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**Asia Development Alliance (ADA) 2015**

**Bangkok, 29 to 30 Jan. 2015**

**ADA Bangkok Declaration 2015**

final draft 26 March 2015

We, over 50 participants of the Asia Development Alliance (ADA)'s second annual meeting, mainly from ADA members and partner organizations in particular, Asia Democracy Network (ADN) and FORUM-ASIA, held in Bangkok from 29 to 30 January 2015 under the theme “Asian Voice for the World We Want 2015” ,

1. Reaffirming the vision and mission of the ADA as articulated in the Bangkok Declaration founding statement of the ADA adopted on 2 Feb. 2013,
2. Recognizing the importance of contribution and partnership with like-minded international networks and CSOs such as action/2015, Beyond 2015, Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP), CIVICUS Affinity Groups of National Associations (AGNA), International Forum of National NGO Platforms (IFP), Least Developed Countries (LDC) Watch, NGO Forum on Asia Development Bank (ADB), Asia Democracy Network (ADN) in the context of Post 2015 Development Agenda and the global campaign for the World We Want,
3. Recognizing the work and activities organized by ADA since the foundation of the ADA in Feb. 2013 such as a series of consultation on documents of the UN Post-2015 development agenda, Open Forum on Justice and Governance (New York, 22 Sept. 2014), etc.
4. Recognizing the outcome of the Glo-cal Advocacy Leadership in Asia Academy (GALAA) in 2013 and 20914 which was a joint effort of FORUM-ASIA, ADA and ADN to build collective leadership among CSOs in human rights, development and democracy,
5. Expressing our appreciation to Ms. Nobue Amanuma of UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and Satwant Kaur from UNEP for their sharing about their work on Post-2015 development agenda process,
6. Expressing our appreciation to the Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA) for their services and contribution as the local host,
7. Expressing our appreciation to the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) for their financial contribution,
8. Expressing our appreciation to the role of Korea NGO Council for Overseas Cooperation (KCOC) as the Secretariat for ADA for 2013-2014 and the CCC (Cambodia)
9. Expressing our appreciation to the VANI that have maintained the ADA website - www.ada2015.asia or www.adaasia2015.org

**Historical context in 2015 related to Post-2015 Development Agenda**

1. Recognizing that Post 2015 Development Agenda provides an opportunity and challenge to CSOs in Asia to empower people living in poverty, inequality, insecurity, injustice to claim their own human rights to transform their lives,
2. Recognizing significances of the year 2015 which is the 70th anniversary of the World War II and foundation of the UN in 1945, 60th anniversary of the Bandung Conference in 1955, 25th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers and Their Families in 1990, etc.
3. Emphasizing the importance of inter-linkage and synergy among three processes in 2015, namely UN General Assembly (New York, Sept.) and UN Conference on Financing for Development (FfD) (Addis Ababa, July) and UN Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) (Paris, Dec.),
4. Welcoming the Synthesis Report of the UN SG on Post-2015 Development Agenda (6 Dec. 2014) which stressed the transformational nature of the Post-2015 process in a response to the ongoing multiple crisis (energy, food, finance and climate change),
5. Recognizing that the upcoming 6 months (Feb to July 2015) is 'golden time' for CSO engagement, specially policy advocacy in Post-2015 development agenda process with national governments and popular mobilization,
6. Recognizing the Post-2015 Development Agenda has posed challenges and opportunities for CSOs in Asia in terms of convergence, cross-sectoral cooperation, etc.
7. Reaffirming our commitment to the action/2015 global which is a broad and inclusive platform to inspire and mobilise individuals, organizations, social movements and other stakeholders across the continent to achieve a just and sustainable world
8. Participate as actively as possible in campaign activities of action/2015 Asia, in particular, 17-month campaign, which began in August 2014, and which is called "iMove Against Injustice, Inequality and Insecurity",
9. to amplify the voices and aspirations of Asians to influence governments, businesses, institutions as well as the Post-2015 sustainable development agenda and international climate negotiations.
10. Welcoming the positive development in Asia, in particular, outcome of presidential election in Sri Lanka,
11. Expressing our concerns about ongoing or worsening human rights and democracy situations in Asia, in particular, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Pakistan and Thailand,

decide to take the following actions according to guidelines for action;

