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Asia Development Alliance

: Asian Voice for the World We Want 2015

A List of ADA Statements
(SEPT 2013)

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Asia Development Alliance (ADA) 2013
Bangkok, 31 Jan. to 2 Feb. 2013

ADA Bangkok Declaration 2013

We, over 70 participants - mainly representatives of national and sub-national development NGO/CSO platforms (NP) and international CSOs and their platforms - of the first meeting of the Asia Development Alliance (ADA) in Bangkok from 31 January to 2 February 2013 held under the theme "Asian Voice for the World We Want 2015" including a one-day public session on 1 Feb. 2013 at the UN Conference Centre, UNESCAP addressing the Asian CSO response to the Post-2015 Development Agenda (Session1), policy dialogue with UN and ADB (Session 2), international advocacy on international processes and agendas (Session 3), enabling environment for CSO development effectiveness and human rights defenders (Session 4-1), and financing for development beyond Monterrey Consensus (Session 4-2),

1. Recognizing that the Asia Development Alliance (ADA) a joint initiative and an evolving network of national and sub-national development NGO/CSO platforms (NPs) in Asia – mainly South, Southeast and Northeast Asia - in order to enhance synergetic effects and cost-effective communication, coordination and cooperation in partnership with international CSOs and their platforms, in particular, Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP)-Asia, CIVICUS Affinity Groups of National Associations (AGNA), International Forum of National NGO Platforms (IFP) in the context of Post 2015 Development Agenda and the global campaign for the World We Want,
2. Recognizing that the ADA is a result of a series of consultations among representatives of NPs during the international meetings including the Asia regional meeting of IFP (Kathmandu, Oct. 2011), CIVICUS General Assembly (Sept. 2011 and 2012) and Seoul Civil Society Forum (Sept. 2011, Feb and Sept. 2012),
3. Recognizing that NPs can and should play a proactive role as an interface and inter-linkage between local, sub-national and national CSOs and international CSOs in terms of information sharing, policy shaping and advocacy,
4. Recognizing that the ADA is a space for policy dialogue for action and reflection at the regional level with international organizations and institutions such as the UN, and other stake-holders,
5. Recognizing that the ADA is a collaborative effort between development and human rights CSOs at the regional level to meet common challenges of defending civil society and democratic space, human rights defenders as well as promoting an enabling environment for CSO development effectiveness,
6. Recognizing that the ADA is a timely response to emerging challenges of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and other related processes and agendas such as the Post Istanbul process on LDCs, Post Busan Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC), g7+ and Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals (PSGs) and Post Rio+20 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and G20 Summit Development Agenda,
7. Recognizing with appreciation the role played by the 4 co-conveners – Voluntary Action Network in India (VANI) for South Asia, Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC) and Code-NGO (Philippines) for Southeast Asia and Korea NGO Council for Overseas Development Cooperation (KCOC) for Northeast Asia in making the first regional meeting of ADA possible,
8. Expressing our deep appreciation to the UN Millennium Campaign (UNMC) and Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA) for their services as local hosts of the ADA,
9. Expressing our deep appreciation to the co-sponsors for their valuable contributions, namely CIVICUS AGNA, IFP and Good Neighbors International (GNI) and other contributors including the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and the Zhi-Shan Foundation,

10. Expressing our appreciation to Mr. Shun-ichi MURATA, Deputy Executive Secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) who welcomed the participants in person at the opening session of the ADA,
11. Expressing our appreciation to Ms Virginia DANDAN, UN Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity who made valuable contributions at the opening roundtable discussion on Post 2015 Development Agenda,
12. Expressing our appreciation to all participants, mainly representatives of NPs, CSOs and their platforms as well as experts who shared their valuable knowledge and expertise,

Post-2015 Development Agenda (Session 1 and 2)

13. Recognizing that the Post 2015 Development Agenda provides an opportunity and challenge to CSOs in Asia to empower people living in poverty and insecurity to claim their own rights,
14. Emphasizing the importance of proactive engagement for CSOs to articulate and advocate alternative development paradigms based on quality of life and material sufficiency for all, human solidarity and enhanced global equity, affinity with nature and ecological sustainability,
15. Emphasizing the urgent need to address as a top priority the rising inequality and injustice between, among and within countries and regions, between the rich and poor, men and women, and the urban and rural through fair redistribution of wealth, power and resources,
16. Stressing the importance of addressing the structural causes of poverty along with the nexus between domestic and global economic and financial policies,

CSO Engagement with International Institutions and Processes (Session 3)

17. Emphasizing that the Istanbul Program of Action (IPoA) needs to be mainstreamed in the Post 2015 Development Agenda to empower people living in fragile and vulnerable situations in particular, countries such as Least Development Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing Countries (SIDSs) and Least Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs),
18. Emphasizing the need for CSOs to engage more proactively in the post Rio+20 process despite shortcomings and limited outcome of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20),
19. Recognizing the strategic and more coordinated engagement of CSOs with regional and inter-governmental bodies in Asia such as Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and ASEAN+3, South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), East Asia Summit (EAS),
20. Recognizing both the achievements and shortcomings / setbacks at the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (BPEDC) and its implementation mechanisms such as the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) in terms of CSO engagement in international development cooperation,
21. Recognizing the importance of mainstreaming the g7+ New Deal for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals (PSGs) of fragile states in Post 2015 Develoment Agenda,
22. Emphasizing that G20 needs to be more transparent and accountable to what have been pledged in line with internationally agreed development goals (IADGs),
23. Recognizing the emerging challenges of engagement with non-UN inter-governmental processes and institutions related to development such as G20 and BRICS,

CSO Engagement for Enabling Environment for CSO Development Effectiveness and Human Rights Defenders (Session 4-1)

