

Leprosy is curable.

Treatment is free.

Discrimination has no place.

# Global Appeal

To end stigma and discrimination against  
persons affected by leprosy

SINCE 2006



Global Appeal 2012 was translated into to Bengali by The Leprosy Mission International - Bangladesh

Background

Leprosy has been one of the world’s most feared and misunderstood diseases. Today, thanks to modern chemotherapy, there is an effective cure. With early diagnosis and prompt treatment, it does not result in disability or disfigurement. A bacterial disease, leprosy is only mildly communicable. Some 16 million people have been treated and cured since the introduction of multidrug therapy (MDT) in the 1980s.

Many myths and misperceptions about leprosy persist, however. While drugs can cure the disease, they cannot erase the social stigma and prejudice that come from a lack of public understanding. Discrimination against people affected by leprosy remains severe in some parts of the world. Denied the same opportunities for education, employment and marriage as other members of society, people affected by the disease find themselves marginalized. Their access to social services is limited or non-existent and their perfectly healthy children may be refused admission to school.

Working to end this discrimination, Yohei Sasakawa, chairman of The Nippon Foundation,

WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination and Japanese Government Goodwill Ambassador for the Human Rights of Persons Affected by Leprosy, leads an annual Global Appeal. Initiated in 2006, it is launched on or near World Leprosy Day—the last Sunday in January.

The Global Appeal initiative has inspired partners in different countries to make sure that its message reaches far and wide. On occasion, the appeal has been translated into Portuguese, Chinese, Bahasa Indonesia, Amharic, Nepali, Spanish, Swahili, French, German, Russian, Japanese, Hindi, Bengali and several other Indian languages, and organizations of persons affected by leprosy undertook the job of translating, designing and printing the local-language versions. They also delivered copies to health posts, hospitals and clinics for display to raise public awareness of discrimination.

Message from Yohei Sasakawa

For more than 40 years I have been involved in efforts to end leprosy and the discrimination it causes. As WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination, I have traveled throughout the world, listening to persons affected by leprosy and urging national leaders to address the issue of discrimination in their countries.

But one person can only do so much. That’s why I began this Global Appeal to invite globally influential leaders and organizations from different spheres to lend their voices and issue a powerful call to end discrimination against persons affected by leprosy.

Over the past 15 years, many individuals and groups have endorsed the Global Appeal. You will find here the text of every Appeal, each one issued shoulder to shoulder with persons affected by leprosy.

Leprosy is curable. Treatment is free. Social discrimination has no place. I will continue to work for a world without leprosy and the discrimination it causes, and see that these messages are heard.



History

- |      |                                                                                       |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2020 | International Paralympic Committee<br>Tokyo, Japan                                    |
| 2019 | International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)<br>New Delhi, India                           |
| 2018 | Disabled Peoples’ International<br>New Delhi, India                                   |
| 2017 | Inter-Parliamentary Union<br>New Delhi, India                                         |
| 2016 | Junior Chamber International<br>Tokyo, Japan                                          |
| 2015 | International Council of Nurses<br>Tokyo, Japan                                       |
| 2014 | National human rights organizations<br>Jakarta, Indonesia                             |
| 2013 | International Bar Association<br>London, UK                                           |
| 2012 | World Medical Association<br>Sao Paulo, Brazil                                        |
| 2011 | World leading universities<br>Beijing, China                                          |
| 2010 | World business leaders<br>Mumbai, India                                               |
| 2009 | World’s religious leaders<br>London, UK                                               |
| 2008 | International human rights organizations<br>London, UK                                |
| 2007 | Representatives of people affected by leprosy around the world<br>Manila, Philippines |
| 2006 | World leaders and Nobel Peace Prize laureates<br>New Delhi, India                     |



Japanese Prime Minister (center) shows his support for the Global Appeal (Tokyo, 2020)

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# GLOBAL APPEAL TO END STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PEOPLE AFFECTED BY LEPROSY

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Leprosy is among the world's oldest and most dreaded diseases. Without an effective remedy for much of its long history, it often resulted in terrible deformity. It was also thought to be extremely communicable. Patients were abandoned, forced to live in isolation and discriminated against as social outcasts.

In the early 1980s, an effective cure for leprosy became available. Multidrug therapy has successfully treated over 14 million people to date. Contrary to popular belief, leprosy is extremely difficult to contract. With prompt diagnosis and treatment, it can be medically cured within 6 to 12 months without risk of deformity.

Yet fear of leprosy remains deep-rooted. Misguided notions endure — that it is “highly contagious,” “incurable” and “hereditary.” Some even regard it as “a divine punishment.”

Ignorance and misunderstanding result in prejudice and discriminatory attitudes that remain firmly implanted as custom and tradition.

Consequently, patients, cured persons and their entire families suffer stigma and discrimination. This limits their opportunities for education, employment and marriage, and restricts their access to public services.

Fearful that by speaking out they will invite further discrimination, for long years people affected by leprosy, including their families, have been cowed into silence. Such silence reinforces the stigma that surrounds them.

The world has remained indifferent to their plight for too long.

Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and human rights.” This article, however, is meaningless to people affected by leprosy, who continue to suffer discrimination.

We appeal to the UN Commission on Human Rights to take up this matter as an item on its agenda, and request that it issue principles and guidelines for governments to follow in eliminating all discrimination against people affected by leprosy.

We further urge governments themselves to seriously consider this issue and act to improve the present situation with a sense of urgency.

Finally, we call on people all over the world to change their perception and foster an environment in which leprosy patients, cured persons and their families can lead normal lives free from stigma and discrimination.

January 29, 2006

*Oscar Arias*  
Former President of Costa Rica  
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

*Jimmy Carter*  
Former President of the United States of America  
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

*The Dalai Lama*  
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

*El Hassan bin Talal*  
Prince of the Jordanian Hashemite Royal Dynasty

*Václav Havel*  
Former President of the Czech Republic

*Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva*  
President of the Federative Republic of Brazil

*Olusegun Obasanjo*  
President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

*Mary Robinson*  
Former President of Ireland  
Former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

*Yohei Sasakawa*  
Chairman, The Nippon Foundation

*Desmond Tutu*  
Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town  
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

*R. Venkataraman*  
Former President of India

*Elie Wiesel*  
President, The Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity  
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate



# Global Appeal 2007

To End Stigma and Discrimination  
against People Affected by Leprosy



Adi Yosep  
Indonesia

*"Every person is born free and equal  
in dignity and human rights." \**



Lak Kiri  
Cambodia

Many people think that leprosy no longer exists.  
But it does — and also the stigma and  
discrimination it causes.



Shehu Abdullahi S/Fada  
Nigeria

Discrimination against people affected by leprosy is  
one of the oldest and most pervasive examples of  
social injustice in the history of the human race.



Michihiro Kob  
Japan



Birke Nigatu  
Ethiopia

Even today, millions of men, women and children  
continue to suffer social, economic and legal  
discrimination, simply because they or a family  
member have had leprosy.



Natália Isabel da Graça Marçal  
Angola

Leprosy is a curable disease. Yet misguided notions  
about leprosy persist, with devastating  
consequences for those thus stigmatized.



Cristiano Claudio Torres  
Brazil



Nicole H. Holmes  
USA

Denying the inherent human rights of anyone on  
the basis of disease is indefensible.  
Discrimination can never be justified.



Hilarion M. Guia  
Philippines

Silence on this issue is not acceptable.



P. K. Gopal  
India

We urge you to join us in the fight to end  
this social injustice.



José Ramirez, Jr  
USA

Together, let us create a society in which  
every individual is free and equal  
in dignity and human rights.



Parwati Oli  
Nepal

January 29, 2007



Kofi Nyarko  
Ghana

Global Appeal 2007 is an initiative of Yohei Sasakawa,  
WHO Goodwill Ambassador for the Elimination of Leprosy,  
endorsed and co-signed by leaders of People Affected  
by Leprosy around the world.



Valdenora da Cruz Rodrigues  
Brazil



Sarat Kumar Dutta  
India



Yohei Sasakawa  
WHO Goodwill Ambassador for  
the Elimination of Leprosy  
Chairman, The Nippon Foundation

\* From the First Article of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)



Zhuo You  
China



# GLOBAL APPEAL 2008

To End Stigma and Discrimination against People Affected by Leprosy

*“To many of us, worse than the very disease is the prejudice that comes along with it.” \**



Leprosy is one of the world's oldest diseases.

For much of history, it was incurable.

Countless millions suffered its disfiguring effects.

Today, leprosy is easily treated with multidrug therapy.

Since the 1980s, over 16 million people have been cured worldwide.

Diagnosed early and treated promptly, leprosy leaves no trace.

Far harder to remove is the age-old stigma.

Based on ignorance and fear, society continues to discriminate against people affected by leprosy, even after they are cured.

This has devastating consequences for them and their families.

It limits their opportunities for education, employment and marriage, and it restricts their participation in community life.

Defining a person by his or her disease is unacceptable.

