

Summary Report on

3rd ASEAN Autism Network Congress:

1st ASEAN Autism Friendship Games & Angels Walk for Autism



Laguna & Manila, Philippines | 15-17 January 2016

Summary Report on 3rd ASEAN Autism Network Congress: 1st ASEAN Autism Friendship Games & Angels Walk for Autism

Organized by

Autism Society Philippines (ASP)

ASEAN Autism Network (AAN)

Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (APCD)

The Japan Foundation Asia Center



In collaboration with

ASEAN Secretariat

Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) of the Philippines

National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) of the Philippines

Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS) of Thailand

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF)



With support from

Municipality of Los Baños, Laguna

SM Cares

Autism Society Japan (ASJ)



Laguna & Manila, Philippines | 15-17 January 2016

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1st ASEAN Autism Friendship Games, Laguna, Philippines, 15-16 January 2016

The Third ASEAN Autism Network (AAN) Congress kicked off with the First ASEAN Autism Friendship Games at the University of the Philippines Campus in Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines, on 15-16 January 2016. The event was graced by Ms. Mona Magno-Veluz (President, Autism Society Philippines), Mr. Malai Hj Abdullah bin Hj Malai Othman (Chairperson, ASEAN Autism Network), Mr. Hiroaki Uesugi (Director, The Japan Foundation, Manila), Mr. Noriaki Niwa (Chief Representative, Japan International Cooperation Agency Philippine Office), Hon. Procopio A. Alipon (Vice Mayor, Municipality of Los Baños, Laguna) representing Hon. Mayor Caesar Perez, and Ms. Carmen Reyes Zubiaga (Acting Executive Director, National Council on Disability Affairs of the Philippines).

Over 350 persons with autism and their parents from nine ASEAN countries including Japan participated in various activities including track and field events, swimming, bowling, and cultural fellowship programs, among others. Apart from sports and recreational activities, a cultural program showcased the talents of persons with autism and their parents from ASEAN and Japan. The winners of the Games were presented and honored at the Angels Walk for Autism on 17 January 2016 at the SM Mall of Asia Arena, Pasay City, Philippines.

Angels Walk for Autism, Manila, Philippines, 17 January 2016

The second major event of the Third AAN Congress was the Angels Walk for Autism led by Autism Society Philippines on 17 January 2016 at the SM Mall of Asia, Pasay City, Manila, Philippines. This year's event drew more than 15,000 participants from all over the Philippines and other ASEAN countries. Special guests included H.E. Dr. A.K.P. Mochtan (Deputy Secretary General, Community and Corporate Affairs), Hon. Sonny Angara (Senator of the Republic of the Philippines), Mr. Akiie Ninomiya (Executive Director, APCD), Engr. Bien Mateo (Program Director, SM Cares) and Ms. Mona Magno-Veluz (President, ASP).

With the theme 'Onwards to an Autism-OK Philippines', the event also featured various talents of persons with autism from the ASEAN region and announced the ASP Autism Angels Achievement Award 2016 recipients, as well as the formal turnover of the AAN chairmanship. The ASP Angels Walk for Autism is a Philippine-wide event. ASP chapters from all over the country held simultaneous walks in Davao, Iloilo, Naga, Puerto Princesa, Tacloban and Tagbilaran.



KEY OUTCOMES

1. Persons with autism, their parents and supporters in the ASEAN region and Japan were provided with opportunities to participate in various autism-friendly activities in sports, leisure and recreation for the first time in Southeast Asia.
2. An initial guide on how to organize autism-friendly sports, leisure and recreation activities based on the Philippines' experience was shared with those from the Mekong sub-region namely Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam.
3. It was demonstrated that persons with autism are capable to actively participate in sports, leisure and recreation given the opportunity and appropriate support.
4. Positive relationships among persons with autism, parents and supporters across the ASEAN region and Japan were developed.
5. Understanding and acceptance of the different cultures of each country in Southeast Asia and Japan were promoted through a series of autism-related events.
6. The rights of persons with autism to participate in sports, leisure and recreation were realized as stipulated in Article 30 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
7. AAN members were inspired to come up with their own Autism Friendship Games and enhanced their Walk for Autism event.



