persons with disabilities.

The participation of NORFI attracted a lot of attention with the presence of the three Human Kinetics Technology (HKT) students, Rolf Sonnemans; Bas Dekker; and Japke de Jonge, of the Haagse Hogeschool of the Netherlands, who are here for a 3-month internship with NORFI.

This year's theme focused on "Mainstreaming Persons with Disabilities Program in Economic Development".



For further information please contact Ms. Anna Maria M. Gennai: [norfibacolod@gmail.com](mailto:norfibacolod@gmail.com)

## A Letter from Ms. Pauline Kleinitz

Greetings from WHO Western Pacific Regional Office!

It has been good to be in recent contact with many of you as your centres have undergone re-designation and I hope to do so in future more frequently. I have been in my new role for 10 months and am learning fast about the disability and rehabilitation situation in countries in this region. I thought I would share a selection of activities from our regional Disability and Rehabilitation program to help you understand what I have been doing:

- Support for development of Mongolia's National Rehabilitation Strategy.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> Pacific CBR Forum, held in Fiji in June 2012.
- National Launch events of the WHO-World Bank *World Report on Disability* – Philippines, Mongolia, Laos PDR – in order to share key findings and facilitate disability dialogue.
- Support for the Pacific Disability Ministers Meeting in October 2012, through development of background papers to inform Ministers about; World report on disability, NCD related disability in the Pacific, and information about the UN High Level Meeting on Disability, planned for September 2013.
- Support for a regional workshop on wheelchairs, in collaboration with our Hong Kong WHO CC.
- Specific country level initiatives, such as CBR workshops, CBR coordination and strengthening activities, support for rehabilitation sector analysis and a pilot mobile rehabilitation clinic, to name a few.

I have also commissioned a range of interesting work:

- An analysis of the Pacific rehabilitation workforce and recommendations to strengthen it.
- An assessment of NCD related disability in the Pacific, based on their significant NCD burden.
- And, a WPRO resource highlighting how to build more disability inclusive health systems.

In regards to the last piece of work on disability inclusive health systems, I ask all of you to make contact with me if there are initiatives in your countries that specifically increase access and inclusion to mainstream health services for people with disabilities. We are currently looking for good practice examples from the region.

Thank you for your continued work in supporting WHO and undertaking the activities outlined in the terms of reference of your collaborating centres. I am very interested to know what progress you are making so please don't hesitate to be in contact.

Best regards to all!

**Pauline Kleinitz - Technical Officer for Disability and Rehabilitation, WPRO.**  
[kleinitzp@wpro.who.int](mailto:kleinitzp@wpro.who.int)

## Part 2 Past and Upcoming Events

### Reports from Past Events

#### Beijing Forum: Removing Barriers, Promoting Integration

June 6-8, 2012, Beijing, China

Reported by Ms. Sheila Purves, HKSR

The China Disabled Persons Federation hosted this regional forum in co-operation with UNESCAP, with more than 300 participants from international DPOs (organizations of people with disabilities), governmental and non-governmental organizations, coming from 20 countries.

Subtitled "Towards implementing the CRPD, the MDGs and Post-2015 Disability Inclusive Development", the aim was to come up with the Beijing Declaration on Disability-inclusive Development for submission to the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012, to be held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 29 October to 2 November 2012.

The keynote speeches represented many disability groups and provided a clear overview of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century perspective on disability, rights and inclusion with both the success stories and the challenges we face.

The participants then divided into four working groups, debating on: (1) Better Social Security Systems for Protection of Basic Livelihoods; (2) Better Access to the Physical Environment for Equitable Social Participation; (3) Better CBR Services for Disability-

Inclusive Development; and (4) Better Education and Empowerment for Poverty Reduction.