We appeal to society to understand the facts about leprosy.

We call for actions to end the stigma and discrimination.

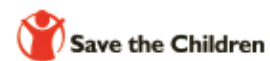
We join people affected by leprosy in affirming the right of every human being to live with dignity.

January 28, 2008

Irene Khan  
Secretary General, Amnesty International



Barry Clarke  
Chair, International Save the Children Alliance



Julio Wilfredo Guzman Jara  
Chairperson, Disabled Peoples' International



Bryan Dutton  
Director General, Leonard Cheshire Disability



Richard Blewitt  
Chief Executive, HelpAge International



Elly Pradervand  
Executive Director,  
Women's World Summit Foundation



Nicholas Howen  
Secretary General,  
International Commission of Jurists



Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia  
General Secretary, World Council of Churches



Eugen Brand  
Director General,  
International Movement ATD Fourth World



Yohei Sasakawa  
Chairman, The Nippon Foundation



The Nippon Foundation

\*Francisco A.V. Nunes, Brazil, founder member of MORHAN (Movement to Reintegrate People Affected by Leprosy)

Global Appeal 2009 to End  
Stigma and Discrimination  
against People Affected by Leprosy

# GLOBAL APPEAL 2009

Leprosy is a disease as old as human history.  
Its disfiguring effects struck fear in people's hearts.  
Patients were ostracized for lack of an effective cure.  
Now a cure exists, and it's available free of charge.  
Diagnosed early and treated promptly, leprosy leaves no trace.  
But mistaken beliefs about the disease persist.  
They perpetuate social and economic discrimination.  
This discrimination causes emotional and psychological pain.  
To conquer this age-old stigma, drugs alone are not enough.  
All of us must be part of the social healing process.  
People affected by leprosy and their families have a right to a normal life.  
Denying basic human rights to someone because he or she once had a disease is wrong.  
Let us all join hands to eliminate fear, discrimination, and social stigma wherever they exist.  
Let the healing begin today.

Launched at Church House, London, on 26 January 2009,  
Global Appeal 2009 is an initiative of Yohei Sasakawa,  
Chairman of The Nippon Foundation.



His Eminence  
Ammar A.  
Al-Hakim  
Vice President of Islamic  
Supreme Council of Iraq



His Eminence  
Archbishop  
Istrinsky Arseniy  
Vicar of the Holy Patriarch  
of Moscow and All Russia



Sant Shri Morari  
Bapuji  
Shri Sitaram Seva Trust, India



His Eminence  
Cardinal Javier  
Lozano Barragán  
President,  
Pontifical Council for Health  
Pastoral Care, Vatican



His Holiness  
The 14th Dalai Lama  
of Tibet



The Very Reverend  
John Robert Hall  
Dean of Westminster,  
United Kingdom



His Royal Highness  
Prince Hassan bin  
Talal of Jordan  
President Emeritus,  
World Conference of  
Religions for Peace



The Reverend  
Dr. Samuel Kobia  
General Secretary,  
World Council of Churches



The Reverend  
Dr. Stavros Kofinas  
Coordinator of the European  
Network of Health Care  
Chaplaincy; Representative of  
the Ecumenical Patriarchate of  
Constantinople



The Most Venerable  
Yukei Matsunaga  
President,  
Japan Buddhist Federation



His Eminence Rabbi  
Yona Metzger  
The Chief Rabbi of Israel



His Eminence  
Gaudencio Borbon  
Cardinal Rosales  
The Cardinal Archbishop  
of Manila, the Philippines



Priestess Beatriz  
Schulthess  
President,  
Indigenous Peoples Ancestral  
Spiritual Council



His Eminence K.H.  
Sahal Mahfud  
Chairman,  
Indonesian Council of Ulama



His Holiness  
Tep Vong  
The Great Buddhist Supreme  
Patriarch of the Kingdom of  
Cambodia



His Eminence  
Archbishop  
Gregorios Theocharous  
Archbishop of Thyateira and  
Great Britain



The Most Reverend  
Desmond Tutu  
Archbishop Emeritus of  
Cape Town, South Africa



Yohei Sasakawa  
Chairman of The Nippon  
Foundation, Japan; WHO  
Goodwill Ambassador for  
Leprosy Elimination

# GLOBAL APPEAL 2010

TO END STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION  
AGAINST PEOPLE AFFECTED BY LEPROSY

People affected by leprosy often say that dealing with society's attitudes toward the disease is harder than dealing with the disease itself.

Leprosy is curable,  
yet the problems brought on by leprosy don't end when the treatment is complete.

Many people with the disease remain marginalized  
because stigma and discrimination restrict opportunities for education, training and work.

We believe that people affected by leprosy have the same rights as everyone else,  
and deserve the same opportunities as everyone else.

We support the principle of social integration and economic empowerment of  
people affected by leprosy.



Mr. Roger Agnelli  
CEO  
Vale



Mr. Mukesh D. Ambani  
Chairman & Managing Director  
Reliance Industries Ltd.



Sir Richard Branson  
Chairman  
Virgin Management Ltd.



Mr. Philippe Camus  
Co-Managing Partner  
Lagardère SCA



Mr. Chang Zhenming  
Vice Chairman & President  
CITIC Group



Mr. Fujio Cho  
Chairman  
Toyota Motor Corporation



Mr. Keshub Mahindra  
Chairman  
Mahindra Group



Mr. Mikio Sasaki  
Chairman  
Mitsubishi Corporation



Mr. Louis Schweitzer  
Honorary Chairman and President  
Renault



Mr. Ratan N. Tata  
Chairman  
Tata Group



Mr. Kan Trakulhoon  
President and CEO  
The Siam Cement Group



Mr. Tsuneji Uchida  
President & COO  
Canon Inc.



Dr. Daniel Vasella  
Chairman & CEO  
Novartis AG



Mr. William C. Weldon  
Chairman & CEO  
Johnson & Johnson



Prof. Muhammad Yunus  
Managing Director  
Grameen Bank



Yohei Sasakawa  
Chairman  
The Nippon Foundation



Launched in Mumbai on 25 January 2010, Global Appeal 2010 is an initiative of Yohei Sasakawa, WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination, Japanese Government Goodwill Ambassador for the Human Rights of People Affected by Leprosy, and Chairman of The Nippon Foundation.



# GLOBAL APPEAL 2011

TO END STIGMA AND  
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST  
PEOPLE AFFECTED  
BY LEPROSY

The heads of  
**100**  
of the world's  
leading  
universities  
declare that the  
discrimination  
suffered by  
people affected  
by leprosy has  
no place  
in our world.

“Leprosy is a curable disease, yet it continues to stigmatize.

The corollary of this stigma is discrimination, resulting in limited opportunities and social exclusion.

The stigma associated with leprosy is rooted in myths and misconceptions that deserve no place in today's world.

With awareness and education, this stigma can be challenged.

With education, people affected by leprosy can be empowered to overcome the social and economic barriers that society has placed in their way.

We call for an end to discrimination against people affected by leprosy and their families.

We support their right to live in dignity as full members of the community with equal access to opportunities and enjoying all their human rights.

”