Over 350 participants including persons with autism, their family and stakeholders





MESSAGES



Welcome Message

Ms. Mona Magno-Veluz, President,
Autism Society Philippines



Opening Message

Mr. Malai Hj Abdullah bin Hj Malai Othman,
Chairperson, ASEAN Autism Network



Opening Message

Mr. Hiroaki Uesugi, Director,
The Japan Foundation, Manila





Opening Message

Mr. Noriaki Niwa, Chief Representative,
Japan International Cooperation Agency
Philippines Office



Opening Message

Honorable Procopio A. Alipon, Vice Mayor,
Municipality of Los Baños, Laguna
(Representing Hon. Mayor Caesar Perez)



Opening Message

Ms. Carmen Reyes Zubiaga
Acting Executive Director,
National Council on Disability
Affairs of the Philippines





PROGRAMME

1st ASEAN Autism Friendship Games

15 January 2016	
07:00-08:00	Registration
08:00-09:00	Opening Ceremony Welcome Message Ms. Mona Magno-Veluz President, Autism Society Philippines Opening Messages Mr. Malai Hj Abdullah bin Hj Malai Othman Chairperson, ASEAN Autism Network Mr. Hiroaki Uesugi Director, The Japan Foundation, Manila Mr. Noriaki Niwa Chief Representative, Japan International Cooperation Agency Philippines Office Honorable Caesar Perez Mayor, Municipality of Los Baños, Laguna Ms. Carmen Reyes Zubiaga Acting Executive Director, National Council on Disability Affairs of the Philippines Lighting of Torch Oath of Sportsmanship Mr. Michael Almendrala Official Declaration of the Opening of the Games Mr. Ian Ferdinand Lopez Group Photo



09:00-09:30	Refreshment Break
09:30-10:00	Orientation and Groupings
10:00-12:00	Track and Field
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break and Rest
13:30-14:00	Evaluation of the Day
14:00-14:30	Clay Molding and Coloring
14:30-15:30	Cultural Fellowship
17:00	Welcome Dinner

16 January 2016

07:30-08:00	Registration
08:00-10:00	Swimming
10:00-10:30	Refreshment Break
10:30-12:00	Bowling
12:00-13:00	Transition Ceremony
13:00-14:00	Lunch and Trip to Manila





Angels Walk for Autism

17 January 2016

06:30	Gates Open
07:30	Angels Walk Pre-Show

Autism Talents on Parade

Franco Cagayat|Chaelda del Carmen|Nica Escasinas|GS Option House|ILLC Hunks
|Supaanong Panyasirimongkol|Thara Santiago|Cid Tampo

ASEAN Autism Friendship Games Awarding

Autism Society Philippines|ASEAN Autism Network|Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability|Japan Foundation Asia Center|Department of Social Welfare and Development of the Philippines|Ministry of Social Development and Human Security of Thailand|Japan International Cooperation Agency|Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund|Municipality of Los Baños|Autism Society Japan

The ASP Autism Angels Achievement Award 2016

Vico Cham (Excellence in Visual Arts)|Raymond Macasaet (Excellence in Athletics)|Thara Santiago (Excellence in Performance Arts)

“When Angels Walk for Autism”

The premiere of a short documentary on ASP’s Angels Walk for Autism, created by PWD advocate and Gat Apolinario Mabini Awardee Mirana Medina

AutiZUMBA

Donna Lim, TV host and Zumba fitness trainer	
09:00	<p>Main Program</p> <p>Prayer Song ILLC Heartthrobs</p> <p>Philippine National Anthem</p> <p>The video celebrates how the Autism Society Philippines through its 80 chapters nationwide is leading the charge towards an Autism-OK Philippines.</p>



10:00	<p>Opening Salvo</p> <p>NU Pep Squad</p> <p>Three-peat champions of the UAAP Cheerleading Competitions</p> <p>Welcome Remarks</p> <p>Engr. Bien Mateo</p> <p>Program Director, SM Cares</p> <p>State of the National Advocacy</p> <p>Ms. Mona Magno-Veluz</p> <p>National President, Autism Society Philippines</p> <p>Turnover of Chairmanship</p> <p>ASEAN Autism Network</p> <p>Angelic Messages</p> <p>Mr. Akiie Ninomiya</p> <p>Executive Director, Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability</p> <p>Hon. Sonny Angara</p> <p>Senator of the Republic of the Philippines</p> <p>H.E. Dr. A.K.P. Mochtan</p> <p>Deputy Secretary General of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) for Community and Corporate Affairs</p> <p>Onwards to An Autism-OK Philippines</p> <p>Honored guests and national leaders announce start of walk</p> <p>Walk Proper</p> <p>Marshalled by the Philippine Navy and Philippine Coast Guard</p>
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1ST ASEAN AUTISM FRIENDSHIP GAMES WINNERS