24. Concerned that CSOs in Asia are pervasively challenged by fast accelerating shrinking democratic space and non- and counter-enabling environment for CSO development effectiveness,
25. Emphasizing that national governments shall be primarily responsible for providing and ensuring an enabling environment for CSO development effectiveness by respecting, protecting and fulfilling their human rights obligations ,
26. Emphasizing that different frames such as democratic space, defending civil society, enabling environment for CSO development effectiveness and defending human right defenders need to be harmonized and streamlined in order to develop a more coordinated, synergetic, holistic approaches, and advocacy strategies,

27. Reaffirming the 1997 Universal Declaration on Democracy,1998 UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders and 2010 Istanbul Principles and 2011 Siem Reap Consensus for CSO Development Effectiveness developed by CSOs are common basis for joint action for both development practitioners, human rights activists and democracy advocates,

28. Recognizing the need for a space for mutual learning about the human rights-based approach to development (HRBA) and the Istanbul Principles for CSO Development Effectiveness in a integral manner in the Asian context,

29. Recognizing the need to develop indicators on the Index about Enabling Environment for CSO development effectiveness in Asian context,

30. Recognizing the importance of human rights mainstreaming and HRBA through making use of the existing UN human rights mechanisms such as Human Rights Council's special procedures, treaty bodies and Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in promoting development effectiveness, inter alia, special procedures on Freedom of Expression, Freedom of Assembly and Association, Human Rights Defenders and International Solidarity,

CSO Engagement for Financing for Development beyond Monterrey Consensus (Session 4-2)

31. Emphasizing the importance of making national governments more accountable through strong alliance of civil society budget advocacy groups across Asia to strengthen the process of linking government budgets to human rights, accountable governance, aid and development effectiveness, progressive taxation, and social equity,

32. Calling for public audit, repeal and repudiation of all illegitimate debts in Asia and the re- channeling of people's money from debt servicing to development financing, and for the establishment of an alternative, democratic and responsible financing for development in the region and globally,

33. Challenging the dominant paradigm of the Monterrey Consensus that considers labour migrants and their remittances as a source of development financing and stressing that migrant labour is not a commodity and the remittances of migrants are "personal transfers" to overcome poverty and fulfill their needs and welfare,

34. Demanding that all OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) donors fulfill their commitments to allocate 0.7% of their GNI to aid or international development cooperation, and calling on all providers of development cooperation, including non-traditional donors to adhere to the aid and development effectiveness principles such as democratic ownership and multiple accountabilities,

35. Recognizing that trade should contribute to development but that the current trade system is unfair to developing countries, we call for a fair and equitable trading system that benefits developing countries and contributes to their development prospects. Specifically allowing them the policy space to decide on the scale and speed of liberalization while providing safeguard mechanisms and eliminating trade-distorting agricultural subsidies by developed countries.

36. Ensuring that developing countries have adequate policy space to protect the environment, health and development prospects of their populations, and calling for a review of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), especially their investment chapters, and bilateral investment treaties.

37. Emphasizing the need to make progress on a development agenda on intellectual property to orient the regime so that there are sufficient flexibilities for developing countries to pursue social progress in healthcare, education, food security, etc.

Commitment and Action Plans

38. Decide to officially launch the ADA as a coalition of national and sub-national development CSO/NGO platforms in Asia with the following organizations as founding members in partnership with international CSOs and their networks listed below, and invite more NPs to join in due course,

39. Commit to work together with relevant partner organizations such as GCAP-Asia in context of the Post 2015 Development Agenda, in particular the 4th HLP on Post 2015 (Bali, March 2013), UN General Assembly (New York, Sept. 2013) and other relevant international meetings,

40. Confirm the following 6 NPs as a group of co-conveners to facilitate the ADA process: VANI (India) and NFN (Nepal) for South Asia, Code-NGO (Philippines) and CCC (Cambodia) for Southeast Asia, and JANIC (Japan) and KCOC (Korea) for Northeast Asia with a mandate of 2 years (Jan 2013 to Dec. 2014) and KCOC as a focal point,

41. Request Co-conveners to development Terms of Reference (ToR) regarding membership and partnership criteria and procedure of NPs for new membership,
42. Welcome the initiative of VANI (India) to provide a website for ADA members by creating a website or modifying the existing IFP-Asia website http://www.ngo-asia.org/ as a space for online communication and resource archive including a common work calendar,
43. Welcome the "Siem Reap Initiative" from CCC(Cambodia) as a focal point among NPs in Asia to implement the Istanbul Principles and Siem Reap Consensus for CSO Development Effectiveness through training and advocacy,
44. Welcome the formation of the ADA Working Group on G20, primarily among NPs from five member countries of the G20 namely, China, Japan, Korea, Indonesia and India in corporation with other interested NPs and IPs to facilitate Asian CSOs participation in the G20 process, especially the Development Working Group and Civil G20 Dialogue and G20 Summit (Petersburg, June and Sept. 2013),
45. Request Co-conveners to facilitate the formation of an ADA Working Group on GPEDC as an interface between ADA and CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE),
46. Request Co-conveners to consider forming an ADA Working Group on Rio+20, as necessary and appropriate, as an interface between ADA and existing CSO/NGO and/or Stakeholder Groups like Major Groups in Asia,
47. Request Co-conveners to organize the following programs if and when possible, in cooperation with international CSOs and their platforms that have relevant expertise and resources.

   a) Capacity-building program on national and international advocacy on international development processes and agendas including MDGs and Post 2015 Development Agenda, GPEDC, Rio+20, G20 and Monterrey Consensus,
   b) Training and exchange forums among development practitioners and human rights defenders focusing on human rights mainstreaming, human rights-based approach to development (RBA) and the Istanbul Principles and Siem Reap Consensus for CSO Development Effectiveness,
   c) Policy dialogue and engagement with national governments as appropriate, UN and other international institutions as well as policy makers, parliamentarians and academic communities on the "new Asian development framework" based on universal norms such as human rights, social and gender justice, ecological sustainability, peace and human security and decent work which reflects reality and aspirations of impoverished and marginalized people in Asia.

