



PACIFIC DISABILITY FORUM

Report of
National Women with Disabilities (NWD) Forum
And
Council Meeting
21 - 25 April, 2008
Apia
Council Meeting
21 - 25 April, 2008
Samoa

Submitted to;

The Asia Pacific Forum
Of National Human Rights Institutions (APF)
Sydney, NSW, Australia
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I. Introduction

This is a report that is submitted to Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF) as specified by the Memorandum of Understanding between the APF and the Pacific Disability Forum (PDF). It will provide a narrative overview of the project and its main outcomes. The acquittals of funds received by PDF from APF and relevant documents which are included as appendices constitute the entire report.

1. Impact and Outcomes

Over the week of 21-25 April 2008, the Pacific Disability Forum, in partnership with Nuanua o le Alofa (NOLA) - the National Council of People with Disabilities in Samoa, held a two-day National Women's Forum and three-day Council Meeting.

The principal sponsor for this event was the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF). This valuable funding assistance complimented the funds PDF had set aside for this activity within its annual operating budget which is generously supported by the New Zealand Agency for International Development (NZAID).

II. National Women with Disabilities Forum

1. National Women's Forum - 'Legacy of Achievement'

Approximately 30 women from 20 individual villages throughout Samoa, 14 women representing ten Pacific Island countries (including Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Australia and New Zealand) and a range of local and international delegates representing Government, non-government and civil society organisations attended the two-day National Women's Forum held at the Tofamamao Catholic Centre, Leauva'a, Samoa on 21-22 April 2008.



Delegates attending the Women with Disability Forum, Tofamamao Catholic Centre, Leauva'a, Samoa

The Honourable Ms Fiame Naomi Mataafa, Minister for Women, Community and Social Development provided the opening address at the Forum, highlighting the 'legacy of achievement' for Samoan women and their ability to create change for themselves. The Minister emphasised that this is no different for people with disabilities and their organisations.

The Minister acknowledged this historic gathering of Samoan and Pacific Island women with disabilities as an opportunity for the formation of a Samoan women's network, as well as future advocacy in promoting the full recognition and participation of women with disabilities in all respective societies (Tab A – News Article 'Women

with disabilities 'double discrimination' Anthony Upton, Samoa Observer: Tuesday 22 April 2008).

The format and program (Tab B) for the National Women's Forum provided a unique opportunity for women with disability in the Pacific to share their experiences, daily challenges, dreams and aspirations in a safe, supportive environment. For a number of the Samoan woman delegates in particular, this was the first time in their lives that they had travelled independently away from their village and/or family, let alone attended a meeting where they were amongst peers.

The series of presentations made by the APF were well tailored for the women participants. This was critical to ensuring the experience of the participants was both positive and meaningful.

The initial APF sessions enabled the women participants to focus on and openly share their understanding of their personal rights through personal stories. This was an effective way to engage the participants and facilitate their participation and learning. Many spoke of their desire for and right to:

- acceptance and being treated like a human being;
- receive love and equal treatment;
- social and financial independence;
- a social life;
- make their own decisions rather than their parents making decisions and choices for them;
- have the same opportunities to an education or employment as their non-disabled peers;
- alternative communication, such as Braille format and sign language interpreters;
- be able to move about in their communities; and
- Information about services and organisations which can support them.

Throughout these sessions and the Forum itself, it was evident that many women were able to develop strength as individuals and gain courage to advocate for their rights and the future they dream of.



Left: Mama Tuki from Cook Islands shares a Delegate's dream to become a Police Officer. Top: Women celebrate and encourage one another to seek their dreams and aspirations.

This 'grassroots approach' to the APF presentation enabled women to gain an individualised perspective of their rights as well as a better understanding of how these individual rights fed into the development of local charters and National Constitutions, and in time matured into international declarations of human rights.

The APF presenters effectively simplified the complex international human rights treaties and related regional frameworks into meaningful components providing the women participants with accessible information on key international human rights laws and conventions, including:

- Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women - CEDAW;
- The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities – CRPD;
- The Millennium Development Goals – MDG's;
- The Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based society for persons with disabilities in Asia and the Pacific Region – BMF; and
- The Pacific Plan.

The interrelationship between these key international instruments, regional frameworks, and how they apply to women with disabilities

were also well examined and discussed in practical terms which were relevant to the participants.



Representatives from Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions, gives their presentation on International Frameworks for Empowering Women

Women leaders from various Pacific Nations also shared their success stories in promoting the inclusion of women with disabilities and their issues through innovative programs and activities in their individual communities.



Disabled Organisations' Representatives share their experiences of organising at National Women's Forum (Left to Right) Nelly Celab - Disability Promotions and Advocacy Association, Vanuatu; Angeline Chand – Pacific Disability Forum Program Officer for Gender, Youth and Development; Tukiongo Wright - Cook Islands National Disability Council; Savina Daulaasi and Cyrene Aonima - People with Disabilities Solomon Islands.

The Forum also provided an opportunity for women, particularly those delegates from other Pacific Island countries, to consider the relevance and application of these instruments to their own domestic and national government policy and programs for women with disabilities.

Regional representatives working group at National Women's Forum

(Left to right) Maureen Logan – Aboriginal Disability Network, Australia; Teewata Rokete - Te Toa Mataoa, Kiribati; Cristina Ricci – APF; Matakina Simii – Tuvalu Red Cross; Sonya Price-Kelly – People with Disability Australia; Talafaiva Lotolua - Naunau O' E' Alamaite, Tonga Association; Robyn Hunt - APF.