University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin Rector Prof. Cossi Norbert Awanou	Academy of Management, Mongolia Rector and President Prof. Dr. Chuluunbaatar Gelegpil	Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia President Prof. Andreas Eshete	Escuela Agrícola Panamericana- Zamorano, Honduras President Dr. Roberto Cuevas	The American University in Cairo, Egypt President Dr. David D. Arnold
Ankara University, Turkey Rector Prof. Dr. Cemal Taluğ	University of Antananarivo, Madagascar President Prof. Abel Andriantsimahavandy	Ateneo de Manila University, The Philippines President Fr. Bienvenido F. Nebres, S.J.	The Australian National University Medical School, Australia Dean Prof. Nicholas Glasgow	Bayero University, Nigeria Vice-Chancellor Prof. Attahiru Muhammad Jega
University of Belgrade, Serbia Rector Prof. Dr. Branko Kovacevic	Ben-Gurion University of the Negrev, Israel President Prof. Rivka Carmi	The University of Bristol, UK Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Eric Thomas	University of Bucharest, Romania Rector Prof. Dr. Ioan Panzaru	Cairo University, Egypt President Prof. Dr. Hossam Kamel
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University of Chile, Chile Rector Prof. Victor L. Pérez Vera	The Chinese University of Hong Kong, China Vice-Chancellor and President Prof. Joseph Sung	Chongqing University, China President Prof. Lin Jianhua	Chulalongkorn University, Thailand President Prof. Pirom Kamolratanakul	Charles University, Czeck Republic Rector Prof. RNDr. Václav Hampl
Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia Assoc. Prof. PhDr. František Gahér	Complutense University of Madrid, Spain Vice-Chancellor for International Relations Dr. Lucila González Pazos	Le Conservatoire de Paris, France Director Mr. Bruno Mantovani	University of Copenhagen, Denmark Rector Prof. Ralf Hemmingsen	University of Coimbra, Portugal Rector Prof. Fernando Jorge Rama Seabra Santos
University of East Anglia, UK Vice-Chancellor Professor Edward Acton	European Institute of Business Administration, France Dean Mr. J. Frank Brown	Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary President Dr. József Pálinskás	University of Indonesia, Indonesia Rector Prof. Dr. der Soz Gumilar Rusliwa Somantri	Indonesia University of Education, Indonesia Rector Prof. Dr. H. Sunaryo Kartadinata
Inner Mongolia University, China President Prof. Chen Guoqing	Johns Hopkins University, USA President Dr. Ronald J. Daniels	The University of Jordan, Jordan Acting President Prof. Bashir Al Zu'bi	The Juilliard School, USA President Dr. Joseph W. Polisi	Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland Director Prof. Philippe Burrin
Jadavpur University, India Vice-Chancellor Prof. Pradip Narayan Ghosh	Jagiellonian University, Poland Rector Prof. Karol Musiol	Jawaharlal Nehru University, India Vice-Chancellor Prof. B. B. Bhattacharya	Jilin University, China President Prof. Tao Zhan	Juntendo University, Japan CEO Prof. Hideoki Ogawa
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Malaysia Vice-Chancellor Prof. Tan Sri Dato' Dr. Sharifah Hapsah Syed Hasan Shahabudin	Kelo University, Japan President Prof. Atsushi Seike	Lanzhou University, China President Prof. Zhou Xuhong	University of Latvia, Latvia Rector Prof. Marcis Auzins	The University of Leeds, UK Vice-Chancellor Professor Michael Arthur
University of Leipzig, Germany Rector Prof. Dr. iur. Franz Häuser	University of Lima, Peru Rector Dr. Ilse Wisotzki	School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, UK Director Professor Paul Webley	Mahidol University, Thailand President Clinical Professor Piyasakol Sakolsatayadorn	Massey University, New Zealand Vice-Chancellor Prof. Steve Maharey
El Colegio de Mexico, Mexico President Dr. Javier Garciadiego	Monash University, Australia Vice-Chancellor and President Prof. Ed Byrne	University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, Austria Rector Prof. Dr. Werner Hasitschka	University of Nairobi, Kenya Vice-Chancellor Prof. George Magoha	Nanjing University, China President Prof. Chen Jun
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece Rector Prof. Demosthenes N. Asimakopoulos	National Taiwan University, Taiwan President Dr. Si-Chen Lee	National University of Singapore, Singapore President Prof. Tan Chorh Chuan	University of New South Wales, Australia President and Vice-Chancellor Prof. Frederick G. Hilmer	Newcastle University, UK Vice-Chancellor Professor Chris Brink
University of Oslo, Norway Rector Prof. Ole Petter Ottersen	Oxford Brookes University, UK Vice-Chancellor Professor Janet Beer	University for Peace, Costa Rica Rector Mr. John J. Maresca	Peking University, China President Prof. Zhou Qifeng	University of the Philippines, The Philippines President Prof. Emerlinda R. Roman
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Rural Polytechnic Institute for Training and Applied Research, Mali Director General Prof. Fafré Samake	Saint-Petersburg State University, Russia Rector Prof. Nikolay Mikhaylovich Kropachev	University of São Paulo, Brazil Rector Prof. Dr. João Grandino Rodas	The University of Sheffield., UK Vice-Chancellor Professor Keith Burnett	Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Bulgaria Rector Prof. Ivan Ilchev
Sokoine Agricultural University, Tanzania Vice-Chancellor Prof. Gerald C. Monela	The University of the South Pacific, Fiji Vice-Chancellor and President Prof. Rajesh Chandra	Sun Yat-sen University, China President Prof. Daren Huang	The University of Sussex, UK Vice-Chancellor Professor Michael Farthing	The University of Texas at Austin, USA President Dr. William Powers, Jr.
The University of Toronto, Canada President Prof. David Naylor	University of Traditional Medicine, Myanmar Acting Rector Prof. Dr. Than Maung	The Fletcher School, Tufts University, USA President Dr. Lawrence S. Bacow	Uppsala University, Sweden Vice-Chancellor Prof. Anders Hallberg	Utrecht University, The Netherlands President Minister Yvonne C.M.T. van Rooy
Vietnam National University, Hanoi, Vietnam President Prof. Mai Trong Nhuan	Waseda University, Japan President Prof. Kaoru Kamata	The University of the West Indies, Jamaica Vice Chancellor Prof. E. Nigel Harris	Yale University, USA President Dr. Richard C. Levin	York University, Canada President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Mamdouh Shoukri
Yunnan University, China President Prof. He Tianchun				

Launched  
in Beijing, China,  
on 25 January 2011,  
Global Appeal 2011 is an  
initiative of Yohei Sasakawa,  
WHO Goodwill Ambassador for  
Leprosy Elimination, Japanese  
Government Goodwill Ambassador for  
the Human Rights of People Affected  
by Leprosy, and Chairman of  
The Nippon Foundation.

# GLOBAL APPEAL

To end stigma and discrimination against people affected by leprosy

# 2012

Endorsed by members of The World Medical Association

There are many myths and misconceptions about leprosy. As members of the medical profession, we have the first responsibility to set the record straight.

Leprosy is a mildly infectious disease. It is not spread by casual contact. It is curable with multidrug therapy that kills the bacteria and stops the disease from spreading. Early diagnosis and prompt treatment help prevent the onset of disability and deformity associated with leprosy. There are no medical grounds for isolating a person with the disease.

Yet people with leprosy continue to face social discrimination, even after they are cured. Whole families are marginalized, sometimes with devastating results.

Drugs can cure leprosy, but only greater public awareness can end the stigma it attracts.

Without the social stigma, more people would come forward for treatment. New cases would be detected sooner and be less likely to result in disability. The burden of leprosy in the world would be reduced.

We affirm the right of people affected by leprosy to receive treatment at any hospital. We call for an end to discrimination against them and their families. We support their right to live in dignity as full members of the community with equal access to opportunities and enjoying all their human rights.

World Medical Association  
President  
Dr. José Luiz Gomes do Amaral

Order of Physicians of Albania  
President  
Dr. Din Abazaj

American Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Peter W. Carmel

Australian Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Steve Hambleton

Austrian Medical Chamber  
President  
Dr. Walter Dornier

Azerbaijani Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Nariman N. Safarli

Association Belge des Syndicats Médicaux  
President  
Dr. Lemye Roland

Associação Médica Brasileira  
President  
Dr. Florentino de Araújo Cardoso Filho

Canadian Medical Association  
President  
Dr. John Haggies

Chinese Medical Association  
SG and Vice-President  
Dr. Liu Yanfei

Federación Médica Colombiana  
President  
Dr. Sergio Isazadr Isaza

Union Médica Nacional, Costa Rica  
President  
Dr. Alexis Castillo Gutierrez

Conseil national de l'ordre des medecins de la cote d'Ivoire  
President  
Dr. Aka Kroo

Danish Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Mads Koch Hanse

Royal Dutch Medical Association  
President  
Dr. A.C. Neuenhuijzen Kruseman

Consejo General de Colegios Médicos de España  
President (Soria)  
Dr. José Ramón Huerta Blanco

Finnish Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Timo Kaukonen

French Medical Association  
Vice-President  
Dr. Xavier Deau

Georgian Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Gia Lobzhanidzes

German Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Frank Ulrich Montgomery

Guatemala Medical Association  
Secretary  
Dr. Carlos Amílcar Gómez

Association Médicale Haïtienne  
President  
Dr. Claude Surena

Honduras Medical Association  
President  
Dr. José Manuel Espinal

Hong Kong Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Choi Kin

Icelandic Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Margrét Adalsteinsdóttir

Indian Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Vinay Aggarwal

Indonesian Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Prijo Sidipratomo

Irish Medical Organisation  
Chief Executive  
Mr. George McNeice

Israel Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Leonid Eidelman

Japan Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Katsuyuki Haranaka

Kazakhstan Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Aizhan Sadykova

Korean Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Man Ho Kyung

Latvian Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Peteris Apinis

Macedonian Medical Association  
President  
Prof. Jovan Tofoski

Colegio Medico de Mexico  
President  
Dr. Ramón Murieta González

Mozambican Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Rosel Salomao

Nepal Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Kiran Prasad Shrestha

New Zealand Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Paul Ockelford

Nicaragua Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Pablo Emilio Mongalo

Norwegian Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Hege Gjessing

Asociación Médica Nacional de Panamá  
Vice-Presidente  
Dr. Lili Espino Weng

Colegio Médico del Perú  
Vice-President  
Dr. Carmen Fajardo

Polish Chamber of physicians and dentists  
President  
Dr. Maciej Hamankiewicz

Portuguese Medical Association  
President  
Dr. José Manuel Silva

Slovak Medical Association  
President  
Prof. Peter Kristufek

Swedish Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Marie Wedins

Taiwan Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Ming-Been Lee

Tanzania Medical Association  
President  
Dr. Namala P. Mikopi

Medical Association of Thailand  
President  
Dr. Jongtate Aojanpong

Sindicato Médico del Uruguay  
President  
Dr. Martín Rebella

Medical Association of Uzbekistan  
President  
Prof. Abdulla Khaydayberganov

Launched in São Paulo, Brazil, on January 30, 2012, Global Appeal 2012 is an initiative of Yohei Sasakawa, WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination, Japanese Government Goodwill Ambassador for the Human Rights of People Affected by Leprosy, and Chairman of The Nippon Foundation.

