

REPORT ON
**SECOND ASEAN AUTISM NETWORK
CONGRESS**



Report on Second ASEAN Autism Network Congress

organized by

Ministry of Education, Brunei Darussalam

Ministry of Health, Brunei Darussalam

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam

Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Brunei Darussalam

Society for the Management of Autism Related issues in Training, Education and Resources (SMARTER),
Brunei Darussalam



in collaboration with

Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (APCD)

ASEAN Autism Network (AAN)



Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam

27-29 April 2013

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Please contact info@apcdfoundation.org for further details.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Second ASEAN Autism Network (AAN) Congress was organized at the Songket Ballroom of the Rizqun International Hotel in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam on 27-29 April 2013 with the theme "Toward Autism Friendly ASEAN Community." The Congress stresses the importance of inclusiveness of persons with autism to promote an autistic-friendly ASEAN community by sharing experiences of their journey with persons with autism. It was launched by His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim Ibni, His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, DKMB, PHBS.

The program started with the Pre-Congress Workshop which was held at the SEAMEO VOCTECH building and gave persons with autism a VOICE (Vocal and Oral tools to Interact and Communicate Effectively) to be able to communicate and interact with others. More than 50 participants from ASEAN gathered at the workshop on 25 April 2013.

The first ASEAN Autism Youth Camp with the theme "Building an I-CAFE (Interaction, Companion, Affection in a Friendly Environment) for persons with autism" was held at the Taman Rekreasi Hutan Simpan Berakas Reserve Forest on 26-27 April 2013. The Camp allowed persons with autism from different nations to interact and develop their management skills. 30 persons with autism and supporters participated in the Camp.

The Congress was designed to give an opportunity for persons with autism and their families to collaborate towards achieving ASEAN standards with reference to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and other international and regional instruments related to autism. About 400 participants, including persons with autism, and their families, professionals and officials, attended the Congress.

As a result of the Congress, the "Bandar Seri Begawan Recommendations on Autism" was adopted. In collaboration with the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (APCD), the Secretariat of AAN, AAN is determined to enhance and facilitate cooperation for an "Inclusive, Barrier-Free and Rights-Based Society for Persons with Autism". The third AAN Congress will be organized in Malaysia in 2015.



Group Photo of Organizer/Partners including AAN Members

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN RECOMMENDATIONS ON AUTISM



Bandar Seri Begawan Recommendations on Autism

We, the representatives of persons with autism, their parents, siblings and other family members, governments, care givers, the business sector and other stakeholders in the countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), over 300 persons, gathered in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam from 27 to 29 April 2013 in the second ASEAN Autism Network (AAN) Congress with the theme "Towards Autism Friendly ASEAN Community". His Royal Highness Prince Hj 'Abdul' Azim attended the opening ceremony of the Congress and endorsed the need of appropriate support to persons with autism and their families in the ASEAN region.

We deeply thank the organizers of the Congress: SMARTER Brunei in partnership with AAN, in collaboration with the Government of Brunei Darussalam through the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, with support from the people of Brunei Darussalam, for their great hospitality and support in the successful coordination of the Congress.

In agreement with the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the Incheon Strategy to "Make the Right Real" for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific, and the Bali Declaration on the Enhancement of the Role and Participation of Persons with Disabilities in the ASEAN Community, AAN has made various efforts to raise the voices of persons with autism, their parents, siblings and other family members, in partnership with the Governments in the ASEAN Member States and the Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability (APCD).

In line with the framework of the ASEAN Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2011-2020) and the Asia-Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2013-2022), we shared our commitment to one key principle within AAN during the Congress, namely, "Act for Autism Now", recognizing that the number of persons with autism is increasing in the ASEAN Member States, while their diverse needs are not always addressed in the policies and programs by the Governments.

In view of the stated perspectives, the Congress makes the following recommendations:

1. Partnerships between ASEAN and its Secretariat, the Governments in the ASEAN Member States, AAN and APCD should be strengthened to promote and implement an autism-friendly ASEAN community in a sustainable manner;
2. Organizations serving persons with autism should be part of the planning, implementation and monitoring of disability-related policies and programs at the local, national and international levels. This requires necessary resource allocations and involvement of persons with autism, their parents, siblings and other family members to make autism-related initiatives more achievable;
3. Standardized methods to assess autism and evidence-based intervention should be introduced and implemented in the ASEAN Member States;
4. Key performance indicators should be established to measure and review the progress of autism-related activities at the national and regional levels;
5. Opportunities for education, vocational training, employment and social protection should be provided to persons with autism in an inclusive way;

Unanimously agreed by all participants
at the second ASEAN Autism Network Congress, 29 April 2013



6. Capacity building trainings should be made available and accessible to persons with autism, their parents, siblings and other family members, to enhance the recognition of the urgent needs of persons with autism towards a "Autism Friendly ASEAN Community";
7. Research in relation to autism, particularly incidence of autism for proper resource planning, therapies and other necessary services, should be conducted continuously; and
8. The third ASEAN Autism Network Congress should be held in Malaysia in 2015.