48. Request Co-conveners to organize a 2nd meeting of the ADA in an appropriate timeframe of late 2013 or early 2014 to assess the outcomes of international advocacy work particularly the UN GA (New York, September 2013) and make joint plan for the year 2014 and beyond.

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Asia Development Alliance (ADA) 2013

Bangkok, 31 Jan. to 2 Feb. 2013

ADA Bangkok Statement on Post 2015 Development Agenda

1. The world today, including Asia, is mired in multiple crises; economic/financial, food and energy, climate change and nuclear threats and weakening democratic governance, as illustrated in the recent "currency wars", the Arab Spring, Occupy Wall Street Movement and the Fukushima incident. These crises have worsened the plight of more than half of humanity facing daily struggles for survival, as they live without adequate access to food, water, sanitation, shelter, basic education and healthcare under the threat of climate change. This situation is ongoing or worsening in many places and compelling evidence of the failure of the current socio-economic policies to uplift more than two bottom billions from a state of abject poverty, conflict, social insecurity and environmental degradation.

2. In Asia, the most populous, diverse and dynamic region of the world in terms of culture, religion, politics and economy, civil society movements are witnessing newly emerging challenges and threats to people's human rights, security and sovereignty such as escalating military tensions around the Korean peninsula, lingering consequences from the Fukushima nuclear incident and territorial tensions and conflicts on the East Asia Sea as well as intra-state conflicts in many parts of the region.

3. Despite the democratic opening of Burma/Myanmar, many human rights defenders and democracy advocates are faced with shrinking democratic space, counter-enabling environment for CSO development effectiveness and political oppressions. We also witness the harsh reality that the hard-fought democracy over the last decades is sliding back into an old authoritarian regime and oligarchy that result in more violations of basic human rights such as freedom of expression, association and assembly.

4. In the midst of this deepening multiple crises we, over 70 participants, mainly representatives of national and sub-national development NGO/CSO platforms and international CSOs and their platforms met in Bangkok in the founding meeting of the Asia Development Alliance (ADA) to discuss those challenges in the context of the UN Post 2015 Development Agenda and our strategic responses under the theme "Asian Voice for the World We Want 2015".

5. Those multiple crises clearly revealed to us a total failure in this dominant neoliberal political and economic paradigm over the last decades which was characterized by the liberalization of trade, investment, and labour market, the shrinking of public domains and spheres, increasing power of trans-national corporations (TNCs) and international financial and trade institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank and World Trade Organization (WTO) and their powerful allies in many governments.

6. The perception that Asia is the world's growth engine masks the fact that the majority of the world's poor live in the region and are actually buffeted by high levels of inequality and uneven democratic environments. Today for many poor people in Asia, development means less job security, more corruption, more fragility, instability and conflicts rather than more prosperity, safety and welfare.

7. This paradox of the Asian reality compelled and challenged us to articulate, rally around and advance our vision and demand for an alternative development framework grounded on the principles of human rights, equity, social justice, peace, international solidarity, gender equality, decent work, cultural diversity, environmental sustainability, wellbeing and happiness of all.

8. Deep system-wide change to existing economic institutions is urgently needed to reverse typical conditions of contemporary globalizing economies that are unsustainable, unfair, unstable and undemocratic. The alternative socio-economic paradigm requires profound transformations in the fundamental values and organizing principles of society. Any new system of sustainable economies should adopt sustainable development paradigms that emphasize quality of life and material

sufficiency for all, human solidarity and enhanced global equity, affinity with nature and ecological sustainability

9. The Post 2015 Development Agenda spearheaded by the UN has opened up the debate on the usefulness and shortcomings of the current MDGs framework and provided us with an opportunity to revisit and define our development agenda and strategies in the current Asian context. At the same time, it provides an opportunity and challenge to CSOs in Asia –to empower people living in poverty and insecurity to claim their own rights.

10. Learning from the recent Rio+20 process and others, it is important for civil society actors to secure concrete and meaningful mechanisms for engagement in shaping a pro-active post-2015 development agenda and in its implementation. At the same time, it is crucial to involve all development actors – both the rights-holders and duty-bearers – to institutionalize accountability mechanisms for national governments and international institutions.

11. We strongly believe that The Post 2015 Development Agenda should:

a) Address as a top priority the rising inequality and injustice between, among and within countries and regions, between the rich and poor, men and women, and the urban and rural through fair redistribution of wealth, power and resources with a focus on social protection mechanism,

b) Emphasize the MDGs acceleration efforts to make sure that it is not used as an excuse for governments and international organizations to renege on their MDG commitments, the deadline of which is still three years away,

c) Take a holistic approach taking into account all dimensions and pillars of development such as economic, social, political, cultural, environmental and spiritual,

d) Be framed by human rights-based approaches to development with global sustainability principles as articulated by the People's Sustainability Treaties (PST) www.sustainabilitytreaties.org and the framework for Global Sustainability Goals (GSGs) www.reflectiongroup.org,

e) Emphasizing the human rights mainstreaming by placing the 1986 UN Declaration on the Right to Development and the ratification of all human rights treaties, in particular, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and its Optional Protocol at the center of policy discourse,

f) Utilize fully the expertise available at the UN human rights mechanisms such as the UN special procedures, treaty bodies, Universal Periodic Review (UPR), in particular, the UN Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity,

g) Ensure progressive policy coherence for development among international organizations including international financial institutions in accordance with internationally agreed development goals (IADGs) based on the principles of human rights, peace, democracy and ecological sustainability,

h) Focus on the structural causes of poverty along with the nexus between domestic and global economic and financial policies,

i) Place concerns, preoccupations and interests of people living in poverty in all regions and countries, in particular the 2011 Istanbul Program of Action (IPoA) for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) at the center of policy discourse,

j) Pay special attention to fragility, human security and conflict transformation especially Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals (PSGs),

k) Pay special attention to the challenges facing resilient communities against natural disasters and climate change,

l) Pay special attention to challenges of urbanization and migration to sustainable human development,

m) Ensure adequate financing for development beyond the Monterrey Consensus including debt cancellation, Financial Transaction Tax (FTT), disarmament and taxation reform as well as tackling tax dodging practices and

n) Strengthen both national and international supervisory mechanisms to regulate transnational corporations and speculative financial capitals