# GLOBAL APPEAL 2013

TO END STIGMA AND  
DISCRIMINATION  
AGAINST PEOPLE  
AFFECTED BY LEPROSY

Endorsed by the International Bar Association and member organisations

Throughout its long history, leprosy has been one of the world's most misunderstood and stigmatizing diseases. Over the centuries, countless millions afflicted by leprosy have been shunned by their fellow human beings in the belief that they are cursed with a highly contagious, disabling, untreatable disease.

Thanks to modern chemotherapy, leprosy, or Hansen's disease, is now completely curable. With early diagnosis and treatment, it is not disabling. Nor is leprosy highly transmissible. There is no need to isolate anyone with the disease, exclude him or her from their place of work or ban them from public office.

But old images of leprosy die hard and continue to shape popular perceptions of the disease—perceptions reinforced by stigmatizing terminology. For those that are the object of such prejudice, the social, economic and psychological consequences can be devastating.

Helping to perpetuate these outdated stereotypes are various laws, customs and regulations that discriminate against people affected by leprosy in different parts of the world.

There are no medical grounds for segregating or otherwise singling out a person affected by leprosy. Therefore, any laws that sanction such practices are without foundation.

We call for the abolition of all laws that discriminate on the basis of leprosy, we condemn all acts of discrimination against people affected by leprosy and we support the right of people affected by leprosy to live in dignity enjoying all their basic human rights.

International Bar Association  
**Akira Kawamura**  
Immediate Past President

Colegio de Abogados de la Ciudad de Buenos  
**Máximo J. Fonrouge**  
Presidente  
Argentina

AiresAustrian Bar  
**Rupert Wolff**  
President  
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Bahamas Bar Association  
**Ruth M.L. Bowe-Darville**  
President  
Bahamas

National Bar Association of Bangladesh  
**Shah Khasruzzaman**  
Secretary General  
Bangladesh

Nederlandse Orde van Advocaten bij de Balie te Brussel (NOAB)  
**Hugo Vandenberghe**  
President  
Belgium

The Brazilian Bar Association  
**Ophir Filgjeiras Cavalcante Junior**  
National President  
Brazil

CESA - Centro de Estudos das Sociedades de Advogados  
**Carlos Roberto Fornes Mateucci**  
President  
Brazil

Canadian Bar Association  
**Robert C. Brun**  
President  
Canada

Cyprus Bar Association  
**Koulia D. Vakis**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Cyprus

Czech Bar Association  
**Martin Vychpeň**  
President  
Czech Republic

The Danish Bar and Law Society  
**Torben Jensen**  
Secretary General  
Denmark

Bar Council of England and Wales  
**Michael Todd QC**  
Chairman  
England and Wales

The Law Society of England and Wales  
**Lucy Scott-Moncrieff**  
President  
England and Wales

Estonian Bar Association  
**Toomas Vaher**  
Chairman  
Estonia

Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe  
**Marcella Prunbauer-Glaser**  
President  
Europe

Finnish Bar Association  
**Mika Ilveskero**  
President  
Finland

Paris Bar  
**Christiane Féral-Schuhl**  
President  
France

German Bar Association - DAV  
**Franz Peter Altemeier**  
Director of International and Human Rights Department  
Germany

Ghana Bar Association  
**Frank W.K. Beecham**  
National President  
Ghana

Hong Kong Bar Association  
**Kumar Ramanathan, S. C.**  
Chairman  
Hong Kong

Hungarian Bar Association  
**János Bánáti**  
President  
Hungary

Society of Indian Law Firms  
**Lalit Bhasin**  
President  
India

Indonesian Advocates Association (PERADI)  
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President  
Indonesia

The Law Society of Ireland  
**James B. McCourt**  
President  
Ireland

Korean Bar Association  
**Young-Moo Shin**  
President  
Korea

Bar Council Malaysia  
**Lim Chee Wee**  
President  
Malaysia

Law Society of Namibia  
**Natasha Bassingthwaight**  
Vice-President  
Namibia

Nigerian Bar Association  
**Osita Okoro**  
Executive Director  
Nigeria

The General Council of the Bar of Northern Ireland  
**Mark Mulholland QC**  
Chairman  
Northern Ireland

Law Society of Northern Ireland  
**Norville J. Connolly**  
Past President  
Northern Ireland

Law Society of Scotland  
**Lorna Jack**  
Chief Executive  
Scotland

The Law Society of Singapore  
**Wong Meng Meng**  
President  
Singapore

Slovak Bar Association  
**Katarína Čechová**  
Representative  
Slovak Republic

The Swedish Bar Association  
**Claes Zettermarck**  
President  
Sweden

Istanbul Bar Association  
**Mehmet Durakoğlu**  
Vice-President  
Turkey

Uganda Law Society  
**James Mukasa Sebugenyi**  
President  
Uganda

Japan Federation of Bar Associations  
**Kenji Yamagishi**  
President  
Japan

Tokyo Bar Association  
**Yoshifusa Saito**  
President  
Japan

Amsterdam Bar Association  
**G. J. Kemper**  
LLM  
Netherlands

New Zealand Bar Association  
**Stephen Mills QC**  
President  
New Zealand

National Council for Legal Advisers in Poland  
**Maria Ślęzak**  
The Bar Representative  
Poland

Supreme Bar Council/Warsaw  
**Andrzej Zwara**  
President  
Poland

Law Society of South Africa  
**Krish Govender and Jan Stemmett**  
Co-Chairpersons  
South Africa

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**Luis Sebastiá Maganto**  
Member of the Board  
Spain

Ukrainian Bar Association  
**Valentyn Zagariya**  
President  
Ukraine

Law Association of Zambia  
**James Banda**  
President  
Zambia

Launched in London, United Kingdom, on 24 January 2013, Global Appeal 2013 is an initiative of Yohei Sasakawa, WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination, Japanese Government Goodwill Ambassador for the Human Rights of People Affected by Leprosy, and Chairman of The Nippon Foundation. This year's Appeal is being made in partnership with the International Bar Association—the global voice of the legal profession.



# GLOBAL APPEAL 2014

To end stigma and discrimination against people affected by leprosy

Endorsed by National Human Rights Institutions

Leprosy is one of the world's oldest diseases. Caused by a bacillus, it is completely curable today with modern drug therapy. Contrary to widespread belief, leprosy is not hereditary, it is not untreatable, it is not highly infectious and it is not divine punishment.

Yet because of the myths and misconceptions that surround leprosy, discrimination is never far away. This discrimination can limit opportunities for education, employment and marriage. It can restrict access to public services. It can marginalize entire families.

In December 2010, recognizing the disease's devastating social, economic and psychological impact, the U.N. General Assembly adopted a resolution on elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members.

The resolution is accompanied by principles and guidelines and reaffirms that people affected by leprosy and their family members should be treated as individuals with dignity and are entitled to all human rights and fundamental freedoms under customary international law, relevant conventions and national constitutions and laws.

As national human rights institutions, we applaud the U.N. resolution and condemn all leprosy-related human rights violations. We uphold the right of people affected by leprosy to live in dignity, free from discrimination. We pledge our support to help to bring down the remaining barriers of stigma and prejudice that stand in their way.