**Guidelines for Action in 2015**

**Thematic Priority**

1. Highlight the rising **inequality** as a top priority in ADA campaign among and within countries and regions and groups, between the rich and poor, men and women, and the urban and rural through fair redistribution of wealth, power and resources,
2. Emphasize the importance of effective management and use of natural resources respectfully, equitably and sustainably as well as protecting global commons, and the urgent need to integrating adaptation and mitigation of **climate change** into the Post-2015 development goal and framework,
3. Engage strategically in UN Conference on Financing for Development (FfD) as a way to strengthen CSO engagement in issues such as ODA, domestic resource mobilization and tax justice, development finance, illicit capital flow, investment, remittance, etc. in cooperation with international CSOs,
4. Address the role of **private sector** in terms of corporate justice in particular issues like corporate social responsibility (CSR), business and human rights, fair trade, social enterprises, ethical investment, etc.
5. Make more efforts to improve internal **accountability** within CSOs and self-regulation mechanisms by CSOs making use of Istanbul Principles and Seam Reap Consensus for CSO Development Effectivenessin 2009 and 2011 and other standards as a way to prevent external interference by the government,
6. Promote human rights-based approach, in particular, human rights impact assessment as a means of human rights mainstreaming,

**Public mobilization, Outreach, Coalition-building and Networking,**

1. Increase synergetic effect between lobby and policy dialogue with the government and public mobilization and campaign in civil society,
2. Initiate **proactive response** rather than reactionary...
3. Reach out to other CSOs who are not aware of the importance of Post-2015 development agenda process to build broad-based coalition to mobilize marginalized groups,
4. Make use of important **anniversaries** for campaigns such as Women's Day (8 March), Labour Day (1 May), Earth Day (22 April), Democracy Day (15 Sept), Poverty Eradication (17 Oct.) UN Day (24 Oct.) Human Rights (10 Dec.), International Solidarity (20 Dec.), etc.
5. Create a mechanism for effective **information sharing** related to CSO engagement in international processes related to Post-2015 development agenda,
6. Institutionalize policy engagement with national government and inter-governmental bodies
7. Engage proactively in regional and global networks of CSOs in Post-2015 development agenda process such as action/2015, Regional Mechanism / Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD), etc.
8. Translate the key SDG documents and produce easy-to-read and understand briefing documents in local languages accessible by ordinary people,

**International Advocacy at Inter-governmental organizations and processes**

1. Engage more strategically with international development institutions, particularly emerging ones such as Asia Development Bank (ADB), Green Climate Fund (GCF), New Development Bank (NDB), Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) in cooperation with NGO Forum on ADB and others,
2. Support and engage in the implementation of Asian People's Safeguard to promote transparency and accountability,
3. Engage strategically multi-stake holder processes outside UN such as Busan Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) and Open Government Partnership (OGP) in partnership with existing networks like CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE),
4. Make better use of UN human rights mechanisms and procedures to mainstream human rights principles and strengthen human rights-based accountability mechanism in Post-2015 development agenda process,
5. Engage together with existing civil society networks 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),
6. Engage more strategically non-UN inter-governmental processes and institutions related to development such as G20, BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) and MIKTA (Mexico, Indonesia, Korea, Turkey and Australia),
7. Engage more strategically international democracy process such as Community of Democracies (CD) Ministerial Conference (July, Elsalvador) through ADN and other CSOs groups,

**Policy advocacy at the national governments**

1. Establish regular policy dialogue between government and civil society in the SDG negotiations process,
2. Organize regular policy dialogue before and after each of different stages of SDGs negotiations in NY and Financing for Development participate in
3. Make use of national mechanisms such as NHRI, ombudzmen, democracy-related institutions, etc. to promote just, accountable and democratic governance,
4. Produce ADA hematic position paper in cooperation with Asian regional CSOs as an advocacy tool,

**International advocacy and engagement with international development institutioons**

1. Organize an international CSO visit to meet MoFA to discuss SDGs together with national ADA members,
2. Engage more strategically with international development institutions, particularly emerging ones such as ADB, Green Climate Fund (GCF), New Development Bank (NDB), Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) in cooperation with NGO Forum on ADB and others,
3. Support and engage in the implementation of Asian People's Safeguard to promote transparency and accountability,
4. Recognizing the need to engage strategically with multi-stake holder process outside UN such as Busah Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) and Open Government Partnership (OGP),

**Transparency, Accountability and Data Revolution**

1. Welcome the initiative of CIVICUS on data revolution "DataShift" and join as advisory group,
2. Recognizing the need to engage strategically with multi-stake holder process outside UN such as Open Government Partnership (OGP) to promote access to public information,
3. Work closely with ADN, specially Transparency International to promote transparency and accountability in relation to the goal 16,
4. Make use of the UN Convention on Anti-corruption and OECD Anti-Bribery Convention, International Aid Transparency Initiative (AITI), Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI), etc etc.