12. We are deeply concerned, however, that the current limited timeframe may not do justice to the billions of helpless and voiceless people in Asia as the process is still top-down and a majority of people cannot participate due to lack of access to information and resources despite much efforts by the UN and relevant agencies.

13. We are convinced that the national development CSO/NGO platforms in partnership with international CSOs and their platforms can and should play a central role as an interface and advocacy platform in engaging with our national governments and international institutions.

14. Therefore, in order to make the Post 2015 dialogue more inclusive, effective and thus meaningful, we commit

a) To participate as actively as possible in both off and online, to bring the   voice of people whose voices need to be heard,

b) To enable people and local communities to claim their rights to participate in agenda- setting and decision-making processes in matters that affect their lives,

c) To articulate our own vision of alternative development so that the people's enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms are at the center,

d) To build a bottom-up rainbow coalition among different countries, sectors and groups as well as with like-minded stakeholders based on common goals and strategies,

e) To advocate more proactively for the democratization of global and national governance mechanisms and the decision-making processes affecting the peoples' lives at all levels – local, national, regional and global,

f) To engage nationally and internationally with national governments and parliaments to make them more accountable to what they have pledged and agreed, and to implement them at home.

Asia Development Alliance (ADA)

is a regional forum of national and sub-national development NGO/CSO platforms in Asia to promote more effective communication, coordination and cooperation in the Post-2015 Development Agenda process.
It was officially launched in Bangkok on 2 February 2013.
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Asia Development Alliance (ADA)

ADA Statement on Bali Communiqué of the HLP on Post 2015 Development Agenda

21 April 2013

1. We, members and partners of the Asia Development Alliance (ADA) composed of national and sub-national development CSO/NGO platforms in Asia welcome the communiqué of the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda issued on 27 March 2013 after concluding its fourth meeting including one day of public consultations with civil society and other stake holders on 25 March.

2. We note that there are some significant progress and shortcomings in the HLP's deliberations under four key areas such as Reshaped and revitalized global governance and partnerships, protection of the global environment, sustainable production and consumption and strengthened means of implementation.

3. First of all, we are pleased to see that some issues were recognized, re-affirmed and emphasized in the Bali communiqué that were of great importance to civil society as pointed out in the ADA Bangkok Statement on Post 2015 Development Agenda (2 Feb. 2013) and the communique of the Global CSO Conference (Bali, 23-24 March) prior to the stakeholders outreach day and statements made by CSO representatives at the Town Hall and several Round Tables on 25 March as well as eight points under 'A Red Flag for the post-2015 High Level Panel' adopted in global CSO conference in Bonn (21-23 Mar).

   a) Emphasis on the 'global ownership of a shared development agenda' and 'equal partnership of all stakeholders'
   b) Reaffirmation of the development agenda which are 'transformative, people-centered and planet-sensitive",
   c) Recognition of 'the need to promote a single and coherent post-2015 development agenda',
   d) Emphasis on 'sustainable production and consumption',
   e) Special emphasis on 'the regulation of tax havens and illicit financial flows',
   f) Emphasis on 'data availability and better accountability in measuring progress'

4. However, we remain concerned that some important issues were not adequately emphasized in the deliberation of the HLP meeting in Bali, which are as follows;

4.1. Vision and priorities

- Rising inequality - global and national – need to be given top priority along with poverty eradication and sustainable development.
- Countries facing extreme poverty and fragility including the UN-defined 49 least developed countries needs to be placed at the centre of the post-2015 development agenda.
- Structural transformation of current neoliberal economic paradigm and the alternative development paradigm need to be more clearly emphasized.

4.2. Reshaped and revitalized global governance and partnerships

- Centrality and primacy of human rights as value, principle and instrument for accountability mechanisms need to be more visibly emphasized specially for stakeholders in partnerships.
- Human rights-based accountability mechanism including monitoring, reporting and evaluation need to be embedded.
- A more just, fairer and equitable global financial and trade architecture and framework need to emphasized as integral to global governance.
- Importance of decommodification of public goods and commons at the national and global level through legislative and regulatory frameworks need to be emphasized.
- Both national and international supervisory mechanisms to regulate transnational corporations and speculative financial capitals need to be emphasized.

4.3. Protection of the global environment and sustainable production and consumption.

- Historical and common but differentiated responsibilities as well as planetary boundaries need to be recognized and emphasized.
- Priority need to be given to speedy operation of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) in order to develop concerted international action on adaptation for most developing countries and mitigation with drastic emission cuts by developed countries.

4.4. Strengthened Means of Implementation

- Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) need to be included in innovate financing.
- Disarmament and demilitarization as well as diversion of billions of military aid to = development financing should be also emphasized.
- A transformative, people-centred and planet-sensitive development agenda requires public
    financing of the post-2015 development agenda so that accountability is ensured.

4.5. Data availability and better accountability in measuring progresses'

- Alternative measurement system beyond GDP needs to be recognized and emphasized.