**Dr. Sima Samar**  
Chairperson  
Independent Human Rights Commission  
Afghanistan

**Dr. Mizanur Rahman**  
Chairman  
National Human Rights Commission  
Bangladesh

**Ms. Maria do Rosário Nunes**  
Ministra-Chefe  
Secretaria de Direitos Humanos da Presidência da República  
Brazil

**Mr. Emmanuel Ntakarutimana**  
President  
Independent National Human Rights Commission  
Burundi

**Mr. David Langtry**  
Acting Chief Commissioner  
Canadian Human Rights Commission  
Canada

**Ms. Lorena Fries Monleón**  
Director  
National Institute of Human Rights  
Chile

**Mr. Boutros Boutros Ghali**  
President  
National Council for Human Rights  
Egypt

**H.E. Ambassador Teruneh Zenna**  
Chief Commissioner  
Ethiopian Human Rights Commission  
Ethiopia

**Mr. Michel Forst**  
Secretary General  
Commission Nationale Consultative des Droits de l'Homme (CNCDH)  
France

**Mr. Ucha Nanuashvili**  
Public Defender (Ombudsman)  
Office of Public Defender of Georgia  
Georgia

**Dr. York Chow Yat-ngok**  
Chairperson  
Equal Opportunities Commission  
Hong Kong SAR, China

**Justice K. G. Balakrishnan**  
Chairperson  
National Human Rights Commission of India  
India

**Ms. Siti Noor Laila**  
Chairperson  
National Commission on Human Rights  
Indonesia

**Dr. Mousa Sulieman Burayzat**  
Commissioner General  
The National Centre for Human Rights  
Jordan

**Ms. Anne Muniyiva Kyalo Ngugi**  
Commissioner (Acting Chair)  
National Commission on Human Rights  
Kenya

**Mr. Sami Kurteshi**  
Ombudsman  
Ombudsperson Institution of Kosovo  
Kosovo

**Mr. Juris Jansons**  
Ombudsman  
Ombudsman Office of the Republic of Latvia  
Latvia

**Dr. Augustinas Normantas**  
Head of the Office  
The Seimas Ombudsmen  
Lithuania

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Chairman  
Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM)  
Malaysia

**Ms. Kadidia Sangare Coulibaly**  
President  
Commission Nationale des Droits de l'Homme du Mali  
Mali

**Mr. U Win Mra**  
Chairman  
Myanmar National Human Rights Commission  
Myanmar

**Mr. Kedar Nath Upadhyay**  
Chairperson  
National Human Rights Commission  
Nepal

**Prof. Michael O'Flaherty**  
Chief Commissioner  
Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission  
Northern Ireland

**Ms. Loretta Ann Rosales**  
Chairperson  
Commission on Human Rights  
Philippines

**Prof. Irena Lipowicz**  
Human Rights Defender  
Poland

**Ms. Vlasta Nussdorfer**  
Ombudsman  
Human Rights Ombudsman  
Republic of Slovenia

**Mr. Anastasiu Crisu**  
People's Advocate  
People's Advocate Institution  
Romania

**Mr. Marian Mesaros**  
Executive Director  
National Centre for Human Rights  
Slovak Republic

**Ms. Amal Hassan Eltinay**  
Chairperson  
National Commission for Human Rights  
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**Mr. Amiri Ramadhani Manento**  
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Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance  
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National Human Rights Commission of Thailand  
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Ombudsman  
Office of the Ombudsman of Trinidad and Tobago  
Trinidad and Tobago

**Mr. Med S. K. Kaggwa**  
Chairperson  
Uganda Human Rights Commission  
Uganda

**Ms. Valeriya Lutkovska**  
Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights  
Ukraine

To end stigma and discrimination  
against people affected by leprosy

# GLOBAL APPEAL 2015

Endorsed by International  
Council of Nurses



*Judith Shamian*  
**Judith Shamian**  
President,  
International Council of Nurses



*佐川 陽平*  
**Yohei Sasakawa**  
Chairman,  
The Nippon Foundation



Leprosy is curable, yet myths and misconceptions about the disease persist.

Because of the stigma, people affected by leprosy face social rejection—even after they are cured.  
Whole families are marginalized, sometimes with devastating results.

As the world's largest group of health professionals, nurses are committed to alleviating physical and mental suffering and promoting the health of all people, without prejudice.

We understand the importance of equitable access to health services and of educating the public about disease—especially a misunderstood disease such as leprosy.

Our message is clear: leprosy can be cured. Drugs kill the bacteria. Early diagnosis and treatment prevent disability.  
There is no reason to isolate anyone with the disease.

Nurses affirm the right of people affected by leprosy to receive treatment and care.

We call for an end to the discrimination they and their families face.

We support the right of people affected by leprosy to live in dignity as full members of the community, enjoying equal access to all their human rights.

**ANDORRA**  
Collegi d'Infermeres i Llevadores d'Andorra

**ANGOLA**  
Associação Nacional de Enfermeiros de Angola

**ARGENTINA**  
Federación Argentina de Enfermería

**ARUBA**  
Aruba Nurses Association (ODEA)

**AUSTRALIA**  
Australian College of Nursing

**AUSTRIA**  
Österreichischer Gesundheits- und Krankenpflegeverband

**BAHAMAS**  
Nurses Association of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas

**BAHRAIN**  
Bahrain Nursing Society

**BANGLADESH**  
Bangladesh Nurses Association

**BARBADOS**  
Barbados Nurses Association Inc.

**BELGIUM**  
Fédération Nationale des Infirmières de Belgique (FNIB)

**BELIZE**  
Nurses Association of Belize

**BERMUDA**  
Bermuda Nurses' Association

**BOLIVIA**  
Colegio de Enfermeras de Bolivia

**BOTSWANA**  
Botswana Nurses Union

**BRAZIL**  
Conselho Federal de Enfermagem

**BULGARIA**  
Bulgarian Association of Health Professionals in Nursing

**BURKINA FASO**  
Association Professionnelle des Infirmiers/ères du Burkina

**CANADA**  
Canadian Nurses Association

**CHILE**  
Colegio de Enfermeras de Chile

**CHINA**  
Chinese Nursing Association

**COLOMBIA**  
Asociación Nacional de Enfermeras de Colombia

**CONGO DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**  
Association Nationale des Infirmiers/ères du Congo

**COOK ISLANDS**  
Cook Islands Nurses Association

**COSTA RICA**  
Colegio de Enfermeras de Costa Rica

**CROATIA**  
Croatian Nurses Association

**CUBA**  
Sociedad Cubana de Enfermería

**CYPRUS**  
Cyprus Nurses and Midwives Association

**CZECH REPUBLIC**  
Czech Association of Nurses

**DENMARK**  
Danish Nurses' Organization

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**  
Asociación Dominicana de Enfermeras Graduadas

**EAST TIMOR**  
East Timor Nurses Association

**ECUADOR**  
Federación Ecuatoriana de Enfermeras/os

**EGYPT**  
Egyptian Nurses Syndicate

**EL SALVADOR**  
Asociación Nacional de Enfermeras de El Salvador

**ERITREA**  
Eritrean Nurses Association

**ESTONIA**  
Estonian Nurses Union

**ETHIOPIA**  
Ethiopian Nurses Association

**FIJI**  
Fiji Nursing Association

**FINLAND**  
Finnish Nurses Association

**FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**  
Association of Nurses and Midwives of Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

**FRANCE**  
ANFIDE

**GAMBIA**  
Gambia Nurses & Midwives Association

**GERMANY**  
DBfK - Bundesverband

**GHANA**  
Ghana Registered Nurses Association

**GREECE**  
Hellenic Nurses Association

**GRENADA**  
Grenada Nurses Association

**GUATEMALA**  
Asociación Guatemalteca de Enfermeras Profesionales

**GUYANA**  
Guyana Nurses Association

**HAITI**  
Association Nationale des Infirmières Licenciées d'Haiti

**HONDURAS**  
Colegio de Profesionales de Enfermería de Honduras

**HONG KONG**  
College of Nursing Hong Kong

**HUNGARY**  
Hungarian Nursing Association

**ICELAND**  
Icelandic Nurses Association

**INDIA**  
Indian Nursing Council

**INDONESIA**  
Persatuan Parawat Nasional Indonesia

**IRELAND**  
Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation

**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**  
Iranian Nursing Organization

**ISRAEL**  
National Association of Nurses in Israel

**ITALY**  
Consociazione Nazionale delle Associazioni Infermiere-Infermieri

**JAMAICA**  
Nurses Association of Jamaica

**JAPAN**  
Japanese Nursing Association

**JORDAN**  
Jordan Nurses and Midwives Council

**KENYA**  
National Nurses Association of Kenya

**KOREA**  
Korean Nurses Association

**KUWAIT**  
Kuwait Nursing Association

**LEBANON**  
Order of Nurses in Lebanon

**LESOTHO**  
Lesotho Nurses Association

**LIBERIA**  
Liberia Nurses Association

**LITHUANIA**  
Lithuanian Nurses Association

**LUXEMBOURG**  
Association Nationale des Infirmiers & Infirmières Luxembourgeois

**MACAU**  
Nurses Association of Macau

**MALAWI**  
National Organisation of Nurses and Midwives of Malawi

**MALAYSIA**  
Malaysian Nurses Association

**MALTA**  
Malta Union of Midwives & Nurses

**MAURITIUS**  
Mauritius Nursing Association

**MEXICO**  
Colegio Nacional de Enfermeras, A.C.

**MONACO**  
Association Nationale des Infirmières de Monaco

**MONGOLIA**  
Mongolian Nurses Association

**MONTENEGRO**  
National Association of Nurses and Midwives of Montenegro

**MOROCCO**  
Association Marocaine des Sciences Infirmières et Techniques Sanitaires

**MOZAMBIQUE**  
Associação Nacional dos Enfermeiros de Moçambique

**MYANMAR**  
Myanmar Nurses and Midwives Association

**NAMIBIA**  
Namibian Nurses Association

**NEPAL**  
Nursing Association of Nepal

**NETHERLANDS**  
NU' 91

**NEW ZEALAND**  
New Zealand Nurses' Organisation

**NICARAGUA**  
Asociación de Enfermeras Nicaragüenses

**NIGERIA**  
National Association of Nigeria Nurses and Midwives

**NORWAY**  
Norwegian Nurses Organisation

**PAKISTAN**  
Pakistan Nurses Federation

**PALESTINE**  
Palestinian Nursing and Midwifery Association

**PANAMA**  
Asociación Nacional de Enfermeras de Panamá

**PARAGUAY**  
Asociación Paraguaya de Enfermeras

**PHILIPPINES**  
Philippine Nurses Association

**POLAND**  
Polskie Towarzystwo Pielęgniarskie

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**ROMANIA**  
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**RUSSIA**  
Russian Nurses Association

