



Advancing the rights and inclusion of people with disabilities worldwide

RI Global: Office of the Commission on Social Activities
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FACT SHEET: COMMISSION ON SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Purpose/Mission

RI Global's Commission on Social Activities promotes social rehabilitation and equalization of opportunities in sports, recreation and social engagement for people of every disposition across the world. It also serves to ensure the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) with a special emphasis on the Article 19 (Living independently and being included in the community), Article 26 (Habilitation and rehabilitation), Article 29 (Participation in political and public life) and Article 30 (Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport). The Social Commission normally meets in connection with the RI Regional and World Conferences, but the Chair of the Commission holds monthly web-based discussions on a wide variety of projects, including "Disability Data Collection", which is centered around its various areas of coverage. The Commission also participates in global and regional platforms promoting community based rehabilitation as they occur.

Chair: Joseph Kin Fun Kwok

Joseph Kin Fun Kwok has maintained intensive and extensive involvement in the global and regional disability movements and been a prominent crusader in the rehabilitation field for the past 30 years. As Vice Chair of Asian Pacific Disability Forum, he has participated in international activities related to the drafting, adoption and monitoring of the UN Asia and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons 1993-2012, and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Mr. Kwok was instrumental in organizing major public education campaigns, including the first Abilympics in Hong Kong, and served as an Executive Committee member of the International Abilympics Federation. He continues to advise the HKSAR Government on the promotion of an inclusive society for persons with disabilities and is the Vice-Chairperson of the Hong Kong Joint Council for People with Disabilities. Mr. Kwok received the Bronze Bauhinia Star (BBS) from the HKSAR Government in 2005 and the Kazuo Itoga Memorial Award, Shiga Prefecture from the Government of Japan in 2006.