## Duskin Leadership Training in Japan A Program for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific

c/o Japanese Society for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (JSRPD)

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To whom it may concern,

We are pleased to announce the call for applications for the 19<sup>th</sup> Dukin Leadership Training in Japan (2017-18). The Duskin program, which was first implemented in 1999, is designed to provide highly motivated young individuals with disabilities living in Asia and the Pacific region with a 10-month long training opportunity to learn about the current situation of welfare measures and services for persons with disabilities in Japan. It also offers a series of workshops where participants can enhance their practical skills and develop good leadership. Over the past 17 years the program has hosted 121 people, many of whom are today taking action for human rights of persons with disabilities the world over.

Unique features of the program include that the instruction language is Japanese: the first 3 months are devoted to intensive Japanese (Sign) language lessons, and by the end of the program participants can develop fluency in the language. Moreover, a number of months are spent on tailor-made individual training, reflecting each participant's own needs, interests and future goals. At present 6 prospective trainees, who have been invited to attend the 18th program, are developing their training plan and getting ready for the journey they are embarking on in September.

Please find enclosed hard copies of Application Guidance and Application Form, which are also available for download at our website: http://www.normanet.ne.jp/~duskin/english/. It would be very much appreciated if you could help us disseminate the information about the call. We hope to receive many applications from young people in your country.

The deadline for applications is August 8th, 2016. Applications sent by post should be postmarked no later than this date.

If you have any inquiries please phone us or send an email or fax (contact details shown above). Thank you very much in advance for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Satomi NASU (Ms.)

On behalf of Secretariat for the Duskin Leadership Training in Japan Deputy Manager of the International Training Section
Japanese Society for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (JSRPD)