5. We strongly urge you to give due consideration to the above-mentioned suggestions so that they are adequately reflected in your final report.
6. Three day event in Bali was indeed a valuable opportunity for many CSOs, especially ADA members and partners from Indonesia and Asia to learn, articulate, empower and build solidarity in the post 2015 process.
7. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the HLP Secretariat for providing funding for many CSOs including some ADA members and partners to participate and space for dialogue and interactions with HLP members in person which made the HLP process ''an open, inclusive and transparent process'.
8. We assure you of our full commitment and support to make the HLP process and outcome more meaningful and beneficial to specially billions of people living in poverty, injustice and insecurity for survival.
9. We look forward to further dialogue and engagement with the HLP members for months to come and beyond. <end>

Asia Development Alliance (ADA)

ADA Statement on the UN HLP Report
on Post 2015 Development Agenda

12 June 2013

1. We, members and partners of the Asia Development Alliance (ADA) composed of national and sub-national development CSO/NGO platforms in Asia cautiously welcome the final report of the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda released on 30 May 2013 and at the same time express our concerns and disappointment about its adequacy in addressing key challenges identified in the ADA's statement (Bangkok, 2 Feb. 2013) and response to the communiqué of the 4th HLP (Bali, 27 March 2013)

2. The title of the report "A New Global Partnership: Eradicating Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development" as well as the "five big, transformative shifts" and "12 Illustrative Goals and Targets" seem to capture our expectations and preoccupations and they are undoubtedly much better than the MDGs framework. Looking closely into the detailed contents of the report, however, the analysis and recommendations contained in the report seem to be "new" but is lacking in the aspect of being refreshing and adequately inspirational, "bold" but not visionary and ambitious and "practical" but not transformative and radical.

3. Below are our assessment and recommendations in terms of our perspectives and proposals in our previous statements which are believed to be important for its improvement in the follow-up process, in particular, drafting of the UN Secretary General"s report to the UN General Assembly.

4. First of all, we are pleased to note that some issues and concerns we highlighted were recognized and reflected in the report which we think are positive and significant contribution of the HLP to the Post-2015 development agenda.

    1) Reaffirmation of human rights including the right to development as well as universality, equity, sustainability and solidarity as basic principles under "forge a new global partnership" (page 9)
    2) Recognition of the universal agenda and, the need to promote a single and coherent post-2015 development agenda
    3) More comprehensive scope of the post-2015 development goals such as inclusion of the illicit financial flows, money-laundering, tax evasion and hidden ownership of assets (goal 12), peace and security aspects of development (goal 11), and health, food and nutrition, water and sanitation, energy, job in a more explicit manner (goal 3-8)
    4) Recognition of international migration, urbanization and technology as factors (page 18)
    5) Recognition of other global cooperation forms such as g7+, G20, BRICS, Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) (page 24)
    6) Emphasis on "sustainable production and consumption",
    7) Emphasis on "data revolution" for better monitoring and accountability in measuring progress"

5. However, we remain concerned because the report failed to address the following important issues which we believe are essential if we are to end poverty and transform economies through sustainable development and global partnership.

    1) Urgent need to address rising inequality - global and national – as top priority specific goal.
    2) Mainstreaming human rights through human rights-based approaches to development
    3) How to operationalize important human rights standards such as the 1986 UN Declaration on the Right to Development and the core human rights treaties, in particular, International Covenant

on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and its Optional Protocol was not properly addressed,

4) How to utilize the existing available monitoring and accountability human rights mechanisms such as the UN special procedures, treaty bodies, Universal Periodic Review (UPR), in particular, the UN Independent Expert on Extreme Poverty, Human Rights and International Solidarity, Equitable and Democratic International Order,

5) Reaffirmation of the 2011 Istanbul Program of Action (IPoA) for Least Developed Countries (LDCs),

6) Urgent need to address debt cancellation in terms of historical and ecological debt

7) Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) and disarmament as innovative sources of financing for development

8) National and international supervisory mechanisms to promote transparency of national and transnational corporations, and regulate speculative financial capitals including the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights,

9) A more just, fairer and equitable global financial and trade architecture and framework as an essential part of democratic global governance,

10) Need to strongly promote global governance and inclusive partnership indicating clear roles each development actor need to play in new development frameworks,

11) Recognition of the internationally recognized principles of common but differentiated responsibilities

12) Urgent need to operationalize the Green Climate Fund (GCF) with full participation of civil society

13) Alternative measurement system of wellbeing or happiness beyond GDP

6. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the HLP members for their efforts and also urge the UN Secretary General to produce a truly inspirational, visionary and transformative post-2015 development agenda.

7. We also assure our full commitment and support to make the Post-2015 Development Agenda process and final outcome more meaningful and beneficial to specially billions of people living in poverty, injustice and insecurity for survival.

8. We look forward to receiving a report by the UN Secretary General for further dialogue and engagement in the months to come and beyond. <end>

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Asia Development Alliance (ADA)

ADA Statement On the UN Secretary General Report on MDGs and Post-2015 Development Agenda (A/68/202)

2 September 2013

We, members and partners of the Asia Development Alliance (ADA) composed of national and sub-national development CSO/NGO platforms in Asia, participating in the 2nd Regional Consultation on Post-2015 development agenda, convened jointly with Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP)-Asia in Bangkok, Thailand on 25 August 2013,

Recognizing the importance of the Post 2015 Development Agenda as an opportunity and challenge to CSOs in Asia to empower people living in poverty and insecurity to claim their own rights,

Taking note of the outcome document of the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Dialogue held in Bangkok on 26 and 27 August 2013, which is part of the engagement process between governments, civil society and other stake-holders in the UN development agenda beyond 2015,