**RWANDA**  
Rwanda Nurses and Midwives Association

**SAMOA**  
Samoa Registered Nurses Association, Inc.

**SAO TOME & PRINCIPE**  
Associação Nacional dos Enfermeiros y parteiros de São Tomé e Príncipe

**SENEGAL**  
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**SERBIA**  
Association of Health Workers of Serbia

**SEYCHELLES**  
Nurses Association of the Republic of Seychelles

**SIERRA LEONE**  
Sierra Leone Nurses Association

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**SLOVENIA**  
Nurses and Midwives Association of Slovenia

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Solomon Islands Nurses Association

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Democratic Nursing Organization of South Africa (DENOSA)

**SPAIN**  
Consejo General de Enfermería de España

**SRI LANKA**  
Sri Lanka Nurses Association

**ST. LUCIA**  
St. Lucia Nurses Association

**ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES**  
St. Vincent & The Grenadines Nurses Association (SVG)

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Suriname Nurses Association

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Swaziland Nursing Association

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Swedish Association of Health Professionals

**SWITZERLAND**  
Association Suisse des Infirmières/Infirmiers

**TAIWAN**  
Taiwan Nurses Association

**TANZANIA**  
Tanzania National Nurses' Association

**THAILAND**  
Nurses Association of Thailand

**TOGO**  
Association nationale des infirmiers/ères du Togo

**TONGA**  
Tonga Nurses Association

**TRINIDAD & TOBAGO**  
Trinidad & Tobago Registered Nurses Association

**TURKEY**  
Turkish Nurses Association

**UGANDA**  
Uganda Nurses & Midwives Union

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**  
Emirates Nursing Association

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
American Nurses Association

**URUGUAY**  
Colegio de Enfermeras del Uruguay

**ZAMBIA**  
Zambia Union of Nurses Organization

**ZIMBABWE**  
Zimbabwe Nurses Association

From ancient times, leprosy has been feared around the world as a disfiguring disease without a cure — a divine punishment, even. Through the ages, individuals with leprosy have suffered harsh discrimination and inequalities.

Thanks to the development of effective drug therapy, leprosy is now completely curable — and the cure is free. With early diagnosis and treatment, the disabling effects of the disease can be prevented.

However, the stigma and discrimination associated with leprosy remain deeply rooted. Individuals with the disease, those who have been cured and even their families find themselves treated unjustly, with their opportunities for education, employment, marriage and other forms of participation in society restricted.

Myths and misconceptions are what prompt this stigma. In order to remove these misperceptions about leprosy, and eliminate the stigma and discrimination, people need to be properly informed about the disease.

JCI (Junior Chamber International) is the leading global network of active young citizens, dedicated to creating sustainable impact in their communities by seeking targeted solutions to local challenges.

We will use our international reach to condemn and fight against the discrimination that individuals affected by leprosy experience.

We will support activities to ensure that the next generation is properly educated and informed to eliminate the discrimination.

We will aspire for a world in which individuals affected by leprosy and their families can live free from discrimination and enjoy the same rights and opportunities as everybody else in order to reach their greatest potential.



*Pascal Dike*

Pascal Dike  
2016 JCI President



*Kosuke Shibata*

Kosuke Shibata  
2015 JCI Japan President



*Yobei Sasakawa*

Yobei Sasakawa  
Chairman of The Nippon Foundation

JCI Argentina	JCI Australia	JCI Austria	JCI Bangladesh	JCI Belgium	JCI Benin	JCI Bolivia	JCI Botswana	JCI Brazil	JCI Bulgaria	JCI Burkina Faso
JCI Burundi	JCI Cambodia	JCI Cameroon	JCI Canada	JCI Catalonia	JCI Chad	JCI Chile	JCI Colombia	JCI Comoros	JCI Republic of Congo	JCI Cote d'Ivoire
JCI Croatia	JCI Cyprus	JCI Czech Republic	JCI Democratic Republic of the Congo	JCI Denmark	JCI Djibouti	JCI Dominican Republic	JCI Dutch Caribbean	JCI Ecuador	JCI Egypt	JCI Estonia
JCI Finland	JCI France	JCI Gabon	JCI Georgia	JCI Germany	JCI Ghana	JCI Greece	JCI Guinea	JCI Haiti	JCI Honduras	JCI Hong Kong
JCI Iceland	JCI India	JCI Indonesia	JCI Ireland	JCI Italy	JCI Jamaica	JCI Japan	JCI Jordan	JCI Korea	JCI Latvia	JCI Lebanon
JCI Lesotho	JCI Lithuania	JCI Luxembourg	JCI Macao	JCI Madagascar	JCI Malawi	JCI Malaysia	JCI Maldives	JCI Mali	JCI Malta	JCI Mauritius
JCI Mexico	JCI Moldova	JCI Monaco	JCI Mongolia	JCI Morocco	JCI Myanmar	JCI Namibia	JCI Nepal	JCI the Netherlands	JCI New Zealand	JCI Nicaragua
JCI Niger	JCI Nigeria	JCI Norway	JCI Pakistan	JCI Panama	JCI Paraguay	JCI Peru	JCI Philippines	JCI Poland	JCI Portugal	JCI Puerto Rico
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JCI Suriname	JCI Sweden	JCI Switzerland	JCI Syria	JCI Taiwan	JCI Thailand	JCI Togo	JCI Tunisia	JCI Turkey	JCI Ukraine	JCI United Kingdom
JCI Uruguay	JCI USA	JCI Venezuela	JCI Vietnam	JCI West Indies	JCI Zambia	JCI Zimbabwe				



# GLOBAL APPEAL 2017

To End Stigma and Discrimination  
Against Persons Affected by Leprosy



*Saber Chowdhury*  
Mr. Saber H. Chowdhury  
(Bangladesh)

President,  
Inter-Parliamentary Union



*Mr. Yohei Sasakawa*  
Mr. Yohei Sasakawa

Chairman,  
The Nippon Foundation



Leprosy, a disease once feared for its disfiguring effects, is completely curable today with modern drug therapy. Over 16 million people have been treated worldwide.

Early diagnosis and prompt treatment help prevent physical impairment.

Yet mistaken beliefs about the disease persist, perpetuating social and economic discrimination.

In different parts of the world, people affected by leprosy and their family members can find themselves:

- deprived of opportunities for education, employment, and marriage.
- marginalized or rejected by society.
- stigmatized by outdated laws and practices based on discredited assumptions.

We, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, firmly believe that solutions to the challenges facing persons affected by leprosy must be firmly embedded in human rights, as a key component of democracy and development.

We condemn all forms of discrimination on the grounds that a person has or once had leprosy.

We recognize and support the 2010 United Nations General Assembly Resolution on the Elimination of Discrimination against Persons Affected by Leprosy and Their Family Members, and are committed to contributing to the implementation of its accompanying principles and guidelines.

We urge all Parliaments to promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies to end stigma and discrimination against persons affected by leprosy, and to ensure that:

- Persons affected by leprosy and their family members are treated at all times with dignity and respect;
- Persons affected by leprosy and their family members are fully represented and involved in political discussions and decisions which affect them, and that they benefit from the full enjoyment of their human rights;
- We help create a society in which every individual is free and equal in dignity and human rights.

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IPU Vice-President  
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Ms. G. Eldegard  
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Member  
Ms. A. Habibou  
(Niger)

Member  
Mr. K. Jalali  
(Islamic Republic of Iran)

Member  
Ms. M. Mensah-Williams  
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Member  
Mr. Nguyen Van Giau  
(Viet Nam)

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Ms. Y. Ferrer Gómez  
(Cuba)

Member  
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(Angola)

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Syrian Arab Republic	Tajikistan	Thailand	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Timor-Leste	Togo	Tonga	Trinidad and Tobago	Tunisia	Turkey
Uganda	Ukraine	United Arab Emirates	United Kingdom	United Republic of Tanzania	Uruguay	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Viet Nam	Yemen	Zambia
Zimbabwe									

Launched in Delhi, India, on January 30, 2017, Global Appeal is an initiative of Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination, Japanese Government Goodwill Ambassador for the Human Rights of Persons Affected by Leprosy and Chairman of The Nippon Foundation.

# Global Appeal 2018

## To End Stigma and Discrimination Against Persons Affected by Leprosy

Disabled Peoples' International (DPI) is an organization  
open to persons with disabilities of any kind.