Signed by:

Malai Hj Abdullah Othman
Chairperson, ASEAN Autism Network
President, SMARTER Brunei, Brunei Darussalam

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Honorary Chairperson, ASEAN Autism Network
President, Association of Parents for Thai Persons with Autism, Thailand

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Chairman, NASOM Autism Advisory Council, Malaysia

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Akiko Ninomiya
Secretary General, ASEAN Autism Network
Executive Director, Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability, Thailand

Unanimously agreed by all participants
at the second ASEAN Autism Network Congress, 29 April 2013

PROGRAM

Pre-Congress Workshop: Giving Persons with Autism a VOICE (Using Visual and Oral Tools to Interact and Communicate Effectively)

25 April 2013 | Venue: SEAMEO – VOCTECH

Session 1

08.30 – 10.00 **Introduction, Lecture, and Discussion**

10.00 – 10.30 Refreshment

Session 2

10.30 – 12.00 **Group Activity:**
-Learning the importance of a VOICE (Vocal and Oral tools to Interact and Communicate Effectively)

12.00 – 13.30 Lunch Break

Session 3

13.30 – 15.00 **Group Work:**
-Participants divided into groups and come up with ideas and techniques to use VOICE

15.00 – 15.30 Refreshment

Session 4

15.30 – 17.00 **Group Presentation:**
-How to give a VOICE to a person with autism?

First ASEAN Autism Youth Camp: Building an I-CAFE

26-27 April 2013 | Venue: Taman Rekreasi Hutan Simpan Berakas

Session 1

- 14.00-18.00 **Registration**
Orientation
Self-introduction through Drawing/Stories Using Pictures
Making of group banner
Decorating their respective chalet
Practice for the talent show of each country
Going to the beach (swimming) walking in the park
- 18:00-19:00 **Dinner/PMT**
- 19:00-19:30 **Performance Preparation**
- 19:30-20:00 **Assembly of Campers**

Opening Ceremony

- 20:00-22:00 **Arrival of Guest of Honour**
Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Laila Diraja Dato Seri Setia
Awang Haji Hazair bin Haji Abdullah
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Brunei Darussalam
- Surah Al Fatihah**
- Welcoming Speech**
Mr. Malai Hj Abdullah bin Hj Othman
President, Society for the Management of Autism Related issues in
Training, Education and Resources (SMARTER)
- Dance Presentation**
BACA Centre
- Opening Remarks**
- Launching of the ASEAN Autism Youth Camp 2013**
Guest of Honour
- Performance (Talent Show) by AAN Member Countries**
- Presentation of Souvenir to the Guest of Honour**
- Presentation of Certificate to Campers**
- Award Presentation**
- Camp Tour**
Guest of Honour
- 21:00-23.00 **Barbeque Party**

27 April 2013 | Venue: Taman Rekreasi Hutan Simpan Berakas

- 06:00-07.00 **Aerobics Exercise**
- 07:00-07.00 **Personal Management Training**
- 07:30-08.00 **Tidying Up**

Second ASEAN Autism Network (AAN) Congress

27 April 2013 | Venue: Songket Ballroom, 4th Floor, The Rizqun International Hotel

Opening Ceremony

- 07:30-09:00 **Registration of AAN participants**
- 09:00-12:00 **Arrival of Guest of Honour**
HRH Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim Ibni HM Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkih
Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah DKMB PHBS
- Bacaan Surah Al-Fatihah and Doa Selamat**
- Opening Remarks**
Mr. Malai Hj Abdullah bin Hj Othman
President, Society for the Management of Autism Related issues in Training,
Education and Resources (SMARTER)
- Welcome Remarks**
Mr. Chusak Janthayanond
Chairperson, ASEAN Autism Network
- Sabda**
HRH Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim Ibni HM Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkih
Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah DKMB PHBS
- Launching of the Second ASEAN Autism Network Congress**
- Video Presentation and Parade of ASEAN Flags**
- Introduction of Heads of the ASEAN Delegates**
- Keynote Speaker**
Mr. Akiie Ninomiya
Executive Director, Asia-Pacific Development Center on Disability
- Santap/Refreshments**
- Photo Session and Signing of the Parchment**
- Viewing of the ASEAN Autism Awareness Exhibition**
- Departure of Guest of Honour**
HRH Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim Ibni HM Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkih
Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah DKMB PHBS

