**INVITATION**

Panel Discussion

**“Independent Dreams”**

**Thursday, 16 June 2016 4:45-6:00 pm,**

**Conference Room 12**

**United Nations Headquarters, New York**

Promotion of independent living and accessibility of persons with disabilities to information and communication technologies are of key importance in terms of inclusive development process. Within this scope, the Turkish Ministry of Family and Social Policy, which is the focal point of the Republic of Turkey for disability studies and promotion of participation to development process by persons with disabilities, will provide information on recent significant activities carried out on accessibility monitoring, preparation of indicator sets on disability rights for monitoring the implementation of UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and sectoral awareness raising activities with regard to CRPD. The major achievements of the project “My Dream Companion”, which was initiated by the civil society organisation named Young Guru Academy in cooperation with Turkcell, will be presented as an example of good practice on ensuring accessibility of information technologies in Turkey.

**Speakers:**

Ayşe KARDAŞ Deputy Under-Secretary of Ministry of Family and Social Policy of Turkey

Asude GÜRAY President of Young Guru Academy

Kürşat CEYLAN Leader of My Dream Companion Project

Aslı ÜNLÜ Corporate Social Responsibility Manager -TURKCELL

Gamze SOFUOĞLU Brand and Loyalty Manager –TURKCELL

**RSVP:** **independent.dreamsun@gmail.com**

**Please RSVP no later than June 13, 2016**

***Light food/refreshment will be offered following the side event.***