Through group work discussion the National Women's Forum was able to identify the key issues affecting women with disabilities in Samoa and throughout the Pacific. It also facilitated discussion and awareness of the rights of women with disabilities in the Pacific.

Women were able to identify possible strategies and tools for promoting positive outcomes relating to issues identified, as well as the agencies responsible for improving the participation and inclusion of women with disabilities in Pacific Island communities.

2. Forum Outcomes Document

On the final day of the National Women's Forum, an outcomes document and draft action plan was endorsed by the women participants. This document (Tab C) includes a number of resolutions and key issues which will be used to focus future work undertaken by NOLA, the PDF and various Pacific Disabled People's Organisations and for the empowerment of women with disabilities throughout the Pacific.

These key outcomes and resolutions included the inaugural establishment of a women's committee of Nuanua O Le Alofa (NOLA). Seven Samoan women were elected by their peers to the NOLA Committee with another three elected to a Sub-Committee to represent the woman from the more remote island of Savaii.

This committee is a success story in a number of ways. For one of the women elected, her attendance at the Women's Forum was the first time in her life, at the age of 32 that she had ever been allowed to leave the supervision of her family.

On account of this opportunity she was elected by her peers to the Savaii Sub Committee and a chance to further her independence! It also represents the first opportunity for many of these women to participate in such a role, and to further their leadership and advocacy skills.

As an inaugural committee, it also provides an opportunity for these women and their peers to participate in a mechanism which aims to have an ongoing impact on the issues which affect their daily lives.



***Nuanua O Le Alofa
(NOLA) Women's
Committee & Savai'i Sub-
Committee***

(Bottom left to right) Mina Sauaso (Member), Hana Iosefa (Savai'i Sub-Committee), Taemau Vai (Savai'i Sub-Committee). (Middle row left to right) Nu'ufou Mosefulu (member), Vaosa Mulipola (member). (Back row left to right) Levi Paniani (Treasurer), Paputa Sefau (Savai'i Sub-Committee), Louise Leauanae (Vice-President), Faatino Masunu Utumapu (Secretary), Pii Elia (President)

For each of the Regional Women with disabilities, the outcomes document will provide an invaluable tool for use on their return to their own Pacific nations.

Their participation in the Forum and subsequent Pacific Disability Forum Council meeting enabled them to further develop their leadership skills, develop close networking ties as well as learn from one another successful strategies for promoting change within their local communities.

[The Outcomes Document is attached as Appendix A to this report.](#)

3. Forum Evaluation Feedback

Evaluation forms were provided to the participants of the Women's Forum for completion. Thirty four forms were completed, which represented a 77% completion rate. Some were not able to complete an evaluation form as an interpreter was not available to assist them.

Feedback from the evaluation forms is outlined in the table below:

<i>Day 1/Session</i>	<i>Session rating /Comments</i>
1. Introduction to NOLA	Good - 30 Excellent - 4
2. Introduction to Pacific Disability Forum	Good - 34 General comments stated that more time should have been given for discussion on this session.
3. Group work discussions	34 – Excellent
4. Services and Supports	34 – Good Overall, participants indicated they liked the group work and group reporting of this session the best.
<i>Day 2/Session</i>	<i>Session rating /Comments</i>
1. National and international overview	34 – Excellent
2. Disabled People's Organisations Share their experiences	32 – Excellent 2 – Good Overall, this session was most liked by participants on day two.
3. Group Work – Local women/group one: establishing women's committee; Regional women/group 2: PDF Gender Action Plan	26 – Excellent 8 – Good General comments stated that more time should have been given to this session for further development of regional outcomes and & PDF action plans
4. Outcomes and Closure	30 – Good 4 – Excellent 34 participants acknowledged the support of NOLA and PDF Secretariat for a successful Forum

III. Pacific Disability Forum Council Meeting

The Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) at its inaugural meeting in Nadi, Fiji in July 2004 adopted its own Constitution and reaffirmed the collective desire of national organisations of persons with disabilities in the Pacific to hold annual Council Meetings. Such meetings are attended by the Full Members of the organisation which are the national disabled persons organisations (DPOs) or national disability service providers in Pacific Island countries and territories. At the commencement of this meeting, there were 22 Full Members of PDF from ten countries. However, membership applications from several organisations from the region have also been received which would be deliberated by the Council during its annual meeting.

To add value to the PDF Council Meetings, training sessions and workshops on thematic areas like women with disabilities, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Pacific Plan and Biwako Millennium Framework were organised around such meetings to build the capacity of national DPOs and their representatives, as well as seizing the opportunity of being together in one place to share information, exchange ideas, build alliances and strengthen solidarity. PDF is aware that disability is an issue that cuts across social, economic, cultural, spiritual and environmental aspects of our society, and therefore must be taken as an overarching principle to any development initiative at all levels.

The three-day Pacific Disability Forum Council Meeting held at the Hotel Kitano Tusitala in Apia over 23-25 April 2008 was made up of two and half days of training and the annual meeting of PDF Council members held on the afternoon of the final day, Friday, 25 April 2008. As stated earlier, topics such as the Biwako Millennium Framework (BMF), Pacific Plan, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, strategic planning, as well as monitoring and evaluation were covered during the training sessions. The meeting was well attended by representatives from the following member organisations:

Australia

- Aboriginal Disability Network.
- People with Disability Australia.

- International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment Pacific Region

Cook Islands

- Cook Islands National Disability Council.

Fiji

- Fiji Disabled People's Association.
- Fiji National Council for Disabled Persons.
- Spinal Injury Association of Fiji.
- United Blind Persons of Fiji.