A.Track and Field



Age Group	Event Code	Events	Category	Medals	Name of Winners
13 years and under	A1	50 meters	Individual Assisted	Gold	Alkenji Banzuelo
				Silver	Kitsana Xayyavong
				Bronze	Samantha Lopez
	A2	50 meters	Individual Unassisted	Gold	Le Quang Huy
				Silver	Monico Doctolero
				Bronze	Carl Arribas
14 years above	A3	100 meters	Individual Assisted	Gold	Marlou Bautista
				Silver	Clyde De Leon
				Bronze	Nguyen Trung Hieu
	A4	100 meters	Individual Unassisted	Gold	Carl Arrivas
				Silver	Allen Alingcastre
				Bronze	Junya Matsubara
13 years and under	A5	2x50 meters relay	Partnership 1 PWA and 1 Family Member Unassisted	Gold	No available players
				Silver	
				Bronze	



Age Group	Event Code	Events	Category	Medals	Name of Winners
13 years and under	A6	*2x50 meters relay	Partnership 1 PWA and 1 Family Member Assisted	Gold	Marlou Bautista and Myla Bautista Monico Doctolero and Carmencita Gapasin Mikaela Drew Sia and Julian Macaroy Sarah Viado and Rowena Taras Angoon Jongstaponsok and Genaro Calderon
				Silver	Andrei San Felipe and Rexel San Felipe Marcus Balo-Balo and Aileen Dearoz Brianna Semilla and Rowena Lagarde Esther Zuniga and Neneth Cruz
				Bronze	David Dimapilis and Edna Dimapilis Larwin Medenilla and Weenah Marquez Querobin Perito and Bruce Zaballa Gabriel Yzeath Picardal and Riza Domens
14 years above	A7	2x 100 meters relay	Partnership 1 PWA and 1 Family Member Unassisted	Gold	Kohei Soma and Chizuko Soma Larwin Medenilla and Weenah Marquez
				Silver	Paul Ian Garcia and Julian Macaroy Le Quang Huy and Nguyen Le Thi Thanh Mai
				Bronze	Junya Matsubara and Shoko Matsubara Michael Cansanay and Flor Elizon

(*This game was played by the 14 years above group because no players were available for the 13 years under group.)





Age Group	Event Code	Events	Category	Medals	Name of Winners
	A8	2x 100 meters relay	Partnership 1 PWA and 1 Family Member Assisted	Gold	Mark Angelo Espirola and Bruce Zabala Francis Yaranon and Rexel San Felipe Elched Ejay Obejas and Arnold Alegre Alkim Joshua Baptisma and Lerma Baptisma Joshua Cadevida and Gina Cadevida
				Silver	Moises Ocampo and Elybeth Macasling Lance Macaroy and Agripina Macaroy Annika Mae Manalo and Eva Generalo Fern Khuwinphunt and Flor Elizon Samantha Lopez and Dana Lopez
				Bronze	Andrea Alviso and Imee Alviso Seiji Aijara and Brenda Aijara Fatima Angela Elazegui and Lea Sombahon Emmanuel Rei Zamora and Minda Rimas Trisha Angelica Marie Cardíño and Susana Cardíño



B. Swimming

Age Group	Event Code	Events	Category	Medals	Name of Winners
13 years and under	S1	50 meters Free Style	Individual Assisted	Gold	Jarelle Valenzuela
				Silver	Raymart Tabiosa
				Bronze	Karl Axel Jusay
	S2	*50 meters Free Style	Individual Unassisted	Gold	Marcus Palomares
				Silver	Monico Doctolero
				Bronze	Genesis Elizon
14 years above	S3	100 meters Free Style	Individual Assisted	Gold	No available players
				Silver	
				Bronze	
	S4	100 meters Free Style	Individual Unassisted	Gold	Kohei Soma
				Silver	Gabriel Nazareth
				Bronze	Marcus Palomares
	S5	200 meters Free Style	Partnership 1 PWA and 1 Family Member Unassisted	Gold	No available players
				Silver	
				Bronze	

(*Winners belong to the 14 years and above category but played in this category as there were no available players for the 13 years and under category.)





