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[Gavel]

>> Buenos Dias

>> Good morning.

[Inaudible]

>> Please be seated. We are starting right now. Okay, excellencies…

>> Your excellencies, distinguished delegates, representatives of civil society, we will now continue with item 5A agenda item for the general debate of this conference. Before I cede the floor to the speaker I'd like to make the following announcements. We are happy to see that our conference is increasingly, there are more and more participants this year for 130 speakers have inscribed their names on the list which is a new record which is why we need to really speak to, a lot of speaking time which is why this morning the microphone will switch off at the beginning of the third minute. Of course your full statement will be made available online. We will also have a roundtable this morning. I will start by giving the floor to the delegation from Honduras. Honduras, you have the floor.

>> Honduras is honored to take part of this signatory as of the convention, our larva quality for equable development for persons with disabilities is in line with the Constitution. It guarantees for persons with disability the enjoyment of their rights inherent to their human dignity and promotes their full participation in society. It prohibits all forms of discrimination whether direct or indirect discrimination, that are aimed at treating in a different way and a less favorable way persons with disabilities.

Public policy for the exercise of their rights by persons with disability and their social inclusion in Honduras was approved in 2013. This is guided by the principles of empowerment, solidarity, sustainability, comprehensiveness and transparency. It is based on a human rights focus agenda focused, based on principles of multiculturalism, universality, comprehensiveness and crosscutting nature.

It also strengthens an institutional approach and an inclusive development based on communities as the Secretariat of development inclusion is the dividing entity together with various institutions working together in the area of disability are working to implement this lot.

Now, we have been active. In October 2016 the former special envoy of the UN on disability and accessibility Moreno who is currently president of Ecuador acknowledged that the Honduran government has incorporated this successful model to benefit disabled people.

Now, significant progress has been made in the area of healthcare as well as in the area of democratic participation. About 850,000 people in Honduras suffer from disabilities. Many factors are preventable, such as poverty, violence, disease etc. To ensure full inclusion we will need to invest in education and training with specific support for communities and---

[applause]

>> Agradecemos…

>> We would like to warmly thank the distinguished representative from Honduras to the United Nations. We would like to once again remind you that the full statement will be made available in the portal of the conference. Now I give the floor to the distinguished delegate from Angola.

>> Madam President, I'm going to ratify the convention on the rights of persons with disabilities and its [optional protocols] in 2013 Angola has been a full member of the convention since May 2015. In line with the convention the Angola government has adopted a legal projects and programs for the inclusion of persons with disability in normal day life [inaudible] in a crosscutting, cultural manner. Programs for physical and social rehabilitation, vocational training and social inclusion. And it is [inaudible] ministries in partnership with civil society. There are essentially three important legal instruments have been approved namely presidential decree which proved t approved the [inaudible] social inclusion for children with disabilities. Presidential decree on [vacancies] and procedures for hiring of people with disabilities [inaudible] civil service and in the private sectors. As well as a law which establishes [inaudible] persons with disabilities are limited mobility so as to allow them access to all community systems and services thereby creating a condition for the [inaudible] full citizenship.

We highlight the vocational training and rehabilitation which the primary focus has been to facilitate accessibility people with disabilities [inaudible] technical preparation so that they are fit for specific jobs thereby facilitating their integration or inclusion in the labor market.

Within the scope of these actions, there are 596 vocational training centers in the country. 269 of which are private and 318 are public. And it was possible to train 1740 persons in the period from 2010 to September 2016.

In the field of physical rehabilitation there are medical centers and operation serving around 500 people per day.

In the field of special education there are 28,467 children enrolled in the system, 20 special needs schools, 775 inclusive schools.

[Applause]

>> Thank you to the distinguished representative of Angola.

>> I now have the honor of giving the floor to the distinguished permanent representative of El Salvador.

>> Madam Chair, it is an honor to address you and all those present at a crucial moment as we evaluate the first decade of the convention and address the challenges of the second decade. El Salvador would like to reiterate it commitment with the progress progressive [inaudible] convention and the inclusion of persons with disability and implement thing sustainable developing goals.

Now we have a national Council for comprehensive support for disabled people which maintains permanent dialogue with civil society at the highest level to continue fostering measures that ensure equal opportunity and reduce the inequality and discrimination. We have a national policy of housing and habitat that has been in place since October 2015 and in 2016 we approved a manual for the design of urbanism and construction which specifically takes into account the needs of persons with disability.