Kiribati

- Te Toa Matoa.

New Zealand

- Akamarama Advocacy Inc.
- Vision Pacific Charitable Trust.

Papua New Guinea

- PNG National Assembly of People with Disabilities.

Samoa

- Nuanua O Le Alofa.

Solomon Islands

- People with Disabilities Solomon Islands.

Tonga

- Naunau O' E' Alamaite, Tonga Association.

Tuvalu

- Tuvalu Red Cross Society.

Vanuatu

- Disability Promotions and Advocacy Association.

Other local and international organisations with representatives present at the three day meeting included:

- Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

- United nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific - Pacific Office
- World Blind Union Pacific-Oceania sub region
- Samoan Government representatives from the Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture
- NZAID – New Zealand Agency for International Development
- AUS Aid – The Australian Government's overseas aid programme



Guests and Delegates at the 2008 Council Meeting in Apia, Samoa

1. Official Opening

The PDF 2008 Council Meeting was officially opened by the Prime Minister of Samoa, Hon. TUILA'EPA Lupesoliai Aiono Sailele Mailelegoai. The Honourable Prime Minister (*pictured on the right presenting his speech*) delivered his keynote address highlighting the achievements and status of disability development in Samoa. After welcoming all delegates, resource persons and observers to Samoa, the 2008 Council Meeting was opened. Other invited guests as listed below also addressed the participants as part of the opening ceremony:



- H.E New Zealand High Commissioner to Samoa
- Disability Taskforce - AusAID Representative
- Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions Representative
- Regional Adviser Social Development and Planning - UNESCAP Pacific Operation Centre
- Disability Coordination Officer – Pacific Island Forum Secretariat
- Co - Chairpersons – Pacific Disability Forum

2. Workshop Sessions

The PDF Council meeting provided an extensive two and a half day program (Tab D) for its members. This included a number of sessions which focused on how key international human rights laws, conventions and regional action plans can be used individually and mutually, to strengthen the human rights of people with disability in the Pacific.

Representatives from the Pacific Islands Forum and UNESCAP Pacific Operation Centre focused their presentations on the Pacific Plan, Biwako Millennium Framework and Biwako plus Five. The need to



Fred Miller, Disability Co-ordination Officer, PIFS (left) and Alistair Wilkinson, Regional Advisor Social Development and Planning, UNESCAP Pacific Operations Centre (right)

develop National Policy on Disability in Pacific Island countries, having good understanding of these regional policy frameworks, and working collaboratively with national governments to honour their commitments made at the 2003 Forum Leaders Meeting in Auckland, New Zealand were highlighted by the two presenters. A new concept on DPO self-initiative to development was also shared by the

two resource people to encourage national DPOs in Pacific Island countries to explore innovative and sustainable ways of mobilising people with disabilities and available resources at the grassroots level.

Interactive sessions were also conducted by the APF team on the United Nations Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Engaging Disabled Persons Organisations (DPO's) in discussions about the CRPD and other relevant human rights

instruments is critical to development and implementation of human rights laws generally throughout the Pacific. The APF's sessions on the CRPD provided participants with both the knowledge and skills necessary to assist their Governments to sign and ratify the CRPD. It also allowed participants to share and consider strategies which may be used in this regard to improve the current low rate of signature and ratification throughout the Pacific.

The timely announcement by representatives of the Disability Promotion & Advocacy Association Vanuatu of Vanuatu's ratification of the CRPD on the 24th of April, during the PDF Council Meeting, provided great inspiration to those present of



Delegates of Vanuatu and Cook Islands at the Council Meeting

the achievements possible when DPO's and their associate's work

collaboratively with Government to advance the rights of persons with disability.



PDF Consultant, Rebekah McCullough and CEO, Setareki Macanawai presenting the PDF Strategic Plan

Consultation sessions on the PDF's Strategic Directions which were facilitated by a consultant hired for this purpose and the PDF Secretariat allowed members to have valid input into the PDF's key focus areas for the year ahead. This Strategic Plan will be

used to guide the future work of the PDF and its support of DPO's and programs for people with disability in Pacific Island nations. An important component of this session was the Monitoring and Evaluation framework for PDF which would involve all member organisations. The ownership of this Strategic Plan by PDF members and their proper understanding of the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to be employed by PDF were also seen as crucial to the effectiveness of PDF as a regional organisation.

The consultant, PDF Secretariat together with NZAID representative also presented a draft concept paper for the establishment of an innovative 'Pacific Disabled Persons Organisations Fund' for the consideration of its members. This fund aims to provide funding to Pacific DPO's for projects designed at improving the lives of people with disability through empowerment, awareness raising and

reducing inequality. It is envisaged that it will be established with the support of NZAID later in 2008. Full support was given to this concept by PDF members and will provide unprecedented financial support for Pacific DPO's and their programs for people with disabilities.

The meeting resolved that further work and training to be done on both the PDF Strategic Plan and Pacific DPO Fund in the coming year.

It is envisaged that a weeklong training be organised and attended by representatives from PDF member countries and the final discussions be held at the next PDF General Meeting in 2009.

Plans were underway to implement the Pacific DPO Fund by January 2009 once necessary guidelines and related documents were finalised by the Fund Committee.



*Megan McCoy, NZAID Representative
making a presentation*

NZAID representative also presented a draft concept paper for the establishment of an innovative 'Pacific Disabled Persons Organisations Fund' for the consideration of its members. This fund aims to provide funding to

Pacific DPO's for projects designed at improving the lives of people with disability through empowerment, awareness raising and reducing inequality. It is envisaged that it will be established with the support of NZAID later in 2008. Full support was given to this concept by PDF members and will provide unprecedented financial support for Pacific DPO's and their programs for people with disabilities.