Session 1

- 13.30-14.30 **Creating our Own Affordable and Sustainable Intervention
Program Using Local Resources**
- Presentations and Discussion:**
-How to obtain sustainability
-Providing ideas, using indigenous resources, etc.
-Partnership with various organizations in the community
By Brunei Darussalam: Mr. Malai Hj Abdullah bin Hj Malai Othman
- 14.30-15.00 **Coffee Break**

Session 2

- 15.00-17.00 **Ensuring a Guaranteed Intervention Program that will be accessible to All**
Presentations and Discussion:
-Effectiveness of early intervention
-Services available for early intervention
-Supporting students with autism in schools
By Brunei Darussalam: Dr. Hjh Mawarni Hj Abdul Hamid, Dr. Wati binti Haji Bujang/ Norhidafaizah binti Tompal and Malaysia: Dr. Lim Boon Hock

28 April 2014 | Venue: Sutra Ballroom, 4th Flr., The Rizqun International Hotel

Session 3

- 09.00-10.00 **Core Skills for CHIPS (Contributing, Holistic, Independent, Productive, and Successful) as Members of the Society**
Presentations and Discussion:
-Going into the different stages in life of an individual with autism
-Stresses, issues, and needs of an individual with autism
-Their struggles on ever changing social expectations
By Brunei Darussalam: Ms. Arlene Arce
- 10.00-10.30 Coffee Break

Session 4

- 10.30-11.30 **Creative Arts: Discovering their Amazing Talents**
Presentation/Workshop:
-Developing their abilities and talents
-There will always be a room for changes (developing a program based on their skills and interests)
-Tips on how to have meltdown-free performances on stage
By Singapore: Mr. Low Kok Wai
- 11.30-12.30 **Presentation/Workshop:**
-Inclusive Education for Students with Autism in Thailand:
A Case Study of Kasetsart University
By Thailand: Mr. Surachai Jewcharoensakul
- 12.30-13.30 Lunch Break

Session 5

- 13.30-15.00 **Sharing Discussion**
Presentations and Discussion:
-Experiences of living with a person with autism
By AAN Representatives from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR and Malaysia
- 15.00-15.30 Coffee Break
- 15.30-16.45 **Presentations and Discussion:**
-Experiences of living with a person with autism (continued)
By AAN Representatives from Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam

Session 6

16.45-17.30 Open Discussion/Drafting the Recommendations
By AAN Members

Charity Gala Night

20:00-24.00 **Arrival of Guest of Honour**
Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Johan Pahlawan Dato
Seri Setia Awang
Haji Adanan bin Begawan Pehin Khatib Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji
Mohammad Yusof
Minister of Health Brunei Darussalam

Opening Remarks
Mr. Malai Hj Abdullah bin Hj Malai Othman
President, SMARTER

Certificate of Appreciation

Cenderamata

Presentation from Individuals with Autism
AAN Member Countries

Video Presentation
Please Don't Shut Me Out

Opening
-One in a Million
-Aidil bin Fazakir
-Celebration Parade

Oddy's Quest: Part 1
Auto Mobile Collection
Conceptualized from the previous SMARTER's musical play
Magical "Rimba" Collection
Exploring the beauty and richness of Brunei's rain forest
Innovative Smarter Collection
Showcasing SMARTER's uniqueness and innovation

Intermission
-Wonderfoos
-Dream Girls

Oddy's Quest: Part 2
3R – Eco Friendly Collection
Giving importance to Reuse, Reduce, and, Recycle program

Aquatic Treasure Collection
Discovering the richness and cleanliness of the body of water

Closing
-Live While We're Young
-Hafiz Osli

28 April 2014 | Venue: Sutra Ballroom, 4th Flr., The Rizqun International Hotel

Closing Ceremony

09:00-12.00 **Arrival of Guest of Honour**
Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia
Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong
Minister of Education, Brunei Darussalam

Recital of Al-Fatihah and Doa Selamat

Announcement of Recommendations
New Elected Chairperson, AAN

Closing Remarks
Col (Rtd) Pg Kamal Bashah bin Pg Hj Ahmad
Chairman, the Second AAN Congress