**Civil society space**

1. Strengthen the cooperation among international CSOs and networks in human rights, development and democracy (such as FA, ADA, ADN, CIVICUS, etc.) with regard to the issues related to civil society or civic space, enabling environment for CSO development effectiveness, democratic space, freedom of assembly and association, human rights defenders, etc.
2. Address jointly the UN HRC's resolution on civil society space adopted in 2013 in terms of its implementation,
3. Make effective use of Enabling Environment National Assessment(EENA) developed by CIVICUS and ICNL (International Center for Not-for-profit Law)
4. Use more strategically the UN human rights mechanisms and procedures such as special procedures, treaty bodies and UPR to protect and strengthen civil society space in Asia,
5. Work more closely with Civic Space Initiative carried forward byCIVICUS, World Movement for Democracy (WMD), ICNL and Article 19, and other initiatives,
6. Address challenges and threats to civil society space such as government-organized NGOs (CONGO), all kinds of religious fundamentalisms, securitization of civic space (e.g. anti-terrorism law), cooptation by the corporations or corporate capture, public private partnership (PPP), etc.

**Country specific issues**

1. Welcome the report of the joint solidarity visit to Cambodia in Oct. 2014 organized by ADA, ADN, CIVICUS, GCAP, FORUM-ASIA and IFP, and encourage to have joint advocacy efforts for Cambodia
2. Participate in and contribute to the International Solidarity Conference on Sri Lanka (31 Jan to 1 Feb. 2015),
3. Request FA and ADN to convene an international solidarity conference on Bangladesh to address worsening human rights and democracy situation following the examples of the one on Thailand and Sri Lanka,

**Capacity-building**

1. Participate in Glo-cal Advocacy Leadership in Asia (GALA) Academy III (Bangkok, 1-8 Aug. 2015) to be organized by FA, ADA and ADN as a space to build collective leadership among new generation of civil society leaders,

**Major International Events**

1. Develop ADA position papers on various issues such as financing for development, G20 Summit, enabling environment for CSO development effectiveness, etc.
2. Facilitate and organize joint action of CSOs from Asia prior and during Facilitate and organize joint action of CSOs from Asia at upcoming important international meetings as identified in the International Event Calendar 2015, in partiular, UN DCF High-level Symposium (Songdo, Korea, 9-10 April), UNESCAP regional conferene on Financing for Development (Jakarta, April 2015), UN Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa, July 2015), UN General Assembly (New York, Sept. 2015), etc.