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Discussion Group in action

the final discussions be held at the next PDF General Meeting in 2009. Plans were underway to implement the Pacific DPO Fund by January 2009 once necessary guidelines and related documents were finalised by the Fund Committee.

3. Annual Council Meeting.

A total of sixteen members of the PDF Council representing ten Pacific Island countries were present at this annual meeting. Several member organisations have also submitted written apology for their non-attendance. Observers were also invited to attend and witness this annual event, including representatives from two organisations which have applied to join PDF. Some of the issues discussed included the following:

- Report From Executive Committee
- Annual financial report and audit of accounts
- Application for membership to PDF
- Setting Strategic Policies and Directions for PDF
- Establishment of Working Groups
- PDF Affiliation and Representation to Other Regional and International Organisations
- 2009 Council and General Meeting

In closing, the PDF Co-Chairpersons thanked the Council members and observers for their participation at the 2008 Council Meeting. The hard work and efforts of NOLA management board, staff and volunteers in hosting the five-day event, including this annual Council Meeting were sincerely acknowledged. Finally, the donor partners; NZAID and APF as well as funding assistance from the Australian High Commission in Fiji and Colgate Palmolive in Sydney were also recognised and applauded. Without their generous financial support, this annual event of PDF which was taking place for the first time outside Fiji would not have been possible.



Members of the Council Meeting in discussion

4. Networking Opportunities

The remoteness of many Pacific Island Nations and the limited resources many DPO's or networks of people with disability have at their disposal, means that they are often limited in their capacity to establish key contact points, which provide them with the means to create significant change for people with disabilities in their countries.

As a result of this, the invaluable opportunity for networking, and the establishment of ongoing relationships, provided by meetings such as the Women with Disability Forum and the PDF Council Meeting cannot be under estimated.

As a result the regional women delegates used this week to achieve the following outcomes:

- To network with and influence key funding bodies such as NZ Aid - New Zealand's Aid and Development Agency and AusAID, the Australian Government's Overseas Aid Program, opening new opportunities for future partnership; and
- To establish a Women's Committee which will ensure the ongoing consultation and input of women with disability from across the Pacific in the PDF's gender focused programs and activities to be implemented by the PDF Secretariat.



Regional Women delegates from Vanuatu, Kiribati, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu and Cook Islands meet with AUS Aid representative during the PDF Council Meeting.

On account of the wide representation of so many member Pacific Nations at this meeting, the PDF was able to:

- Continue to strengthen its advocacy for the rights of people with disability;
- To further build the capacity of Pacific based DPO's to provide self representation within their Pacific Nations; and
- Expand its work in key focus areas such as promoting the equal participation of women with disabilities.

5. Acknowledgement

PDF wishes to acknowledge the valuable assistance and generous contribution of the following organizations for making the 2008 PDF Women's Forum and Council Meeting in Apia, Samoa successful, rewarding and memorable;

1. The Government and people of Samoa.
2. Her Excellency The High Commissioner of New Zealand to Samoa.
3. NZAID for funding PDF's Council Meeting expenses.
4. Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions for providing resource persons and funding to support the National WWD Forum and Council meeting.
5. AusAID – Disability Task Force.
6. The Board, staff and volunteers of Nuanua ole Alofa (NOLA) for hosting the 2008 council meeting.
7. Australian High Commission Suva for sponsoring the Participant from Tuvalu.
8. Colgate Palmolive for partial sponsorship of Participant from Papua New Guinea (PNG).
9. People with Disabilities Australia for their initial work on this project.
10. Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat.
11. UNESCAP Pacific Operation Centre.



Nofovaleane Mapusua, President of NOLA at the official opening of the Council Meeting

IV. Appendices

APPENDIX A



PACIFIC DISABILITY FORUM National Women's Forum



Tofamamao Catholic Centre, Leauva'a, Samoa
21-22 APRIL 2008

We, the participants of the First National Forum of Samoan women with disabilities, supported by delegates to the Pacific Disability Forum ("PDF") Council meeting from the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Australia and New Zealand having met at the Tofamamao Centre, Leauva'a, Samoa, from 21 to 22 April 2008,

Acknowledging the experiences of the women with disabilities shared during this Forum,

And recognising that these experiences are also shared by women with disabilities in other countries of the Pacific,

Acknowledging the support of the Hon. Minister of Women, Community and Social Development, Fiame Naomi Mataafa, whose presence and words of encouragement to advance women with disability in Samoa were inspiring,

As outcomes of our Forum, record the following resolutions:

1. That a women's committee of Nuanua O Le Alofa ("NOLA") be established as of today's date, with a committee comprised of:
President - Pipi'i Elia
Vice-president - Louise Leauanae
Secretary - Fa'atino Masunu Utumapu
Treasurer - Levi Paniani
Members - Mina Sauaso, Nu'ufou Mosefulu, and Vaosa Mulipola;
Savaii Sub-committee - Taemanu Vai, Hana Iosefa, and Papauta Sifau.
2. That the NOLA Women's Committee uses the "Issues, Challenges and Possible Strategies" identified by women with disabilities during this Forum, set out and attached as Appendix A, along with the PDF "Empowering Women Action Plan", to develop an Action Plan for

empowering Samoan women.