C. Bowling



Age Group	Event Code	Events	Category	Medals	Name of Winners
13 years and under	B1	Single	Individual Unassisted	Gold	Thavisouk Duoangdala
				Silver	Jemiah Cerilla
				Bronze	Lance Macaroy
14 years above	B2	Single	Individual Unassisted	Gold	Seiji Aihara
				Silver	Al Kim Baptisma
				Bronze	Angoon Jongstaponsuk
13 years and under	B3	Double	Partnership 1 PWA and 1 Family Member Unassisted	Gold	No available players
				Silver	
				Bronze	
14 years above	B4	Double	Partnership 1 PWA and 1 Family Member Unassisted	Gold	Clyde de Leon and Eva Generalo
				Silver	Monico Doctolero and Carmencita Gapasin
				Bronze	Paul Garcia and Julian Macaroy



LIST OF GROUP PARTICIPANTS

- Society for the Management of Autism Related Issues in Training, Education and Resources (SMARTER), Brunei Darussalam
- Cambodia Intellectual Disability and Autism Network (CIDAN), Cambodia
- Association for Autism (AfA), Lao PDR
- Autism Foundation of Indonesia, Indonesia
- National Autistic Society of Malaysia (NASOM), Malaysia
- Myanmar Autism Association (MAA), Myanmar
- The Association of Parents of Persons with Autism (AU Thai), Thailand
- Vietnam Autism Network (VAN), Vietnam
- Autism Society Japan (ASJ), Japan
- Autism Society Philippines (ASP), Philippines

ASP National Office

- ASP Laguna Chapter
- ASP Carmona, Cavite Chapter
- ASP Mandaluyong City Chapter
- ASP Diliman, Quezon City Chapter
- Best Buddies, Philippines
- ASP Bacoor, Cavite Chapter
- ASP Dasmariñas, Cavite Chapter
- ASP Taguig City Chapter
- ASP Parañaque City Chapter

Collaborators and Sponsors

- Autism Society Philippines (ASP)
- ASEAN Autism Network (AAN)
- Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (APCD)
- Japan Foundation Asia Center
- ASEAN Secretariat
- Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) of the Philippines
- National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) of the Philippines
- Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS) of Thailand
- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF)
- Municipality of Los Baños, Laguna
- SM Cares
- Autism Society Japan
- The Royal Government of Thailand
- National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA)
- The Local Government of Mandaluyong City
- The Local Government of Taguig City
- The Local Government of Carmona, Cavite





MEDIA COVERAGE

ANGELS' ON PARADE PRESS CALL FOR MORE AUTISM-FRIENDLY SOCIETY

By Aie Balagtas See

"GOOD morning, angels!" These were the first words spoken by almost all speakers on Sunday's "Walk with Angels" event at Mall of Asia (MOA) Arena.

It's like a line straight out of the movie "Charlie's Angels," delivered by a mysterious boss who gives orders to three women capable of fending and fighting for themselves and other people.

The angels in MOA Arena, however, were quite the opposite. They were persons with autism (PWAs) who could not necessarily fight for themselves, especially in a society that is not that open yet to people with such disabilities.

Autism Society of the Philippines (ASP), composed of relatives of and advocate for PWAs, yesterday held another walk parade as part of their annual event dubbed "Angels Walk for Autism."

The group, which had been around since 2010, has been calling the public and private sectors' attention to the growing number of autism cases, and has been urging them to fight for the rights of the afflicted to equal living and opportunities.

Not only has ASP broken a record—as the largest group wearing wings in a single event—but it has also torn down international barriers through the culmination of Autism Asean Network.

ASP has succeeded in urging lawmakers to pass laws for the disabled and the PWAs, and the

Mona Veluz issued a call closer to home: For guardians to prepare their children for independence.

"The parents have realized that they (PWAs) depend on them for themselves," said Veluz as she trained her children to care themselves.

"Veluz was among the first who greeted the group on Sunday morning. They were engineer Ellen M. (president of the host SM Cares), Sen. Sonny and Alois Ninomiya, executive director of Asia Pacific Development Center on Disability.

Ninomiya said he is in line with the decision to make autism networks in the countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) to join hands, this partnership was borne out when some countries refused to recognize autism as a disability.

Mario and Angara have been "good trees" from the private and public sectors.

Veluz said SM, under the leadership of Hans Sy, has assigned six stores as "points of care" for the PWAs.

In the Senate, lawmakers were pushing for laws that would give tax breaks to guardians and parents, and those with disabilities were also pushing for legislation in all public and elementary and secondary schools nationwide.