Welcoming the report of the UN Secretary General "A life of dignity for all: accelerating progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and advancing the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015" (A/68/2015) submitted to the 68th session of the UN General Assembly,

Recalling the previous ADA statements on Post-2015 development agenda including ADA statement on Post-2015 Development Agenda (Bangkok, 2 Feb. 2013), ADA response to the Communiqué of the 4th HLP (Bali, 21 April 2013) and statement on the UN HLP Final Report (12 June, 2013),

Reaffirming fundamental values of freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance, respect for the planet and shared responsibility as enshrined in the UN Millennium Declaration,

Recognizing the importance of international agreed principles and their implementation such as the 1986 UN Declaration on the Right to Development, 1992 Rio Principles, 1995 Copenhagen Declaration and Program of Action and 2000 UN Millennium Declaration,

Recognizing the importance of inclusive and equitable partnerships for sustainable development among civil society, government including parliament, and private sector in line with internationally recognized principles such as the Busan Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights,

Reaffirming the Istanbul Principles and Seam Reap Consensus for CSO Development Effectiveness as recognized in the Article 22 of the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation in 2011, Reaffirming the vital role of CSOs which includes 'enabling people to claim their rights, promoting human rights-based approaches, sharing development policies and partnerships and overseeing their implementation and providing service delivery' as articulated in the Article 22 of the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation,

Welcoming the inclusion in the report of UN Secretary General of exclusion and inequality, climate change, migration and democratic challenges, urbanization as well as the international development cooperation framework as stand-alone goals among 15 proposed goals for Post-2015 development agenda,

Supporting the proposal in the Report of 'a single, balanced and comprehensive set of goals , universal to all nations' as core of the Post-2015 development agenda which is 'limited in number, measurable, easy to communicate and adaptable to both global and local settings',

Welcoming the recognition in the Report that the new sustainable development goals should include the emphasis on human well-being and go beyond the usual economic measures like Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and per capita income to include the use of new indicators such as surveys of well- being and happiness,

Welcoming the emphasis in the Report on the role of civil society and parliaments in monitoring and accountability mechanisms in MDGs and Post-2015 development agenda,

Welcoming the emphasis in the Report on the importance of solid statistical system and capacity' in monitoring the progress in the realization of MDGs and Post-2015 development agenda,

Mindful of the assessment of the achievement of MDGs in the Report that 'progress has been insufficient and highly uneven despite significant progress in many countries and in some targets',

1. Underscore the importance of addressing in the Post-2015 development agenda, in the context of prolonged global financial crisis, the root causes of structural poverty and increasing exclusion and inequality,
2. Emphasize the importance and urgency to transform current development paradigm and architecture from the current neoliberal framework to one that prioritizes human development, social protection and ecological sustainability over profits,
3. Stress the urgent need to reshape and revitalize global governance and partnerships, including the international financial institutions, to ensure the centrality and primacy of human rights, a more just, fairer and equitable global financial and trade architecture and framework, and the effectiveness of transparency and accountability mechanisms,
4. Stress the importance of upholding and implementing internationally recognized principles such as common but differentiated responsibilities, human rights-based approach to development, principle of free, prior and informed consent, principle of access to information, justice and public participation, and polluter pay principle,
5. Stress the urgent need for transition to low carbon economy while respecting bio-diversity and ecological limit and planetary boundary,
6. Stress the importance of comprehensive transfer of technology and environmentally sound technologies that respond to the needs and build capacities of developing countries and communities, more than just Information and Communication Technology (ICT),
7. Stress the need to respect and promote women's rights and gender equality, equity and justice.
8. Stress the need to recognize corruption as a key barrier to transparent and accountable governance and to promote transparency and democratic governance,
9. Stress the importance of democratic ownership, transparency and multiple accountability for both providers and partners of development cooperation in Asia as emphasized in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation,

10. Reiterate the positions and demands made in the previous ADA statements which were not adequately addressed in the Report,

    a) Urgent need for innovate financing and to establish and strengthen national and international mechanisms to regulate transnational corporations and speculative financial capital including Financial Transaction Tax (FTT),
    b) Importance of disarmament and demilitarization to build sustainable peace and also to use the sizable military spending for poverty eradication and financing for development,
    c) Importance of universal ratification of all international human rights treaties, in particular, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and its Optional Protocol as well as their full implementation at domestic level,

d) Importance of making full use of existing available monitoring and accountability human rights mechanisms, such as the UN special procedures, treaty bodies and Universal Periodic Review (UPR), and of effective CSO participation in all these,

e) Need to give priority to least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing countries as well as fragile and conflict-affected countries in Post-2015 development agenda,

f) Need to recognize historical and ecological debts in addressing foreign debts,

Urge Asian governments to take the following concrete actions proactively in order to make the Post-2015 process more inclusive and meaningful:

a) Advocate the positions and demands listed in the above at the 68th session of UN General Assembly in September 2013 and the UN General Assembly's Open-ended Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (OWG-SDGs),

b) Recognize and work with civil society as a legitimate and equal partner for policy-sharing, monitoring and evaluation in the Post-2015 process and beyond,

c) Hold regular policy consultation with civil society nationally and internationally to get people's voices heard in the Post-2015 development process and beyond,

d) Facilitate Asian CSOs' access and participation in the UN inter-governmental consultations such as the UN Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (OWG-SDGs) and other inter-governmental consultation and negotiation processes related to Post 2015,

e) Ensure and promote an enabling environment for civil society to implement the Istanbul Principles and Seam Reap Consensus for CSO Development Effectiveness,

11. Commit ourselves to make the Post-2015 process and outcome more meaningful and beneficial to billions of people living in poverty, injustice and insecurity for survival in Asia and other parts of the world.