3. That Pipi'i Elia represents NOLA on the PDF Women's Committee.
4. That the PDF Woman Co-chair table this record of resolutions and its appendices that comprise the outcome document of this Forum, at the PDF Council meeting to be held at the Hotel Kitano Tusitala, Apia, on 25 April 2008.
5. That our thanks and acknowledgement are expressed to:
 - a. The Board of Nuanua O Le Alofa, a full member of the PDF, for organising and hosting this first national meeting of women with disabilities. In particular we acknowledge the work of the National Coordinator, Miss Fa'atino Masunu Utumapu, and her secretariat and team of volunteer drivers and assistants;
 - b. The PDF Executive Committee and, in particular, the Chief Executive and his secretariat staff, for coordinating all arrangements for this women's Forum and the Council meeting 21-25 April 2008;
 - c. The New Zealand Agency for International Development for core funding of the PDF;
 - d. The Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions through Australian Agency for International Development, for co-funding along with the PDF, this National Forum of women and the Council meeting;
 - e. The Australian High Commission, Suva, and corporate sponsor Colgate Palmolive; and
 - f. People with Disability Australia for their support.

The resolutions were agreed by acclamation of the persons present, a list of which is attached to this record of resolutions as Appendix B.

ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND POSSIBLE STRATEGIES IDENTIFIED BY WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES

National Women's Forum,
Tofamamau Catholic Centre,
Leauva'a, Samoa,
21 April 2008

“The Samoan Constitution of 1962, the highest law of the land, was visionary in that it recognised the fundamental rights and inclusion of people of disability under Section 15” (Statement made by the Hon. Ms Fiaame Naomi Mataafa, Minister for Women, Community and Social Development, at the Opening of the Forum).

The following issues are not listed in order of priority.

Issues	Strategies	Tools/linkages	Responsible agencies
Vocational Training, Employment and independent living: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to be able to have boyfriends - to be able to have friends - to be able to get married - to have babies - to make nice food - to drive your own car - to go overseas by yourself - to own your own home 	Promote women with disability to have access to education to gain employment in order to live independently Enforce CEDAW Article 11 on employment Article 27, Employment CRPD Article 21, Living Independently in the Community Article 23, Home and Family	Employment Act? BMF CEDAW CRPD Samoan Constitution, section 15	Ministry of Labour Ministry of Education, Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development NOLA Women's Committee SUNGO Women in Business National Council of Women ILO C159
Organisational Capacity Building: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women with disability Committee - Pacific Disability Forum - Government 	Build the capacity for NOLA to be able to set-up a women with disability committee - accessing funding; women with disability	CRPD, Article 32, International Cooperation BMF, Priority 1, 2 and 7 Samoan Constitution, section 15	PDF Programme Officer, Gender / Youth / Capacity Building Ministry of Women, Community and Social

Issues	Strategies	Tools/linkages	Responsible agencies
	<p>post within NOLA; other resources</p> <p>Men and women are equally represented in NOLA, in government and decision-making bodies</p>		<p>Development Donor agencies (such as AusAID, NZAID)</p>
<p>Awareness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - rights of people with disability - non-discrimination - attitudinal changes - paradigm shift from charity to rights based model - national, regional and international action plans, policies, legislation, treaties 	<p>Promote inclusion by raising awareness against discrimination</p> <p>Information about disability and support services available to families and community</p> <p>Strong role models of women with disability</p> <p>Equality between women and men in their roles in the community eg. Matai</p>	<p>Awareness of inclusive education policies with families</p> <p>Work with SUNGO for UN CRPD ratification and awareness</p> <p>CRPD, Article on Awareness raising BMF</p>	<p>PDF Programme Officer, Gender / Youth / Capacity Building SPC</p> <p>PIFS</p> <p>OHCHR Fiji</p> <p>ESCAP</p> <p>NOLA, other NGOs and Government.</p> <p>Network of village mayors.</p>
<p>Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - lack of access - lack of teacher training - communication barriers 	<p>Enforce inclusive education policy</p> <p>Create awareness on inclusive education</p>	<p>CRPD</p> <p>Education for All</p>	<p>Ministry of Education</p> <p>Ministry of Health</p> <p>PRIDE</p> <p>UNESCO</p>

Issues	Strategies	Tools/linkages	Responsible agencies
	<p>Introduce communication tools such as sign language and Braille</p> <p>Training for pre- and in-service teacher training</p> <p>Providing adult literacy campaign</p>		NOLA
<p>Health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - access to health information and health support - access to health care 	<p>Training health care professionals to be able to communicate with Deaf women</p> <p>Increase numbers sign language interpreters</p>	<p>CRPD Article on Health, CRC CEDAW</p> <p>Lack of transport for access for communities in outer islands BMF, Priority 3</p>	<p>Ministry of Health NGO health service providers NGO women's refuge, support services</p>
<p>Transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - access to accessible public transport 		<p>CRPD BMF</p>	<p>Ministry of Transport Ministry of Civil Aviation NOLA</p>
<p>Access to the environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - public buildings - public facilities 	<p>Enforce the relevant building codes</p>	<p>CRPD BMF</p>	<p>Ministry of Public Infrastructure NOLA</p>
<p>Support to families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - awareness and information about disability and support - service linkages 	<p>Collaboration between service agencies and with families</p>	<p>CRPD CRC BMF MDGs</p>	<p>Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development NGOs service providers NOLA</p>