Hand over the Banner to the Next Hosting Nation

Closing Address
Guest of Honour

PHOTOS OF PRE-SECOND ASEAN AUTISM CONGRESS EVENTS



Pre-Congress Workshop



First ASEAN Autism Youth Camp



Performances

PHOTOS OF SECOND ASEAN AUTISM CONGRESS EVENTS



Opening Ceremony



Exhibition on Autism



Over 400 participants





Recommendations on Autism



ASEAN Autism Network Members



Performances

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2nd ASEAN Autism congress set April 27 and 29 in Brunei

By **POH-LAY LIAW**, U.S. NEWS AGENCY / AP

The ASEAN Autism Network (AAN) will be having its second congress on April 27 and 29 at the elegant international hotel in central Brunei.

The event aims to bring together parents of persons with autism, professionals and advocates from the different countries in South East Asia to provide new information on autism as well as strategies and interventions according to the Autism Society of the Philippines (ASP).

AAN is a parent support organization in South East Asia that promotes the rights and welfare of persons with autism and their families. It is composed of parent organizations from Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Taiwan.

The Asia Pacific Development Center on Disability in Bangkok, Thailand, serves as its secretariat.

Its objective is to enable parents from among countries to share experiences on persons with autism.

Prior to the congress, an Autism Youth Camp with the theme "Building an Inclusive Future" on cooperation, companionship, affection and a friendly environment for individuals with autism will also be held on April 25 to 27.

The camp will focus on developing social interaction skills through children's structured activities that will develop their personal and management skills.

A gala night fashion show will also be held where the youths will showcase their respective national costumes.

Aside from that, a general assembly meeting and election of new officers and committee heads will be conducted on April 26.

The new set of officers will be task to lead the organization to reach its goal for an autism-friendly ASEAN community.

ASP's Dream Girls - Thana Marie Santiago and Danna Escanete - will

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- Don't know how to keep the cat. Not sure if it's a cat
- Love the new look of the website. It's a great improvement.
- Philippine News on the new website. Not sure if it's a cat.
- It's a great experience to have a cat in the house. It's a great experience to have a cat in the house.
- They are good for the cat. Not sure if it's a cat.
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IS MIGRATING TO A NEW SERVER
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Brunei can be a model for autistic centres in ASEAN



Asia-Pacific Development Centre on Disability (APCD) Committee Member and Secretary for APCD Foundation, (Mr) Akhie Ninomiya said Brunei was ahead of other ASEAN countries in terms of diagnosis of autism. Picture: BT/Nurhamiza Hj Roslan

NURHAMIZA HJ ROSLAN
BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN
Monday, April 29, 2013

PROGRAMMES for Individuals With Autism (IWA) available in Brunei Darussalam specifically in the fields of intervention, inclusive education and training can be a model for other autism centres in the ASEAN region.

This was said by Asia-Pacific Development Centre on Disability (APCD) Committee Member and Secretary for APCD Foundation, (Mr) Akhie Ninomiya, during an interview with the media on the sidelines of the Second ASEAN Autism Network (AAN) Congress. He said Brunei was also ahead of other ASEAN countries in terms of diagnosis of autism.

Another strength Brunei Darussalam has, added Ninomiya, was in its government. "There is strong inter-ministerial communication. In other governments in the ASEAN region, as far as I know, the ministries don't

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<http://www.bt.com.bn/2013/04/29/brunei-can-be-model-autistic-centres-asean>

APPENDICES

AAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAIRPERSON

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President, Society for the Management of Autism Related issues in Training, Education and Resources (SMARTER), Brunei Darussalam

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President, Association of Parents for Thai Persons with Autism, Thailand

DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON 1

Dr. Teh Beng Choon
Chairman, The National Autism Society of Malaysia (NASOM), Malaysia

DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON 2

Dr. Adriana Ginanjar
Member, Scientific Committee
Autism Foundation of Indonesia

HONORARY TREASURER

Ms. Hoang Ngoc Bich
Executive Committee Member, Hanoi Club for Families of Children with Autism, Vietnam

HONORARY SECRETARY

Ms. Cecilia Sicam
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Mr. Nay Myo Naing
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CHAIRPERSON OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Ms. Viengsam Soinxay
President, Association for Autism, Lao PDR

CHAIRPERSON OF LEARNING, EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMITTEE

Ms. Svay Simorn
Director, Parents Association for Children with Intellectual Disabilities, Cambodia

SECRETARY GENERAL

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Accessible for Persons with disAbilities

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