



# Disabled People's International

Organisation Mondiale des Personnes Handicapées  
Organización Mundial de Personas con Discapacidad

A VOICE OF OUR OWN | NOTRE PROPRE VOIX | NUESTRA PROPIA VOZ

## URGENT

5<sup>th</sup> November, 2013

To Whom It May Concern

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**Caribbean:** St. John's, Antigua

I am writing to bring an issue to your attention which has been a cause of great concern and distress to us during an experience traveling by bus operated by Bangkok Mass Transit Authority (BMTA) because the buses are high floor without proper ramp installed. All passengers with mobility challenges have always carried on buses and spent longer time in the traffic that is extremely dangerous for both passengers with and without disability.

Accordingly, BMTA, the Ministry of Transportation has a resolution to buy 3,183 buses to improve the BMTA services system. Disabled Peoples' International (DPI) and its Members National Assembly strongly support Thai Disability Alliance, request to the BMTA to provide 3,183 low floor buses with manual ramp to accommodate all passengers who have mobility challenges.

In connection with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), Thailand has become its state party since 2008. Accessibility is a principle along with other 7 principles to CRPD. Besides, Article 20 - Personal mobility stated that States Parties shall take effective measures to ensure personal mobility with the greatest possible independence for persons with disabilities, including by:

- a. Facilitating the personal mobility of persons with disabilities in the manner and at the time of their choice, and at affordable cost;
- b. Facilitating access by persons with disabilities to quality mobility aids, devices, assistive technologies and forms of live assistance and intermediaries, including by making them available at affordable cost;
- c. Providing training in mobility skills to persons with disabilities and to specialist staff working with persons with disabilities;
- d. Encouraging entities that produce mobility aids, devices and assistive technologies to take into account all aspects of mobility for persons with disabilities.

Therefore, Royal Thai Government has an obligation to fulfill the implementation of CRPD and submit regular reports to the CRPD committee on how the rights of persons with disability are being implemented.

**CHAIRPERSON'S OFFICE**

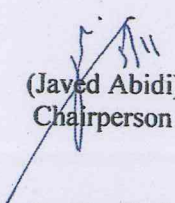
A 77, South Extension Part II, New Delhi 110 049, INDIA Tel: 91 11 26265647/48

Fax: 91 11 26265649 Email: chairperson.dpi@gmail.com Website: www.dpi.org

DPI strongly believe persons who have mobility challenge are tax payers as well as being right holders to this investment project therefore DPI would like to kindly ask you to re consider the resolution on 3,183 buses project and harmonize its Term of Reference with CRPD as the state is a duty bearer.

We wait to hear back from you regarding this matter.

Sincerely yours,

  
(Javed Abidi)  
Chairperson

Cc: The United Nations Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development  
ASEAN Inter Governmental Commission on Human Rights  
International Disability Alliance (IDA)  
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand  
Minister of Transport  
Ministry of Finance  
CNN Asia  
BBC World News  
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