Asia Development Alliance (ADA)

is a regional forum of national and sub-national development NGO/CSO platforms in Asia to promote more effective communication, coordination and cooperation in the Post-2015 Development Agenda process.
It was officially launched in Bangkok on 2 February 2013.
http://www.facebook.com/groups/ADA2013/
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Joint Message to G20's Five Asian Members:
Stop Corruption & Inequality, Ensure Accountability & Participation

18 June 2013

1. Subsequent to our participation in the G20 Civil Summit in Moscow, Russia on 13 – 14 June 2013, the members of the Asia Development Alliance Working Group on G20 (ADA – G20 WG) and the Global Call to Action Against Poverty - Asia (GCAP Asia) call on the G20's five Asian member governments to endorse the following five proposals as they formulate positions for the G20 Summit in St. Petersburg in September.

2. We believe that these five Asian governments -- China, India, Indonesia, Japan and South Korea -- can and should play a leading role to make the G20 process more relevant and responsive to the needs and rights of people in Asia and beyond.

I. Make 'Equity' a Pillar of the G20 Growth Agenda

We urge Asian governments to back the Civil 20 Proposal for a "St. Petersburg Initiative" affirming the values of "equality and inclusion along with economic growth and efficiency" in order to make the G20 approach more relevant and responsive to the challenge of rising inequality. To do this, the G20 should make 'Equitable' the fifth pillar of its existing model of "Strong, Sustainable, Balanced and Inclusive Growth'.

II. 'Reducing Inequality' as stand-alone Post-2015 Development Goal

Income inequality across the planet – and throughout Asia -- is rising sharply as the top 0.5 % of the global population holds over 35% of the wealth. We are deeply concerned that the recently released report of the UN High-level Panel on Post-2015 did not make Reducing Inequality a top priority and stand-alone goal. We urge Asian governments to address this deficiency at the G20 Summit, in the UN Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and in UN discussions on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. For further information, please refer to the two ADA statements on Post-2015 Development Agenda (attached).

III. Innovative Sources for Financing for Development

We urge Asian governments to work more proactively to address adverse effects and structural causes of illicit financial flows, tax evasion and corruption as well as advocate for the global adoption of a Financial Transactions Tax (FTT), a portion of the proceeds of which should be used to achieve the

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Millennium Development Goals and fight climate change. The FTT was discussed at the 2012 G20 Summit in France and is currently being introduced in eleven European countries.

IV. More and institutionalized space for independent civil society participation

We urge Asian governments, in cooperation with other G20 members, to ensure more space for regular policy dialogue between civil society organizations and government negotiators ("sherpas") at both national and international levels. Civil society plays an essential role to identify problems and work constructively to solve them. To make the G20 process more inclusive, accountable and effective, it is important to institutionalize a civil society channel like the Civil 20 (C20) to make sure that civil society proposals are directly presented to G20 leaders. Moreover, the private business sector – which already has its own forum, the B20 – should not be included in the C20, except as observers.

V. Global Partnership for Equitable Development

China, India, Indonesia, Japan and Korea engage in international development cooperation in forms of Official Development Assistance (ODA) or South-South Cooperation (SSC) and international processes like the G8, G20, BRICS, IBSA, APEC, ASEM, East Asia Summit (EAS) ASEAN, ASEAN+3 and SAARC. Regardless of the project or forum, we urge Asian governments to fully implement internationally-recognised agreements, such as the 2002 Monterrey Consensus for Financing for Development and the 2011 Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, and to fully respect, protect and fulfill international human rights norms including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the UN Declaration on the Right to Development.

3. We strongly urge Asian governments to give due consideration to the above-mentioned proposals so that people's voices and aspirations are effectively communicated to all G20 leaders and are reflected in G20's St. Petersburg outcome document in September 2013.

4. We look forward to further dialogue and engagement with Asia's policy makers and political leaders in future.

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The Global Call to Action Against Poverty, one of the world"s largest civil society networks, challenges the institutions and structures that perpetuate poverty and inequality. There are twelve national coalitions in GCAP Asia. www.whiteband.org | info@whiteband.org

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Asia Development Alliance (ADA) and
Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP)-Asia

Joint Statement on the St Petersburg G20 Summit
4 September 2013

1. Subsequent to our participation in the G20 Civil Summit in Moscow, Russia on 13 – 14 June 2013, We, the members of the Asia Development Alliance Working Group on G20 (ADA – G20 WG) and the Global Call to Action Against Poverty - Asia (GCAP Asia) call on the G20 member governments, in particular, the five Asian member governments -- China, India, Indonesia, Japan and South Korea -- to endorse the following five proposals as they attend the G20 Summit in St. Petersburg this week.

2. We believe that the G20 member governments can and should play a leading role to make the G20 process as well as the UN Post-2015 Development Agenda more relevant and responsive to the needs and rights of people in Asia and beyond.

I. Make 'Equity' a Pillar of the G20 Growth Agenda

We urge G20 members to back the Civil 20 Proposal for a "St. Petersburg Initiative" affirming the values of "equality and inclusion along with economic growth and efficiency" in order to make the G20 approach more relevant and responsive to the challenge of rising inequality. To do this, the G20 should make 'Equitable' the fifth pillar of its existing model of "Strong, Sustainable, Balanced and Inclusive Growth'.

II. Support the 'Tackle Exclusion and Inequality' Goal in the UN Secretary General's Report

Income inequality across the planet – and throughout Asia -- is rising sharply as the top 0.5 % of the global population holds over 35% of the wealth. We are pleased to note that 'Tackle Exclusion and Inequality' was included as a stand-alone goal in the UN Secretary General Report on MDGs and Post-2015 development agenda submitted to the 68th Session of the UN General Assembly (Para. 84, A/68/202). We urge Asian governments to support the vision and transformative actions articulated in the 15 goals in his Report at the upcoming 68th session of the UN General Assembly. Within this vision of tackling exclusion and inequality, the Post-2015 development agenda must address the structural factors at the root of gender-based inequality, including the full participation of women in the political and economic spheres as articulated in the Secretary-General's report (Para. 85). For further information, please refer to the ADA statement on UN SG Report issued on 2 September 2013. (attached).

