# #WhatWENeed

## Full CRPD Compliance on the Inclusion of persons with psychosocial disabilities

**Partners for reframing from MH to Inclusion, this International Mental Health Week, 201****8[[1]](#footnote-2)**

Persons with psychosocial disabilities, users and survivors of psychiatry, people with "mad" identities and other identities thereof, are herewith calling for support to have our voices amplified through this International Mental Health Week, 2018, as we gear towards increasing our full and effective participation in inclusive communities. We also express our concerns over the spread of the medical model through the low and middle-income countries by importing the unsuccessful western models of mental health.

The medical model, proposed by the "Global Mental health Movement", since the first Lancet issue in 2007, has set ablaze through Low and Middle Income Countries of the world (LMICs), with its regressive approach towards mental health and persons with psychosocial disabilities contrary of the convention on the rights of persons with disabilities (CRPD). This year, based on the non-compliant work of the Global Mental health Movement, the "Global MH Ministerial Summit" is being organized in London during the World Mental Health Week of 2018 by the UK Government, the WHO, and with several enabling agencies.

To our dismay, summit is being designed and conducted without participation of persons with psychosocial disabilities and users and survivors of psychiatry, opposing the very tenet of the CRPD that requires of persons with disabilities in matters concerning them, which in this case are persons with psychosocial disabilities.  According to their website[[2]](#footnote-3), a Lancet paper is promised to be released, which has aroused the ire of the movement of persons with psychosocial disabilities, their supporters and their allies, worldwide; but especially in the Low and Middle Income Countries, where such actions are predicted to have maximum impact.

The summit, we feel would undo, the significant development that has happened towards a rights based perspective for persons with psychosocial disabilities by the Reports from Special Rapporteur (Disabilities), statements from the Special Rapporteur (Health), the Mental health and human rights report (2018) from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the General Comments on Legal Capacity, Women, Living independently. Most recently, allied UN bodies have also issued very strong statements supporting moves to realize all human rights for persons with psychosocial disabilities. All these positive efforts have also been supported by far reaching policy changes worldwide, on enabling CRPD compliance.

In a deliberate response to those complex new developments worldwide, a "Bali Declaration"[[3]](#footnote-4) was issued by TCI Asia Pacific in August, 2018, affirming once again a call to CRPD commitment and reframing mental health in the direction of Inclusion.  The "North driving the South" phenomenon has evoked strong counter response from TCI AP and allied organizations (from Africa and Latin America); especially when we know, *that the western model of psychiatry, based on colonial practices of isolation, and coercion; and offering little more than medication, is a* *failure.* The Declaration, in expresses alarm at the import of models and the impending violations in human rights, that needs more universal visibility and advocacyworldwide.

TCI AP is concerned that, the GMH movement by influencing the world in setting the lowest standard of the CRPD for persons with psychosocial disabilities. What we need instead is to be engaged in constructive actions of community development and not medicalisation as the solution. Our movement is thus creating new and continuing critical messaging, and advocacy with member states, reiterating our advocacy for *full CRPD compliance*and our right to live in the community. We believe that the answers are to be found in promoting policies of practices that have inclusion across services, in line with article 19, as core principle, process and outcomes.

Therefore, to counter the detrimental impact of the medical focused discussions at the we see happening at the Global MH Ministerial Summit, TCI AP is organsing an online campaign that we invite youjoin collectively, across regions and boundaries, to express ourselves at,

**#WhatWENeed**

**We need Full CRPD Compliance!!**

**Find us on Twitter at  #WhatWENeed**

**Find us on Facebook at What We Need**

**The Campaign is open from 1st October - 30th November 2018**

**Contact at****tciasia.secretariat@gmail.com**

1. TCI Asia Pacific has been an organized DPO of persons with psychosocial disabilities since 2014, but was started in the context of the CRPD, mobilizing since 2012 in the Asia Pacific region [www.tci-asia.org] [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. https://www.changedirection.org/globalsummit/ [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. https://tciasiapacific.blogspot.com/2018/09/bali-declaration-2018.html [↑](#footnote-ref-4)