Our goal is an inclusive society in which everyone has rights and can participate in society.

Both DPI and The Nippon Foundation are committed to this goal.

"Nothing about us without us" is the guiding principle of our activities to realize an inclusive society.

DPI pledges to work together with the leprosy community to  
raise awareness of the disease to encourage  
a proper understanding of leprosy and respect for the human rights  
of the individuals and families it affects.

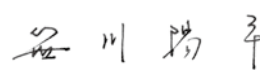
We will work together with persons affected by leprosy to speak out and  
advocate for greater social participation.

In working towards our common goal of an inclusive society,  
we will share knowledge and experience with persons affected by leprosy.

Together with persons affected by leprosy,  
we call on society for the protection of our rights and for equal opportunity.



**Javed Abidi**  
Global Chair  
Disabled Peoples' International



**Yohei Sasakawa**  
Chairman  
The Nippon Foundation

DPI Angola,  
Associação Nacional De  
Deficientes Angolanos (ANDA)

DPI Benin,  
Federation des Associations  
des Personnes Handicapées  
du Benin (FAPHB)

DPI Burkina Faso,  
Fédération Burkinabè des  
Associations pour la Promotion  
des Personnes Handicapées  
(FEBAH)

DPI Burundi,  
Union des Personnes  
Handicapées du Burundi  
(UPHB)

DPI Cameroon,  
Plateforme Inclusive Society for  
Person with Disabilities  
(PISPWD)

DPI Cape Verde,  
Associação Caboverdiana de  
Deficientes (ACD)

DPI Chad,  
Union Nationale des  
Associations des Personnes  
Handicapées du Tchad  
(UNAPHT)

DPI Congo,  
Union National des  
Associations des Personnes  
Handicapées du Congo  
(UNHACO)

DPI Democratic  
Republic of Congo,  
Centre Intercommunautaire  
Congolais pour les Personnes  
avec Handicap (CICPH)

DPI Ethiopia,  
Federation of Ethiopian  
National Associations of  
Persons with Disabilities  
(FENAPD)

DPI Gabon,  
Fédération Nationale des  
Associations des et pour  
Personnes Handicapées du  
Gabon (FNAPHG)

DPI Gambia,  
Gambia Federation of the  
Disabled (GFD)

DPI Ghana,  
Ghana Federation of the  
Disabled (GFD)

DPI Guinea Bissau,  
Federação das Associações de  
Defesa e Promoção dos  
Direitos das pessoas com  
Deficiência da Guiné-Bissau  
(FADPD)

DPI Guinea Conakry,  
Fédération Guinéenne  
Pour La Promotion Des  
Associations De Personnes  
Handicapées (FEGUIPAH)

DPI Ivory Coast,  
Confédération des  
Organisations des Personnes  
Handicapées de Côte d'Ivoire  
(COPHCI)

DPI Kenya,  
United Disabled Persons of  
Kenya (UDPK)

DPI Lesotho,  
Lesotho National Federation Of  
Organizations Of The Disabled  
(LNFOD)

DPI Liberia,  
National Union of Disabled  
(NUOD)

DPI Madagascar,  
Plateforme des Federations des  
Personnes Hadicapées de  
Madagascar (PFPFH)

DPI Malawi,  
Federation of Disability  
Organizations of Malawi  
(FEDOMA)

DPI Mali,  
Federation Malienne des  
Associations de Handicapes

DPI Mauritius,  
Voice of DPI

DPI Niger,  
Fédération Nigerienne des  
Personnes Handicapées (FNPH)

DPI Nigeria,  
National President, Joint  
National Association Of  
Persons With Disabilities  
(JONAPWD)

DPI Senegal,  
Sénégalaise des Associations  
de Personnes Handicapées

DPI Sierra Leone,  
Disability Awareness Action  
Group (DAAG)

DPI South Sudan,  
South Sudan Union of Persons  
with Disabilities

DPI Tanzania,  
Tanzania Federation of  
Disabled People's  
Organizations (SHIVYAWATA)

DPI Togo,  
Fédération des Associations de  
Personnes Togolaise  
Handicapées (FETAPH)

DPI Zambia,  
Zambia Federation of the  
Disabled (ZAFOD)

DPI Egypt,  
Seven Million Disabled (FAPH)

DPI Iraq,  
People Association in Baghdad

DPI Jordan,  
Disability Equality Society

DPI Lebanon,  
Lebanese Physical  
Handicapped Union

DPI Libya,  
Libyan Organization  
for the Rights of People  
with Disabilities

DPI Mauritania,  
The Mauritanian Association  
for the coalition of women  
with disabilities

DPI Morocco,  
Morocco Forum  
"Disabilities and Rights"

DPI Palestine,  
Great Palestinian Union  
for People with Disabilities

DPI Sudan,  
Edraak Organization for  
Persons with Disabilities

DPI Syria,  
Cultural Forum for people with  
special needs in Syria

DPI Tunisia,  
Tunisienne de Defense des  
Droits de Personnes  
Handicapées

DPI Yemen,  
Al Saeeda Society for the Care  
and Rehabilitation of  
Deaf Girls in Yemen

DPI Afghanistan,  
Afghan Landmine Survivors  
Organization (ALSO)

DPI Australia,  
Australian Federation  
of Disability Organisations  
(AFDO)

DPI Bangladesh,  
Protibondhi Nagorik  
Shangathaner  
Parishad (PNSP)

DPI Bhutan,  
Disabled Persons' Association  
of Bhutan (DPAB)

DPI Cambodia,  
Cambodian Disabled People's  
Organization (CDPO)

DPI Cook Islands,  
Cook Islands National Disability  
Council

DPI Fiji,  
Fiji Disabled Peoples  
Federation (FDPF)

DPI India,  
National Centre for Promotion  
of Employment for Disabled  
People (NCPEDP)

DPI Indonesia,  
Gerakan Peduli Disabilitas Dan  
Lepre Indonesia (GPDLI)

DPI Laos,  
Lao Disabled People's  
Association

DPI Malaysia,  
Malaysian Confederation of the  
Disabled

DPI Maldives,  
Maldives Association of  
Physical Disabilities (MAPD)

DPI FS Micronesia,  
Micronesia Disabled People's  
Organization, Federated State  
of Micronesia (FSM)

DPI Mongolia,  
Disabled Peoples International  
of Mongolia

DPI Nepal,  
National Federation of the  
Disabled Nepal (NFDN)

DPI New Zealand,  
Disabled Persons Assembly Inc.  
(DPANZ)

DPI Pakistan,  
Pakistan Disabled People's  
International (PDPI)/ Estanara  
Group

DPI Papua New Guinea,  
PNG National Assembly of  
Disabled People (PNG ADP)

DPI Palau,  
OMEKESANG Association

DPI Philippines,  
National Federation of Persons  
with disabilities in the  
Philippines

DPI Samoa,  
National Council of People with  
Disabilities in Samoa/Nuanua o  
le Alofa (N.O.L.A)

DPI Singapore,  
Disabled People's Association  
(DPA)

DPI Solomon Islands,  
People with Disabilities  
Solomon Islands (PWDSI)

DPI Sri Lanka,  
Disability Organizations Joint  
Front (DOJF)

DPI Vanuatu,  
Disability Promotion &  
Advocacy (DPA)

DPI Vietnam,  
Hanoi Association of People  
with Disabilities

DPI Azerbaijan,  
Society "For International  
Cooperation of Disabled  
People" (FICDP)

DPI Turkmenistan,  
Central Athletic Sports Club for  
the Disabled of Turkmenistan

DPI Uzbekistan,  
Consultative Council of DPOs in  
Uzbekistan

DPI Costa Rica,  
Federación Costarricense de  
Organizaciones de Personas  
con Discapacidad

DPI El Salvador,  
Asociación Cooperativa de  
Grupo Independiente Pro  
Rehabilitación Integral  
(ACOGIPRI)

DPI Guatemala,  
Coordinadora de  
Organizaciones de Personas  
con Discapacidad de  
Guatemala (COPDIGUA)

DPI Honduras,  
Fundación Hondureña de  
Rehabilitación e integración del  
limitado (FUHRIL)

DPI Mexico,  
Confederación Mexicana de  
Limitados Físicos y  
Representantes de Deficientes  
Mentales a.c.

DPI Nicaragua,  
Organización de  
Revolucionarios Discapacitados  
(ORD)

DPI Panama,  
Asociación Nacional De  
Personas Impedidas (ANPI)

DPI Antigua & Barbuda,  
Antigua & Barbuda Association  
of Persons with Disabilities  
(ABAPD)

DPI Bahamas,  
Disabled Persons' Organization  
(DPO)

DPI Barbados,  
Barbados National  
Organization of the Disabled  
Inc. (BARNOD Inc.)

DPI Belize,  
Belize Assembly for Persons  
with Diverse Abilities (BAPDA)

DPI Dominica,  
Dominica Association of  
Persons with Disabilities Inc.  
(DAPD Inc.)