Veluz said she was glad to see this development.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2016

Angels' on parade press call for more autism-friendly society (Source: Philippine Daily Inquirer, 18 January 2016)

Sport News

Young boy wins gold medal in bowling

Autism Society of the Philippines (ASP) and Autism Society of Laos (ASL) celebrate their gold and silver medals at the 3rd ASEAN Autism Friendship Games in Laos, the Philippines on 15-17 Jan 2016.

PHNOM PENH, 16: Thirachak Douangphala won a gold medal in the under 10 years old category in bowling at the 3rd ASEAN Autism Friendship Games which took place in Luang Prabang, the Philippines from 15-17 January 2016.

Mr. Kijrasa Sakyasing was a silver medalist in the 3rd ASEAN Autism Friendship Games, and Mr. Marshall Vingay was the silver medalist in the over 15 years old bowling competition.

The 3rd Congress of the ASEAN Autism Network organized the ASEAN Autism Friendship Games, the 1st of their kind.

This event provided opportunities for children and teenagers with autism to engage in sport and creative activities with friends from other ASEAN countries.

The games aim to boost self-confidence, encourage good behavior and improve communication skills of children with autism, particularly their peers without disabilities.

Over 100 participants including persons with autism, their families and stakeholders from 9 ASEAN except Singapore countries participated in the games.

A delegation from the AFA, led by the secretary-general Mrs. Phakthong Douangphala, headed by Eugenio, Philippines of the 3rd Congress of the ASEAN Autism Network.

Over 100 participants including persons with autism, their families and stakeholders from 9 ASEAN except Singapore countries participated in the Games.

(Source: Lao News Agency, Lao PDR)

AFA salutes autistic medal winners

AFA President Mrs Phakthong Douangphala (second left) and Mr. Souvannak Maysa (second right) join officials and young people with autism at AFA's office on Wednesday for a certificate presentation ceremony.

Sangkhomay Butphanouong

Three Lao boys won gold and silver medals at the 3rd ASEAN Autism Friendship Games in the Philippines concluding with the 3rd Congress of the ASEAN Autism Network from January 15-17.

The Association for Autism (AFA) organized a certificate presentation ceremony for the three boys in Vientiane on Wednesday, following their return from the recent inaugural Friendship Games.

The presentation ceremony was attended by Lao Executive Director Mrs Phakthong Douangphala, AFA officials and sponsors.

Thirachak Douangphala won gold in the U-10 bowling event, while Kijrasa Sakyasing also won silver in the U-10 short distance running event.

More than 400 participants with autism, trainers and parents from nine countries attended the 3rd ASEAN Autism Friendship Games, which comprised training, bowling and swimming events, and the local AFA is keen to get more involved in sporting events.

"In the future we will try to prepare more athletes to attend the ASEAN Autism Friendship Games, and we hope that sponsors will continue to support the Lao team," AFA President Mrs Phakthong Douangphala said.

The 3rd ASEAN Autism Friendship Games provided opportunities for children and teenagers with autism to engage in sport and creative activities with their friends from other ASEAN countries. The games aimed to boost self-confidence, encourage behaviour and build relationships with others, particularly their peers, without disabilities.

The program was organized by the Autism Society of the Philippines supported by the Asia-Pacific Development Centre on Disability (APCD) and the Japan Foundation Asia Centre as well as the respective governmental agencies of the Philippines.

The Lao team, led by AFA President Mrs Phakthong Douangphala, headed to Luang Prabang, Philippines, to attend the 3rd Congress which centered on active participation of people with autism.

The participation at the ASEAN Autism Friendship Games was made possible thanks to the generous support of Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and Japan Foundation.

(Source: Vientiane Times, Lao PDR)



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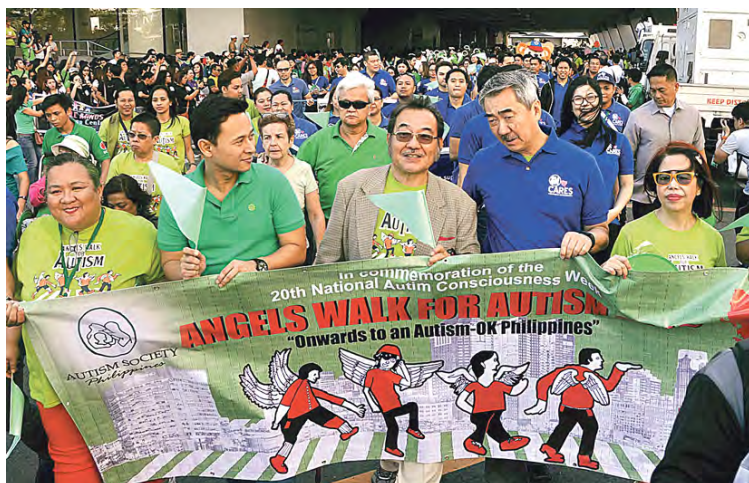