III. Innovative Sources for Financing for Development

We urge Asian governments to work more proactively to address adverse effects and structural causes of illicit financial flows, tax evasion and corruption as well as advocate for the global adoption of a Financial Transactions Tax (FTT), a portion of the proceeds of which should be used

to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and fight climate change. The FTT was discussed at the 2012 G20 Summit in France and is currently being introduced in eleven European countries.

IV. More and institutionalized space for independent civil society participation

We urge G20 members to ensure more space for regular policy dialogue between civil society organizations and government negotiators ("sherpas") at both national and international levels. Civil society plays an essential role to identify problems and work constructively to solve them. To make the G20 process more inclusive, accountable and effective, it is important to institutionalize a civil society channel like the Civil 20 (C20) to make sure that civil society proposals are directly presented to G20 leaders. In particular, the inclusion of a 'gender agenda' and the involvement of women's organizations within the civil society space should be promoted. Moreover, the private business sector – which already has its own forum, the B20 – should not be included in the C20, except as observers.

V. Global Partnership for Equitable Development

The UN Declaration on the Right to Development is an internationally agreed goal for all UN member states including G20 members and human rights-based approach to development cooperation is an important means to achieve it. In this regard, we urge Asian governments to fully implement internationally-recognised agreements, such as the 2002 Monterrey Consensus for Financing for Development and the 2011 Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, and to fully respect, protect and fulfill international human rights norms including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and its Optional Protocol.

3. We strongly G20 members to give due consideration to the above-mentioned proposals so that people's voices and aspirations are effectively communicated to all G20 leaders and are reflected in G20's St. Petersburg outcome document in September 2013.

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The Feminist Task Force, a GCAP partner, promotes a women's rights agenda and calls for Gender Equality to End Poverty. More information at www.feministtaskforce.org.

List of Participating CSOs in ADA I
Bangkok, 31 Jan. to 2 Feb. 2013

National and Sub-national Development CSO/NGO Platforms in Asia

South Asia
1. Awaz Foundation Pakistan www.awazcds.org.pk
2. Bangladesh Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh (FNB) www.ngofederationbd.net
3. NGO Federation of Nepal (NFN) www.ngofederation.org
4. People's Budget Initiative (PBI) India www.cbgaindia.org/advocacy_peoples_budget_initiative.php
5. Sushasoner Jonny Procharavizan-Campaign for Good Governance (SUPRO), Bangladesh www.supro.org
6. Voluntary Action Network India (VANI) www.vaniindia.org
7. Wada Na Todo Abyian (Don't Break Promise) in India (WNTA) www.wadanatodo.net

Southeast Asia
8. Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO) Philippines www.code-ngo.org
9. Cooperation Committee on Cambodia (CCC) www.ccc-cambodia.org
10. FONGTIL-Forum NGO Timor Leste (FONGTIL) www.fongtil.org
11. Indonesia Society for Social Transformation (INSIST) www.insist.or.id p
12. International NGO Forum on Indonesian Development (INFID) www.infid.org
13. NGO Forum on Cambodia (NFC) www.ngoforum.org.kh

Northeast Asia
14. China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO) www.cango.org
15. Japan Association of Charitable Organizations (JACO) www.kohokyo.or.jp
16. Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC) www.janic.org
17. Korea Civil Society Forum on International Development Cooperation (KoFID) www.kofid.org
18. Korea NGO Council for Overseas Development Cooperation (KCOC) www.ngokcoc.or.kr
19. National Forum for Development and Cooperation (NFDC) in Mongolia
20. Taiwan Alliance in International Development (Taiwan AID) www.taiwanaid.org

International CSOs and Platforms in Asia

1. Action Group on Erosion, Technology and Concentration (ETC) www.etcgroup.org
2. ActionAid (AA) Asia www.actionaid.org
3. Asia Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA) www.forum-asia.org
4. Asia Monitor Resource Center (AMRC) www.amrc.org.hk
5. Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD) www.apwld.org
6. Beyond 2015 – Asia www.beyond2015.org
7. CIVICUS Affinity Group of National Associations (AGNA) www.civicus.org
8. Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN) www.dawnnet.org
9. Dignity International www.dignityinternational.org
10. Friends of Earth (FOE) Asia Pacific www.foei.org
11. Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) - Asia www.whiteband.org/en/asia
12. Good Neighbors International (GNI) www.goodneighbors.org
13. International Forum of National NGO Platforms (IFP) www.ong-ngo.org
14. Jubilee South Asia Pacific Movement on Debt and Development (JSAPMDD) www.apmdd.org
15. Least Developed Countries(LDCs)Watch www.ldcwatch.org
16. NGO Forum on ADB (ADB Watch) www.forum-adb.org
17. Oxfam Asia www.oxfam.org
18. Pax Romana ICMICA Asia www.icmica-miic.org
19. People's Sustainability Treaty (PST) www.sustainabilitytreaties.org
20. Save the Children (SC) Asia www.savethechildren.org
21. Social Watch (SW) Asia www.socialwatch.org/
22. South Asia Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE) www.saape.org
23. South East Asia Committee for Advocacy (SEACA) www.seaca.net
24. Task Force on ASEAN Migrant Workers www.workersconnection.org
25. Third World Network (TWN) www.twn.my
26. World Vision (WV) Asia Pacific www.wvasiapacific.org
27. Asian Resource Foundation (ARF) www.arf-asia.org