



**JOINT STATEMENT:
ASEAN PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN SPORTS CONFERENCE 2025
Putrajaya, Malaysia | 20–21 June 2025**

Theme: "Inclusive Sports for All: Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges in ASEAN"

We, the delegates of the ASEAN Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Sports Conference 2025, comprising representatives from ASEAN Member States, educators, policymakers, athletes, NGOs, and allied partners;

ACKNOWLEDGING the positive impact of sports in promoting human rights, social inclusion, and empowerment for all persons with disabilities;

RECALLING the ASEAN Enabling Masterplan 2025, the ASEAN Work Plan on Sports 2021– 2025, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), and our shared regional commitment to "leaving no one behind";

ACKNOWLEDGING the persistent barriers including limited inclusive infrastructure, underfunded grassroots para sport programs, lack of trained inclusive educators and coaches, and the continued stigma surrounding disability in sports;

We, The Participants of ASEAN Persons with Disabilities in Sports Conference 2025 :

1. **Urge a supportive and inclusive sports environment in ASEAN**
Encourage data-driven talent pathways from grassroots to elite levels, foster inter-agency collaboration and design new regional para sports program such as ASEAN PWDs Sports Carnival while ensuring ongoing community and policy support.
2. **Strongly encourage schools in promoting inclusivity**
Recommend inclusive physical education by investing in teacher training, curriculum reform, and inclusive school sports programs that mainstream participation of students with disabilities across ASEAN.
3. **Accelerate the Development of Inclusive Facilities**
Commit universal design standards and national guidelines for accessible sports infrastructure; promote the replication of community-based, inclusive sports hubs and facilities with 'last-mile' accessibility across urban and rural areas.
4. **Promote Sports for Development and Peace**
Support sport as a vehicle for peacebuilding, youth empowerment, and societal resilience by integrating sport-based approaches in national development plans and educational systems, particularly for PWDs.
5. **Preserve and Amplify Paralympic and Disability Sports Legacies**
Celebrate the achievement of ASEAN Para Games and other international disability sports through education, public awareness campaigns, media engagement, and policy reform that elevates the visibility and dignity of para-athletes.

Let this joint statement mark a unified step forward in ensuring that sports in ASEAN is truly for all – a powerful bridge of dignity, purpose, and inclusion.

**Adopted in Putrajaya, Malaysia
This 21st day of June 2025**