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Walk for a cause

posted January 18, 2016 at 12:00 am by **Manny Palmero**



Members of the Autism Society Philippines lead the 'Angels Walk for Autism' from the Mall of Asia Arena in Pasay City on Sunday. Manny Palmero

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(Source: <http://thestandard.com.ph/news/-news-in-photos/197055/walk-for-a-cause-20160118.html>)





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Angels Walk for Autism lauded as model for ASEAN

JANUARY 18, 2016

By **JAKE SORIANO**

THE annual Angels Walk for Autism reached new heights Sunday.

A record crowd of 15,000 people, bigger than last year's number, attended the event at the SM Mall of Asia Arena, and among them were around a hundred guests from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region and Japan.



ASP national president Magno-Veluz reiterates her o
Photo by JAKE S

"We have now crossed the borders of the Philippines," beamed Mona Magno-Veluz, national president of


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ANGELS WALK FOR AUTISM

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NAGING matagumpay ang Angels Walk for Autism na pinangunahan nina Mona Magno-Veluz, National President ng Autism Society-Philippines, Sen. Sonny Angara at Hans Sy, na dinaluhan ng libo-libong mga may kapansanan sa Mall of Asia (MOA), Pasay City. **CESAR MORALES**

(Source: <http://www.remate.ph/2016/01/angels-walk-for-autism/7>)

(Source: <http://verafiles.org/angels-walk-for-autism-lauded-as-model-for-asean/4>)



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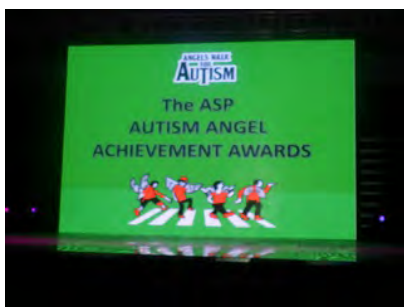
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Angels Walk for Autism 2016: An Autism-OK Philippines Advocacy

5:42 AM | Angels Walk, Angels Walk 2016, ASP, Autism-OK Philippines, PWD | No comments

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It was another wonderful event and gathering of people who supported people with Autism. It was my first time to attend an event like this and it was very touching to witness that they are truly unique on their own way.

These people are not just a person with disabilities but instead have their own unique talents that can be shared to others. It was really amazing to see how they proved themselves to others and how they are fabulous in their talents.

Angels Walk for Autism is an annual event which is looking forward to an Autism-OK Philippines. It was held in MOA Arena last January 17, 2016. Today, many people are now gaining awareness to the Autism community led by Autism Society Philippines, supporters and friends.



The event was full packed, in the morning, the Angels Walk Pre-Show took place followed by the Autism Talents on Parade. There was also a ASEAN Autism Friendship Games Awarding and the awarding of The ASP Autism Angels Achievement Award 2016.

The winners for The ASP Autism Angels Achievement Award 2016 are the following:

- Vico Cham for the Excellence in Visual Arts
- Raymond Macasaet for the Excellence in Athletics
- Thara Santiago for the Excellence in Performance Arts



(Source: <http://www.getbeauteous.com/2016/01/angels-walk-for-autism-2016-autism-ok.html>)





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Today News [Trillanes ordered arrested over Binay's libel suit](#) - Tuesday, 02 February 2016

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ANGELS WALKS GOES INT'L, MOVES TOWARD INTEGRATION OF PEOPLE WITH AUTISM

Written by [Charlie V. Manalo](#) | Monday, 18 January 2016 00:00 | font size | Print | Be the first to comment!

Angels Walk, the yearly celebration for autism awareness spearheaded by the Autism Society of the Philippines (ASP) in partnership with SM Cares, the corporate social responsibility arm of SM Supermalls, has gone international!