Issues	Strategies	Tools/linkages	Responsible agencies
<p>Skilled and resourced Services and supports</p>	<p>Raise awareness to services and support agencies to develop skills in working with people with disability</p> <p>Networking with services and support agencies e.g. Victim support services, early intervention, health care</p> <p>Establishing referral systems and databases</p>	<p>CRPD BMF</p>	<p>Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development Other Government agencies SUNGO NOLA</p>
<p>Celebrate differences and achievements: Legacy of women's achievements should be celebrated</p>	<p>"I am not ashamed of my disability" OBE to Mama Tuki Becoming a principal after being denied access to education Look at your dreams and celebrate when they are realised.</p>	<p>CRPD BMF, Priority 1</p>	<p>PDF NOLA Women's Committee Media</p>
<p>Inclusion in sport, recreation and leisure activities</p>		<p>CRPD BMF CEDAW</p>	<p>NOLA SASNOC Ministry for Sport</p>
<p>Freedom from</p>	<p>Availability of</p>	<p>CEDAW</p>	<p>Ministry of</p>

Issues	Strategies	Tools/linkages	Responsible agencies
violence, abuse and neglect	interpreters and training in communication with women with disability for police, sexual assault or domestic services	CRPD CRC Samoan Constitution, section 15	Justice Ministry for Women Police Churches NOLA NGOs
Early intervention, diagnosis and assistance	Collaborative relationships with early intervention services, support services for families, health care services to provide an interlinked service.	CRPD BMF CRC MDG	Ministry of Health Ministry of Education Ministry for Women, Community and Social Development NGOs
Leadership, decision-making and empowerment of women with disability	Identify potential skills for leadership Rights, empowerment and advocacy	CRPD CEDAW BMF, priority 2 Pacific Plan	Ministry for Women National Council of Women NOLA SPC Women's Committee

Recommendations:

- That NOLA creates a woman with disability committee to raise issues pertaining to women with disability.
- That NOLA creates a post for women with disability.
- That NOLA conducts another woman with disability meeting towards the end of 2008.

APPENDIX B



PACIFIC DISABILITY FORUM



ASIA PACIFIC FORUM
ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS IN OUR REGION

**National Women's Forum
Tofamamao Catholic Centre, Leauva'a, Samoa
21-22 APRIL 2008**

PROGRAMME

Objectives:

- 1. To establish a women's committee of Nuanua O Le Alofa; and**
- 2. To have input into the PDF Empowering Women's Action Plan.**

MONDAY, 21 APRIL 2008		
TIME	SESSION	CHAIR/RESOURCE PERSONS
9:00 – 10:30	Formal Opening and Introductions	Chair: Fa'atino Utumapu, National Co-ordinator, Disability Council of Samoa
	Opening prayer	Father Nimo Pilimai
	Opening address by Guest Speaker	Hon. Ms Fiame Naomi Mataafa, Minister for Women Community and Social Developments
	Introduction to the National Council of Women: Including disability in the mainstream women's agenda	President Samoa National Council of women
	Introduction to the Disability Council: An overview of NOLA, and objectives of the workshop	Fa'atino Utumapu
	Introduction to the Pacific Disability Forum: Presentation of the draft Gender Equity Policy and Empowering Women's Action Plan	Tewai Halatau, PDF Co-chair
10:200 – 11:00	Group Photo and Morning Tea	
11:20 – 12:30	Sharing Our Own Social Knowledge About the Situation in Samoa	Angeline Chand, PDF Gender, Youth & DPO Development
	Presentation (5 mins): What is "gender", "empowerment" and	Maiava Visikota Peteru

	other definitions	
	Group Work (1 hour, report back half hour): Sharing our experience of being a woman with a disability in Samoa – each person expresses her issues/challenges (personal, cultural, social, economic, political)	Facilitators: Tewai, Nelly, Angie, Faye, Savina
12:30 - 1:30	Lunch	
1:30 - 3:00	Group Work: continue sharing and classifying issues/challenges	
3:00 - 3:30	Afternoon Tea	
3:30 - 4:50	Services and Supports: 8-10 minute presentations by NHC(Caroline Bilkey) Women In Business [Adimalaga Tafunai Director] SUNGO [Roina Vavatau Chief Executive Officer], Ministries of Women [Luagalau Foisaga Shon Chief Executive Officer], Education Tautapilimai Levaopolo T. Esera Chief Executive Officer], Health [Tupuimatagi Palanitina Toelupe chief executive officer], and Transport [Vaelua Nofo Vaelua]	Chair: Savina Nongabatu, President People With Disabilities Solomon Islands
4:50	Announcements, Review of the Next Day's Programme, Closure	
TUESDAY, 22 APRIL 2008		
9:00 - 10:30	The Regional and International Situation	Chair: Tewai Halatau
	International Frameworks for Empowering Women	Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cristina Ricci (Australia) • Robyn Hunt (New Zealand) • Veta Endemann (New Zealand)
	Questions to the Panel	
10:30 to 11:00	Morning Tea	
11:00	Panel: Disabled persons	Chair: Tuki Wright, President,

- 12:30	organisations share their experience of organising; 10-15 minute presentations, and questions	Cook Islands National Disability Council
	Gender, Youth and DPO Development	Programme Officer, Gender, Youth & Development
	Disability Promotion Advocacy Vanuatu	Nelly Caleb
12:30 - 1:30	Lunch	
1:30 - 2:30	Parallel Group Work:	
	Setting up a women's committee of NOLA	Chair: Fa'atino Utumapu
	PDF Women's Caucus	Chair: Tewai Halatau
2:30 - 3:00	Report Back	Chair: Megan McCoy, Programme Manager, NZAID
3:00 - 3:30	Afternoon Tea	
3:30 - 4:30	Outcomes and Closure: Endorsement of outcomes statement and the PDF draft Empowering Women's Action Plan	Fa'atino utumapu, Tewai Halatau, Angeline Chand (PDF Programme Officer)
5:00 - 6:30	cocktail Reception hosted by NOLA Board members, to be joined by other PDF delegates and invited guests	
7:00 - 9:00	Celebration Dinner	