<http://www.cdpf.org.cn/english/>



Working Group: Better Education and Empowerment for Poverty Reduction

#### The Second Education Conference of the Chinese Association of Physical Medicine August 11-15, 2012, Kunming, Yunnan, China

Reported by Prof. Zhuo Dahong, Guangzhou

In mid-August, 2012, 400 rehabilitation professionals convened in Kunming, China to review a landmark achievement in the history of China's PT/OT education. That is, the successful preparation of the National Guidelines for PT/OT Education. Also in the conference, the participants exchanged their experience and point of view about teaching PT/OT following the international standards.

Among the invited speakers were professors and experts from the universities of USA, UK, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Philippines, Hong Kong, Taipei, and Mainland China. Representatives from the three WHO CCs in China also attended the conference and were invited to speak and give their advice and recommendation on how to improve the PT/OT education.

It is expected that the China's National Guidelines for PT/OT Education, which meets the international requirements, will be officially launched by the end of this year.

*Dr Margot Skinner, Executive Member of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT), provides her perspective below:*

### **The Kunming Rehabilitation Education Forum: a WCPT perspective**

There was a vibrant atmosphere at the Second Education Conference of the Chinese Association of Physical Medicine, held in Kunming in August. The conference and forum were organised by the Education Committee of the Chinese Association of Rehabilitation Medicine.

A number of physiotherapists from China, students and professional colleagues from around the world got together to share perspectives on education and learn from each other. Such opportunities are the very essence of what the global profession of physiotherapy is all about and contribute to the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT's) theme of "moving physical therapy forward".

Physiotherapy is an emerging profession in China and it was only at last year at the first national education conference that the concept of a committee of experts for the internationalisation of physiotherapy education was developed and international advisors appointed. At the second meeting in August, the project had advanced to the stage where the Committee of Experts could be formalised and the Inaugural Ceremony to recognise the experts was held during the forum. The key mission of the committee is to promote entry level education for physiotherapists in China

in line with the standards set out in the WCPT's Guideline for physical therapist entry level education (<http://www.wcpt.org/guidelines/entry-level-education>). This guideline will be published in the national text book that is being prepared for entry level education of physiotherapists and occupational therapists in China and is an important benchmark to ensure that the graduating physiotherapists will have an educational experience that is built on a foundation of biomedical science and is research based.

The potential for such programmes to meet international accreditation standards is the next step. Dr Skinner announced at the conference that the WCPT has established a process to review physical therapist professional entry level programmes against the Guidelines. This process will be open to WCPT's member organisations in countries where there is no accreditation process and to higher education providers of physical therapist professional entry level programmes who are seeking to meet world standards, such as those in China.

Congratulations to the local physiotherapists and students and advisors including Sheila Purves, Alice Jones and Grace Szeto for moving physiotherapy forward. WCPT looks forward to working with the Committee of Experts to promote high standards of physiotherapy entry level education and continuing education for physiotherapists in China.



## Upcoming Events

- **The 1<sup>st</sup> CBR World Congress**

“Community Based Rehabilitation - The Key to Realising Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities”

*November 26-28, 2012, Agra, India*

<http://www.cbrglobal.org/>

As we are all involved in promoting CBR in the region, we strongly encourage you to participate and contribute to this important event which offers an excellent forum for networking, discussion, and learning.

- **The 22<sup>nd</sup> RI World Congress**

*October 29-November 2, 2012*

*Incheon, South Korea*

[www.riincheon2012.org](http://www.riincheon2012.org)

- **The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Occupational Therapy 24-Hour Virtual Exchange (OT24VX)**

*October 29/30/31, 2012 (depending on where you are).*

[http://ot4ot.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/ot24vx\\_poster2012\\_v4b.pdf](http://ot4ot.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/ot24vx_poster2012_v4b.pdf)

- **The 8<sup>th</sup> Pan-Pacific Conference on Rehabilitation**

*November 17-18, 2012*

*Manila, The Philippines*

<http://www.ppcr2012.com/>

- **The Second World Conference on Medical Rehabilitation in Rural and Low- Resource Regions  
The International Rehabilitation Forum**

*December 1 – 5*

*Dhaka, Bangladesh*

<http://www.rehabforum.org/bangfront.html>