DPI Guyana,  
Guyana Council of  
Organisation for Persons with  
Disabilities (GCOPD)

DPI Haiti,  
Network Association for the  
Integration of Disabled Persons  
(RANIPH)

DPI Jamaica,  
Combined Disabilities  
Association (CDA)

DPI Montserrat,  
Montserrat Association for  
Persons with Disabilities Inc.  
(MAPD Inc.)

DPI St. Lucia,  
National Council of/for Persons  
with Disabilities (NCPD)

DPI Trinidad and Tobago,  
Trinidad and Tobago Chapter  
of Disabled People's  
International (TTDPI)

DPI United States,  
United States International  
Council on Disabilities (USICD)

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To End Stigma and Discrimination Against Persons Affected by Leprosy

# GLOBAL APPEAL 2019

Each year, thousands of people are newly diagnosed with leprosy.

Depending on their circumstances, they will join other persons affected by the disease who face multiple forms of discrimination and barriers to their participation in society.

In order to combat this discrimination, it is necessary to demystify leprosy by promoting accurate information—namely that leprosy is curable, that treatment is free and that there is no reason to marginalize anyone with the disease.

Success on this front also requires working to build a more inclusive society.

As the world business organization, the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) works to create solutions for sustainable economic growth for the benefit of all through a commitment to international trade, responsible business conduct and a global approach to regulation.

By drawing on our global network of 45 million companies in over 100 countries, we develop and advocate inclusive approaches to important challenges, with the objective of making business work for everyone, every day, everywhere.

That includes those affected by leprosy because everyone deserves a chance to fulfil his or her potential, and the barriers of stigma and discrimination should not be allowed to limit their opportunities.

Together with The Nippon Foundation and other stakeholders, the ICC is committed to a truly inclusive society in which the rights of each individual are respected and every person can live with dignity.



*Sunil Mittal*

**Sunil Bharti Mittal**  
Honorary Chair,  
International Chamber of Commerce



*佐川 陽子*

**Yohei Sasakawa**  
Chairman,  
The Nippon Foundation

ICC Afghanistan	ICC Albania	ICC Argentina	ICC Armenia	ICC Australia	ICC Austria	ICC Bahrain	ICC Bangladesh	ICC Belgium
ICC Bolivia	ICC Brazil	ICC Bulgaria	ICC Burkina Faso	ICC Canada	ICC Chile	ICC China	ICC Chinese Taipei Business Council	ICC Colombia
ICC Costa Rica	ICC Croatia	ICC Cuba	ICC Cyprus	ICC Czech Republic	ICC Denmark	ICC Dominican Republic	ICC Ecuador	ICC Estonia
ICC Finland	ICC France	ICC Georgia	ICC Germany	ICC Greece	ICC Guatemala	ICC Hong Kong	ICC India	ICC Indonesia
ICC Iran	ICC Ireland	ICC Italy	ICC Japan	ICC Jordan	ICC Kenya	ICC Kuwait	ICC Lebanon	ICC Luxembourg
ICC Macao	ICC Macedonia	ICC Malaysia	ICC Mexico	ICC Monaco	ICC Morocco	ICC Netherlands	ICC New Zealand	ICC Nigeria
ICC Norway	ICC Pakistan	ICC Panama	ICC Paraguay	ICC Peru	ICC Philippines	ICC Poland	ICC Portugal	ICC Qatar
ICC Saudi Arabia	ICC Serbia	ICC Singapore	ICC Slovakia	ICC Slovenia	ICC South Africa	ICC Spain	ICC Sri Lanka	ICC Sweden
ICC Switzerland	ICC Syria	ICC Thailand	ICC Turkey	ICC Ukraine	ICC United Arab Emirates	ICC United Kingdom	ICC United States	ICC Uruguay



# GLOBAL APPEAL 2020

To End Stigma and Discrimination against Persons Affected by Leprosy

Leprosy is a curable disease.  
But it is not just a simple health issue.

Many people affected by the disease are marginalized  
because of stigma and discrimination.

Their opportunities in life are restricted, even after being cured.

Society's prejudice has a negative impact on their families, too.

The International Paralympic Committee aspires to  
a more inclusive society for people through Para sport.

It aims to challenge stereotypes and transform attitudes,  
breaking down social barriers toward people with a disability.

Diversity and inclusion are core to what the IPC stands for.

We are committed to the creation of a just and  
equitable society.

In this Paralympic year 2020, we stand with persons affected  
by leprosy in calling for an end to stigma and discrimination.

Together we seek to realize a society that respects the human  
dignity and fundamental freedoms of all its members.



**Andrew Parsons**  
President,  
International Paralympic Committee



**Yohei Sasakawa**  
Chairman,  
The Nippon Foundation

Afghanistan	Algeria	Andorra	Angola	Antigua and Barbuda	Argentina	Armenia	Aruba
Australia	Austria	Azerbaijan	Bahrain	Barbados	Belarus	Belgium	Benin
Bermuda	Bhutan	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Botswana	Brazil	Brunei	Bulgaria	Burkina Faso
Burundi	Cambodia	Cameroon	Canada	Cape Verde	Central African Republic	Chile	China
Chinese Taipei	Colombia	Comoros	Congo	Costa Rica	Côte d'Ivoire	Croatia	Cuba
Cyprus	Czech Republic	Denmark	Djibouti	Dominican Republic	DR Congo	Ecuador	Egypt
El Salvador	Estonia	Ethiopia	Faroe	Islands	Fiji	Finland	France
Gabon	Gambia	Georgia	Germany	Ghana	Great Britain	Greece	Grenada
Guatemala	Guinea	Guinea-Bissau	Guyana	Haiti	Honduras	Hong Kong	Hungary
Iceland	India	Indonesia	Iran	Iraq	Ireland	Israel	Italy
Jamaica	Japan	Jordan	Kazakhstan	Kenya	Kiribati	Korea	Korea DPR
Kuwait	Kyrgyzstan	Laos	Latvia	Lebanon	Lesotho	Liberia	Libya
Liechtenstein	Lithuania	Luxembourg	Macau	Madagascar	Malawi	Malaysia	Maldives
Mali	Malta	Mauritius	Mexico	Moldova	Mongolia	Montenegro	Morocco
Mozambique	Myanmar	Namibia	Nepal	Netherlands	New Zealand	Nicaragua	Niger
Nigeria	North	Macedonia	Norway	Oman	Pakistan	Palestine	Panama
Papua New Guinea	Paraguay	Peru	Philippines	Poland	Portugal	Puerto Rico	Qatar
Refugee Para (lympic) Team	Romania	Russia	Rwanda	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Samoa	San Marino	Sao Tome and Principe
Saudi Arabia	Senegal	Serbia	Seychelles	Sierra Leone	Singapore	Slovakia	Slovenia
Solomon Islands	Somalia	South Africa	Spain	Sri Lanka	Sudan	Suriname	Sweden
Switzerland	Syria	Tajikistan	Tanzania	Thailand	Timor-Leste	Togo	Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago	Tunisia	Turkey	Turkmenistan	U.S. Virgin Islands	Uganda	Ukraine	United Arab Emirates
United States of America	Uruguay	Uzbekistan	Vanuatu	Venezuela	Vietnam	Yemen	Zimbabwe

## About Global Appeal

The Global Appeal is an annual message to raise awareness of leprosy and to call for an end to the discrimination against persons affected by leprosy. First launched in 2006 by Yohei Sasakawa, WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination and chairman of The Nippon Foundation, it is issued every January to coincide with World Leprosy Day, and endorsed each year by world leaders and organizations in different fields, including religion, business, education, medicine, and law. Launched in Tokyo, Japan on January 27, 2020, Global Appeal in its 15th year is endorsed by the International Paralympic Committee.



# Global Appeal Gallery

Images from some of the fifteen Global Appeal launch ceremonies and related events that have been held between 2006 and 2020 in countries around the world.



Launching the first Global Appeal (New Delhi, 2006)



Affirming the right to live with dignity (London, 2008)



Faith leaders call for the healing to begin (London, 2009)



With awareness and education, stigma can be challenged (Beijing, 2011)



Drugs can cure leprosy, but only awareness can end stigma (Sao Paulo, 2012)



Photo exhibition tells a story of everyday lives (Jakarta, 2014)

Pledges against discrimination (New Delhi, 2017)



Ramvarai Sah (center), a person affected by leprosy from India, fosters mutual understanding at a side event (Tokyo, 2016)



Left: Javed Abidi promotes an inclusive society (New Delhi, 2018)  
Right: Violinist and Paralympian Minami Ito (Tokyo, 2020)



Yohei Sasakawa (2nd from left) spells out an important message (New Delhi, 2019)





[www.nippon-foundation.or.jp/en/](http://www.nippon-foundation.or.jp/en/)



[www.shf.or.jp/?lang=en](http://www.shf.or.jp/?lang=en)



**Sasakawa Hansen's  
Disease Program**

[leprosytoday.org/](http://leprosytoday.org/)