APPENDIX C



PACIFIC DISABILITY FORUM 2008 COUNCIL MEETING



ASIA PACIFIC FORUM
ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS IN OUR REGION

**HOTEL KITANO SAMOA TUSITALA
APIA, SAMOA
23RD -25TH APRIL 2008**

VISION STATEMENT:

A Pacific society that is culture positive and inclusive of indigenous cultures, gender-equitable, barrier-free and rights-based, that promotes full participation and equality of opportunities for all persons with disabilities in all aspects of life, and includes children, women, and men in isolated island atolls, remote, rural and urban areas.

MISSION STATEMENT:

To improve the situation of persons with disabilities in Pacific Island countries and territories by realizing and fulfilling the stated philosophy and objectives of PDF through building and strengthening the capacity of the regions national Disabled Persons Organizations (DPOs) to provide practical services, humanitarian support and advocacy services to their members and clients.

STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES – 2008-2011

GOAL:

To eliminate poverty for people with disabilities in the region

PURPOSE:

To strengthen the capacity of the regions National Disabled Persons organisations to provide practical services, humanitarian support and advocacy services to their members and clients.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To effectively develop a Regional Pacific Disability Forum.
2. To support the capacity and development of National Disabled Persons Organisations.
3. To raise awareness in the Pacific community on Disability issues.
4. To improve the status of women with disabilities.

5. To mainstream disability perspectives in regional policies, plans and programmes.

BACKGROUND:

The Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) at its inaugural meeting in Nadi, Fiji in July 2004 adopted its own Constitution which reaffirmed the collective desire of national organisations of persons with disabilities in the Pacific to hold annual Council Meetings. Such meetings are attended by the Full Members of the organisation which are the national disabled person's organisations (DPOs) in Pacific Island countries and territories.

To date, there are 20 Full Members of PDF from ten countries with two more organisations from two other countries whose membership applications will be considered at the 2008 Council Meeting in Apia, Samoa.

To add value to the PDF Council Meetings, training sessions and workshops on thematic areas like women with disabilities, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Pacific Plan and Biwako Millennium Framework are organised to build the capacity of national DPOs and their representatives, as well as seizing the opportunity of being together in one place to share information, exchange ideas, build alliances and strengthen solidarity.

PDF is aware that disability is an issue that cuts across social, economic, cultural, spiritual and environmental aspects of our society, and therefore must be taken as an overarching principle to any development initiative at all levels. For this reason, PDF intends to work in partnership with donor and development partners as well as with other key stakeholders towards the realisation of its vision, mission, goals and objectives.

PROGRAMME

TIME	SESSION	FACILITATOR
Wednesday, 23/04/08		
8:00 - 8:50 am	Registration	
9:00-9:30 am	Opening Ceremony	Chief Guest – Hon. Prime Minister for Samoa. Hon. TUILA'EPA Lupesoliai Aiono Sailele Malielegoai MC: Nofovaleane Mapusua, President, NOLA
9:30-10:15 am	Welcome Address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E NZ High Commissioner to Samoa • AusAID Representative • PDF Co-chairpersons Vote of thanks
10:15 -10:30 am	Introduction of Participants & Programme & Photo Session	Setareki Macanawai, CEO, PDF
10:30 -11:00 am	Morning Tea	
Session 1: Chairlady (Faye Druett)		
11:00 -1 pm	1. Disability AND THE Pacific Plan	Frederick Miller, Disability Coordination Officer, PIFS and Alastair Wilkinson, Regional Adviser, Social Development and Planning, UNESCAP/POC
	2. Biwako Millennium Framework and Biwako Plus Five	
	3. Developing a National Policy on Disability in Pacific Island Countries	
1:00 - 2:00pm	Lunch	
Session 2 : Chair : Nelly Caleb		
2 : 00pm - 3 : 30pm	UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Signing, Ratification and Implications	Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christina Ricci (Australia)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Robyn Hunt (New Zealand)• Veta Endemann (New Zealand)
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Afternoon Tea	
4:00- 5:00pm	Session 2 Continuation	
5:00 pm	End of Day One	

SESSION 3 : Savina Daulaasi		
Thursday, 24/02/08		
9:00-10:00 am	UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Advocacy to governments to sign, ratify, implement and monitor CRPD.	Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christina Rici (Australia) • Robyn Hunt (New Zealand) Veta Endemann (New Zealand)
10:00 – 10:30	Presentation from National WWD Forum (21 – 22 April, 2008)	Tewai Halatau (Co-chair, PDF) and Angeline Chand (Programme Officer, PDF)
10:30-11:00 am	Morning Tea	
Session 4 : Chair, Sam Vilisoni		
11:00 am	WBU/ICEVI EFA-VI Campaign in the Pacific (15 minutes)	Dr, Kevin Murfit, WBU AP Chair Pacific/Oceania Sub region
11:15am – 1:00 pm	Strategic Directions for PDF	Rebekah McCullough and Setareki Macanawai
1:00-2:00 pm	Lunch	
2:00-3:30 pm	Session 4 Continuation	
3:30-4:00 pm	Afternoon Tea	
Session 5: Chair, Setareki Macanawai		
4:00-5:00 pm	Disable Persons Organization(DPO) Self Initiative to Development - A New Approach	Alistair Wilkinson, Frederick Miller,
5:00 pm	End of Day Two	

