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# AGENDA Conference Continues Conversation on Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities, All Inclusion and Empowerment

November 9, 2012 - IFES

Indonesia

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During the first AGENDA conference, a participant takes part in an election simulation with a tactile ballot.

The second General Election Network for Disability Access (AGENDA) conference to promote the political rights of persons with disabilities in Southeast Asia is taking place November 10-11, 2012.

The event will bring together hundreds of disabled people's organizations, government representatives and election officials and practitioners to share best practices for ensuring that the political rights of persons with disabilities are observed in the region.

Taking place in Bali, Indonesia, the AGENDA Second Regional Dialogue on Access to Elections for Persons with Disabilities will build on the success of the first conference, which was held in February.

Each day, plenary sessions will shed light on the obstacles faced by this segment of the population. Chaired by prominent individuals involved in disability rights, elections and development, panels will examine the importance of rooting democracy in the equal participation of all citizens. The panels will also look at the legal charters that can be drawn upon to guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities, including the UN Convention on the

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2012 Joe C. Baxter Award Reception  
Monday, November 05, 2012

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Wednesday, October 17, 2012

Democracy for All: Empowering Vulnerable and Marginalized Populations  
Tuesday, October 02, 2012

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Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration.

Speakers will include Hadar N. Gumay, commissioner of the General Election Commission (KPU) of Indonesia; Makmur Sunusi, expert staff of the Indonesian Ministry of Social Affairs; Michael Bergmann, director governance policy and a/g principal sector specialist governance with AusAID; and Indonesian representatives to the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Social and Welfare Development.

Additionally, breakout sessions will allow for more intimate conversations and debate every afternoon. These sessions will address topics such as

strategies for engaging election management bodies (EMBs), pursuing political candidacy and ensuring that the voter registration process is inclusive.

AGENDA was established to improve access to political and electoral opportunities for persons with disabilities in Southeast Asia. This goal is fulfilled in part by bringing together local organizations to share experiences and form an organized advocacy effort.

A key aspect of this collaboration includes sharing data on the rights of persons with disabilities. This focus has resulted in the creation of the first-ever checklist designed to monitor election accessibility for persons with disabilities. Used first in the region, the checklist will now be employed in other countries around the world and has already been applied in the Dominican Republic during the country's May election.

AGENDA has also actively advocated for the inclusion of provisions on the political rights of persons with disabilities in the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration.

The second AGENDA conference will be accessible online. To watch the opening and closing ceremonies as well as the plenary sessions, see the information below. In addition, event activities will be covered on social media. Follow [@agendaasiaorg](#) for updates.

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==== EVENT DETAILS====

Event: Plenary Session: Agenda 2nd Annual Conference 2012

Date: Nov 08, 2012 12:00 AM Eastern (EST, North America/US)

Location: Webconference using Blackboard Collaborate

Join URL/Link:

<https://sas.illuminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=2009293&password=M.32F19676645E882854BF3736AFC424>

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Event: Breakout Session 1 -Agenda 2nd Annual Conference 2012

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Location: Webconference using Blackboard Collaborate

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Event: Breakout Session 2 - Agenda 2nd Annual Conference 2012

Date: Nov 08, 2012 12:00 AM Eastern (EST, North America/US)

Location: Webconference using Blackboard Collaborate

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Event: [Breakout Session 3](#) - Agenda 2nd Annual Conference 2012

Date: Nov 08, 2012 12:00 AM Eastern (EST, North America/US)

Location: Webconference using Blackboard Collaborate

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