On its 16th year of pushing for awareness for people with autism and coinciding with the start of the Autism Awareness Week, advocates of People With Disability (PWD) rights from the Association of Southeast Asian (Asean) region graced the event at the Mall of Asia Arena in Pasay City yesterday.

Mona Veluz, President of ASP said that for the first time, they have partnered with Asean organizations and groups to widen their advocacy not only in the Philippines but in the Asean region.

Representatives from some Asean organizations graced the event.

She said that through the joint efforts of Asean organizations, they are able to reach more people with autism and bring their causes towards a more integrated approach. "Just last year we held the first Asean friendship tournament for people with autism and we have lined several more activities this year which is the reason we are excited for the coming years," Veluz said.

Dang Koe, chairman emeritus of ASP said her group has gone from mere awareness organization toward social integration of people with autism to make them productive members of society. "We are now on our 16th year of doing this Angels Walk. Our children have grown up and we are now going toward making them productive members in the community and society so that at least when we as parents leave them, we would be leaving them in a more caring society," Koe said.

She added that they have started talking with government officials, other non-government organizations and private companies to push for initiatives that will open job and livelihood opportunities for people with autism. She said while some companies have started to hire PWDs, people with autism have still to be accepted in the workforce.

"We want our children to be useful because they are and they can be with the right guidance, education and opportunities for them to do so. And that has been what we are gearing towards in

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- Noy scored for coal backing, i...**
Senatorial candidate and Leyte Rep. Martin Ro...
- Tolentino vows creation of co...**
Senatorial candidate and former Metropolitan ...
- Drilon: BBL should be refilled**
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- Run after partylist nominees u...**
Farmers are up in arms against some partylist...
- 5 burn to death as tanker truc...**
Five people, including a six-month-old girl, ...
- Group presses House to pass e...**
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- Lay down your climate change a...**
With the presidential elections just three mo...

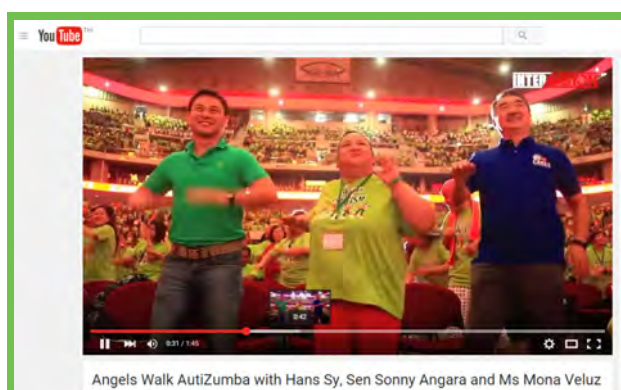
(Source: <http://www.tribune.net.ph/nation/angels-walks-goes-int-l-moves-toward-integration-of-people-with-au>)



VIDEOS



1. Asean Friendly Design for All: 1st Asean Autism Friendly Games & Angels Walk for Autism
(Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SmaAIKUzp0E>)



2. Angels Walk AntiZumba with Hans Sy, Sen. Sonny Angara and Ms. Mona Magno-Veluz
(Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?sns=fb&v=9ciQ-nC_8hk&app=desktop)



3. Mga Batang May Special Needs, Nakiisa sa Taunang Angels Walk for Autism
(Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QF3bZdhYdQA3>)



4. SM Cares - Angels Walk for Autism 2016
(Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ufJyl0nDzWk>)





PHOTO GALLERY

1st ASEAN Autism Friendship Games



*Let
the Games
begin....*









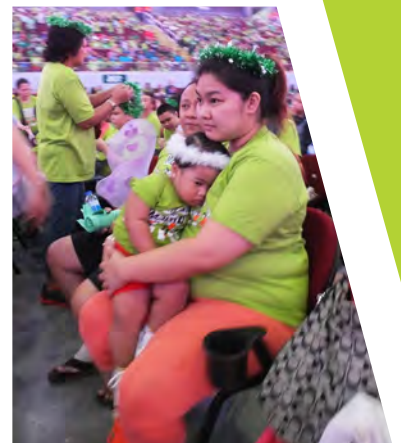


Angels Walk for Autism



Walk
for
a Cause...







"The Way Forward to an Autism-Friendly Inclusive Development"



Summary Report on

Summary Report on 3rd ASEAN Autism Network Congress:

1st ASEAN Autism Friendship Games & Angels Walk for Autism

Laguna & Manila, Philippines | 15-17 January 2016



Accessible for Persons with **dis**Abilities

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