TIME	SESSION	FACILITATOR
Friday, 25/02/08		
Session 6; chair. Tewai Halatau		
9:00-10:30 am	NZAID/PDF Small Grants Scheme	Sam Vilsoni, Chairperson, SGS Committee
10:30-11:00 am	Morning Tea	

11:00-12:00 pm	Session 6 Continuation	
12:00-1:00 pm	Lunch	
1:00-5:00 pm	PDF Council Meeting - Agenda	
1.	Present	
2.	Apologies	
3.	Minutes of Council Meeting held 27 March 2007	Secretary
4.	Report from Executive Committee	Co-chairs
5.	Approve applications for membership of PDF	Council
6.	Approve Annual Operating Account and 2006-07 Audit Report	Council
7.	Setting Strategic Policies and Direction of PDF	Council
8.	Establish Working Groups	Council
9.	Approve applications for membership or affiliation of the PDF to any other body	Council
10	Appoint representatives and delegations to government, intergovernmental and civil society organizations and fora to act on behalf of the PDF	Council
11.	Any Other Business	Council

APPENDIX D

PDF WWD & COUNCIL MEETING PARTICIPANTS 2008.

1. REGIONAL WOMEN AT THE WWD FORUM TOFAMAMAU CATHOLIC CENTRE, LEA'VA APIA 21ST - 22ND April 2008

	Name	Organisation
1	Tewai Halatau	Vision Pacific Charitable Trust
2	Savina Daulaasi	People With Disabilities Solomon Island
3	Cyrene Aonima	Savina PA
4	Tukiongo Wright	Cook Islands National Disability Council
5	Teewata Rokete	Te Toe Matoa Kiribati
6	Talafaiva Lotolua	Naunau O'E' Alamaite, Tonga
7	Nelly Caleb	Disability Promotion and Advocacy Vanuatu
8	Adonia Lynch	DPA Vanuatu
9	Therese Sands	People With Disabilities Australia
10	Sonya Price K	People With Disabilities Australia
11	Maureen Logan	Aboriginal Disability Network
12	Matakina Simmi	Tuvalu Red Cross
13	Angeline Chand	PDF*

N.B* the above list excludes the 40 local Samoan women from all over Samoa who were also there.

2. PDF COUNCIL MEETING PARTICIPANTS 23RD - 25TH April 2008; HOTEL KITANO, APIA SAMOA.

	Name	Organisation
1.	Frederick Miller	PIFS
2.	Hannah Derwent	AUSAID
3.	Kristen Pratt	AUSAID
4.	Cristina Ricci	APF
5.	Veta Endemann	APF
6.	Robin Hunt	APF
7.	Alastair Wilkinson	UNESCAP Pacific Office
8.	Rebekah McCullough	PDF Consultant
9.	Megan McCoy	NZAID
10.	Lester Bostock	Aboriginal Disability Network
11.	Maureen Logan	Aboriginal Disability Network
12.	Damian Griffis	Aboriginal Disability Network
13.	Tricia d'Apice	ICEVI - Pacific
14.	Therese Sands	PWD - Australia
15.	Sonya Price Kelly	PWD - Australia
16.	Kevin Murfit	WBU-AP Pacific - Oceania sub region
17.	Tukiongo Wright	Cook Islands National Disability Council
18.	Sam Vilsoni	Fiji Disabled People's Association
19.	Sitiveni Yanuyanutawa	Fiji National Council for Disabled Persons
20.	Akuila Rewatabua	United Blind Persons

21.	Teewata Rokete	Te Toa Matoa
22.	Latoa Halatau	Akamarama Advocacy Inc
23.	Tewai Halatau	Vision Pacific Charitable Trust
24.	Tole Wia	PNG National Assembly of Disabled Persons
25.	Brenda Lombange	PNG National Assembly of Disabled Persons
26.	Nofovaleane Mapusua	Nuanua Ole Alofa (NOLA)
27.	Faatino Utumapu	NOLA
28.	Monika Leauanae	NOLA
29.	Levi Paniani	NOLA
30.	Pipii Elia	NOLA
31.	Louise Leauanae	NOLA
32.	Louisa Saupo	NOLA
33.	Faalo Utumapu	NOLA
34.	Rasela Asalevai Tasi	NOLA
35.	Rasela Alevai	NOLA
36.	Faamau Faailo	NOLA
37.	Milovale Lama	NOLA
38.	Sa Siilata	NOLA
39.	Henry Schuster	NOLA
40.	Donna Lene	NOLA
41.	Savina Daulaasi	People With Disability Solomon Islands
42.	Cyrene Vai Aonima	People With Disability Solomon Islands PA
43.	Talafaiva Lotolua	Naunau O'E' Alamaite, Tonga (NATA) - Nuku'alofa Tonga
44.	Matakina Simmi	Tuvalu Red Cross
45.	Nelly Caleb	Disability Promotions and Advocacy - Vanuatu
46.	Adonia Piau - Lynch	Disability Promotion And Advocacy - Vanuatu
	Others	
47.	Mose Faatamala	Min of Education, Sports and Culture - Samoa
48.	Candice Apelu	Min of Education, Sports and Culture - Samoa
49.	Mailo S Pesomino	Min of Education, Sports and Culture - Samoa
50.	Elizabeth Bell	Min of Education, Sports and Culture - Samoa
51.	Setareki Macanawai	PDF
52.	Soloveni Vitoso	PDF
53.	Parnesh Goundar	PDF
54.	Angeline Chand	PDF