**Oral statement for the ID with the Special Rapporteur on Health –**

**Human Rights Council 44 (July 3)**

Thank you, Madam President.

IDA is delivering this statement jointly with Transforming Communities for Inclusion Asia Pacific, Redesfera Latinoamericana de la Diversidad Psicosocial, the Pan African Network of Persons with psychosocial disabilities, the World network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry, the European network of users and survivors of psychiatry and the European Disability Forum.

We, persons with psychosocial disabilities from the global south and Europe, true experts by experience, and our cross disability allies, thank and congratulate Dr. Puras for his important tenure as Special Rapporteur, and for the legacy of his reports on the status of mental health systems worldwide. This report is distinctive in declaring, "There is no mental health without human rights". It directs States in fulfilling their CRPD obligations towards our full inclusion in society, evoking evidence yet again that psychiatric institutional frameworks are barriers to our human rights. Recognizing the "outdated" colonial framework entrenched within mental health and its institutions, States are advised not to export global north strategies of mental health care to the south. Instead, the report calls States to root out the unjust social, economic, cultural, and other conditions that cause suffering and exclusion. While not directly addressing the draft additional protocol to the Oviedo Convention (a protocol developed by the Council of Europe legalising forced treatment and placement in European countries), his caution and extensive citation of zero coercion alternatives from around the world, including the global south, should amplify all our human rights concerns about this detrimental protocol and other such products of a colonial psychiatry. We ask the UN and its Member States to embrace the recommendations of this report, which paves the way for the future of a human rights based mental health care. We also continue to call all States members of the Council of Europe to oppose to the draft additional protocol to the Oviedo Convention. I thank you.