

APRRN Pledge for the Multistakeholder pledge on Developing alternatives to immigration detention and ending immigration detention

Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) members have consistently identified the continued use of mandatory immigration detention across the Asia Pacific region as a priority issue to address collaboratively. It affects a host of different groups of people, including refugees, people seeking asylum, stateless persons and migrants in an irregular status. People remain detained for seeking protection, often in substandard conditions, overcrowded facilities, and without access to adequate health and legal services. Proper screening mechanisms are often absent, leaving individuals with added vulnerabilities (such as disabilities, LGBTQIA+ persons and victims of trafficking and smuggling) from being identified whether prior to, or in detention.

Under this pledge, APRRN acknowledges the critical role of lived experience leadership in shaping effective advocacy efforts. Recognizing the unique perspectives and insights that individuals with direct experience of immigration detention bring to the forefront, APRRN pledges to prioritize and amplify the voices of lived experience in its initiatives.

Under the Multistakeholder pledge on Developing alternatives to immigration detention and ending immigration detention, APRRN pledges to:

1. Support members to strengthen capacity, evidence base and coordination of advocacy efforts to end immigration detention and promote rights based ATDs by:
 - a. Mapping opportunities for collaborative advocacy on limiting and ending the use of immigration detention
 - b. Sharing data and resources on developments regarding immigration detention and Alternatives To Detention in the region
 - c. Supporting members to engage with and coordinate across a variety of different international commitments, including Global Refugee Forum Pledges (such as the Legal Community Pledge)
2. Strengthen connections and partnerships across members to share learnings, challenges and opportunities for advocacy to ultimately end immigration detention by:
 - a. Creating safe spaces for members to engage in discussion and share learnings and challenges around advocacy to limit and end immigration detention in the region. Topics can include strategies to engage governments and supporting refugee leadership.
 - b. Support members' engagement with regional mechanisms on limiting and ending the use of immigration detention, particularly for vulnerable groups including children and their families.

3. Actively engage and support individuals and communities who have experienced displacement and detention, ensuring their meaningful participation in decision-making processes, and fostering safe spaces for dialogue within the network.