**ADA Internal Governance**

1. Continue to strengthen the role of ADA as regional hub and interface between global CSOs and national CSO networks (platforms) in particular, IFP, Beyond 2015, CIVICUS, GCAP, Social Watch, LDC Watch, etc.
2. Invite more national, sub-national and multi-sectoral CSO platforms engaged in the post-2015 development agenda to join the ADA while confirming the 19 CSO platforms as membership of the ADA as of January 2015,
3. Continue to strengthen partnership with like-minded international CSOs and networks in Asia such as such as NGO Forum on ADB, Asia Democracy Network (ADN), Asia Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA), etc.
4. Request the following 6 co-conveners - VANI (India) and NFN (Nepal) for South Asia, Code-NGO (Philippines) and CCC (Cambodia) for Southeast Asia, and JANIC (Japan) and KoFID (Korea) for Northeast Asia - continue to provide and leadership role for 2015-2016 and Anselmo Lee (KoFID) and Harsh JAITIL (VANI) as focal points among Co-conveners for external communications,
5. Note with appreciation that KoFID (Korea) will provide the services as the Secretariat for ADA replacing the KCOC for 2015 together with the CCC (Cambodia) as joint Secretariat for 2015 and 2016,
6. Request VANI to continue to maintain the ADA website - www.ada2015.asia or www.adaasia2015.org - with active participation of the ADA members,
7. Strengthen the Working Group on G20 to participate in the Civil 20 process leading upto G20 Summit in Turkey 2015 and China 2016 with ADA members of five G20 member countries in Asia, namely China, India, Indonesia, Japan and South Korea, as well as Singapore, and international NGOs like NGO Forum on ADB,
8. Decide to create a Working Group on financing for development (FfD) to address the upcoming 3rd UN Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa, July 2015) with Rayyan Hassan, Executive Director of NFO Form on ADB and Mr Heng Pheakday, Duputy Director of the NFC (Cambodia) as co-chairs and ask all ADA members to appoint one focal point for each country,
9. Decide to create a Working Group on Transparency and Accountability (T&A)to address key issues in the goal 16 of current SDGs making use of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) and request Mr Sugeng Bahajijo, Executive Director of the INFID for ADA and [Tur-Od Lkhagvajav](https://plus.google.com/u/0/109217108125269223672?prsrc=4), (ADN, Transparency International-Mongolia for ADN to be co-chairs of the WG on T&A and ask all ADA members to appoint one focal point for each country,
10. Look for more funding in addition to the KOICA to from other agencies and foundations specially within Asia, like JICA (Japan) to finance ADA activities both nationally and internationally in the Post-29015 development agenda process in 2015 and the implementation of the SDGs in 2016 and beyond,
11. Request Co-conveners to update Terms of Reference (ToR) as a normative tool for internal governance and management,

In conclusion

1. Request Co-conveners to convene the 3rd annual meeting of the ADA in Jan. or Feb 2016 to assess the outcome of the UN Summit in September 2015 regarding the Post-2015 development goals known currently as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and make a joint action plan for their implementation in Asia in 2016 and beyond.

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**Asia Development Alliance (ADA)**

**List of Member Organizations**

**As of March 2015**

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

**South Asia**

1. Bangladesh : Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh (FNB) [www.ngofederationbd.net](http://www.ngofederationbd.net)
2. Bangladesh: Equity-BD www.equitybd.org
3. Bangladesh: Sushasoner Jonny Procharavizan-Campaign for Good Governance (SUPRO) [www.supro.org](http://www.supro.org)
4. India: Voluntary Action Network India (VANI) [www.vaniindia.org](http://www.vaniindia.org)
5. India: Wada Na Todo Abyian (Don’t Break Promise) in India (WNTA) [www.wadanatodo.net](http://www.wadanatodo.net)
6. Nepal: NGO Federation of Nepal (NFN) [www.ngofederation.org](http://www.ngofederation.org)
7. Pakistan: Pakistan Development Alliance (PDA) [www.awazcds.org.pk](http://www.awazcds.org.pk)

**Southeast Asia**

1. Cambodia: Cooperation Committee on Cambodia (CCC) [www.ccc-cambodia.org](http://www.ccc-cambodia.org)
2. Cambodia: NGO Forum on Cambodia (NFC) [www.ngoforum.org.kh](http://www.ngoforum.org.kh)
3. Indonesia: International NGO Forum on Indonesian Development (INFID) [www.infid.org](http://www.infid.org)
4. Philippines: Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO) [www.code-ngo.org](http://www.code-ngo.org)
5. Timor-Leste: FONGTIL-Forum NGO Timor Leste (FONGTIL) [www.fongtil.org](http://www.fongtil.org)

**Northeast Asia**

1. China: China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO) [www.cango.org](http://www.cango.org)
2. Japan: Japan Association of Charitable Organizations (JACO) [www.kohokyo.or.jp](http://www.kohokyo.or.jp)
3. Japan: Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC) [www.janic.org](http://www.janic.org)
4. Korea: Korea Civil Society Forum on International Development Cooperation (KoFID) [www.kofid.org](http://www.kofid.org)
5. Korea: Korea NGO Council for Overseas Development Cooperation (KCOC) [www.ngokcoc.or.kr](http://www.ngokcoc.or.kr)
6. Mongolia: Development Observer
7. Taiwan: Taiwan Alliance in International Development (Taiwan AID) [www.taiwanaid.org](http://www.taiwanaid.org)