June 2016

Anan Pun



INPUD is greatly saddened by the death of Anan Pun. Born in Pokhara, Anan Pun was a drug user human rights activist who had enormous impact upon the drug user rights movement.

Anan led the national network of drug service organisations in Nepal, 'Recovering Nepal'. He worked actively through a national network for protecting and promoting the health and human rights of people who use drugs. During his leadership, Recovering Nepal succeeded in various programmes and projects that are additionally credited with promoting the health and defending the rights of people who use and inject drugs. Anan also represented people who inject drugs on the Nepal Country Coordination Mechanism. In recent years, Anan had started his own organization called "SHARAN Home", focussing on street-children and children living with HIV.

At the regional level, ANPUD, the Asian Network of People who Use Drugs, stress that they owe the formation and strength of their organisation substantially to the efforts of Anan, one of the key founding members of the organisation.

Anan was elected onto the Board of Directors of the International Harm Reduction Association (now Harm Reduction International, HRI) in 2008 and served a full three-year term. He was an active Board member, and always a very visible and welcome presence at HRI's international conferences before and after his Board term.

Anan represented Asian drug users on INPUD's first Board, and from 2007 to 2009, he served as INPUD's Board Chair. He is remembered as a gentle, quiet and committed man who provided and represented the perspective of the Asian drug using community on the INPUD Board.

His passing will always be felt keenly among the drug user community of Nepal, and all over the world.

We send our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends at this difficult time.

INPUD Secretariat, London

International Network of People who Use Drugs INPUD | Unit 2CO5 | South Bank Technopark | 90 London Road | London | SE1 6LN | UK info@inpud.net | www.inpud.net

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