Madam Chair, at the end of 2014 El Salvador implemented a system of ground transport in the metropolitan area of El Salvador that provides accessible infrastructure to all the population with the support of UNESCO we are currently developing a national plan accessing use of technologies of information and communication for persons with disabilities that would strengthen their access to education, training and employment.

Also together with the Central American region we have developed standards for inclusion, protection and care of persons with disability in emergencies and disasters and we are working right now, drawing up a national plan that contains a roadmap for the period 2017 through 2021.

Madam Chair, my government has begun a process of assessment and registration of persons with disability that find themselves in conditions of extreme poverty and in the short e we will be providing economic subsidies to these people.

In conclusion my country will submit a second and third report in January 2018 and we hope to put the candidature of Mr. Rigoberto Escalante to the committee. He is currently part of our delegation. Thank you.

>> I would like to thank the permanent representative of El Salvador very warmly. I now give the floor to the distinguished delegation of Nicaragua.

>> Good morning. Nicaragua welcomes the conference of the state party of rights of persons with disability. The government of Nicaragua welcomes the discussion, and we would like to tell it you that our government has been working on this and this is the best way for government to defend the persons with disabilities and [affirm] in the convention and ensure the well-being of our people.

This is what we have achieved to date. Since the government national read conciliation to power we have been focusing on the rights of persons with disabilities, ensuring their equal rights. Especially in healthcare, education, employment, improvement of infrastructure for accessibility of transport. The model of citizen participation that was launched this year and set up new, various new participatory bodies including the, including various local organizations. We have achieved significant improvement in citizen participation both at the national and municipal level. At the municipal level with disabled persons they are taking a more active part in planning and implement thing projects.

One of the major achievements is a project that we have implemented with the support of our Cuban brethren. Madam Chairperson, we are providing various services to disabled persons

[inaudible]

>> We... In fact have been consulting various experts and specialists and this has been very successful. Not only are we providing specialized care to disabled people in healthcare, but we are providing specialized equipment such as specialized wheelChairs and other equipment that specifically caters to their needs. Chairperson, the government of Ortega has specifically focused on persons with disabilities especially those with, that have particular economic difficulties.

Nicaragua still has a lot to do in this area. However, gradually we have improved care for our brethren with disabilities. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> Thank you to the distinguished delegation of Nicaragua.

>> Representatives of disabled people international.

>> Distinguished state representatives and participants from on behalf of Disabled Peoples International I thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of our grassroots organization which was founded in 1981 as the first and still only cross disability global GPO. We want to achieve full participation by a all persons with disabilities in the mainstream of life. While straight gains have been made in many countries since the adoption of the CRPD there is still much to be done to relieve the physical social and attitudinal barriers that cause discrimination the first place or reasonable adjustments or accommodations that need to be made.

Civil society organizations like CPI want and need to be part of the process in partnership with states parties and other GPO's to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities under CRPD are upheld and otherwise made better. The achievement of the SDGs relevant to disability hold great promise to this millions of people with disabilities and their problems out of property. All GPI members have lived experience with disability so we have much to offer.

>> The main problem we have to face [inaudible] relates to equal treatment and lack of education and training and even some of these gross discrepancies [inaudible] people with disabilities still not trained to collaborate even when we have had the chance to be educated [inaudible] visible restrictions and [inaudible] from which difficult to escape. And because we can [see better] than any other [inaudible] who are [inaudible] in this world of competition and speed [inaudible] there's no other way to work together with clear roles and participation from each part to open [inaudible] to all with no one left behind. To implement the CRPD in all areas of the society so UN bodies and agencies [inaudible] training programs for people with disabilities [inaudible] powerful and organized as equal partners [inaudible] more difficult to make together even when it is more difficult and more expensive it's the best way to live together and the most productive model to implement the UN documents [inaudible] CRPD in particular and also the new urban agenda and [inaudible] thank you.

[Applause]

>> I thank the representative of disabled people international and I now give the floor to the distinguished delegation of Bangladesh

>> Thank you, Madam Chair. We would like to state that the conference in the convention of rights of persons with disabilities is yet another opportunity for reaffirming human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities. We recognize the convention both as a human right as well as a development instrument. Madam Chair, disabilities are considered a consequence and causes of poverty and inequality. The general principles and obligations of the CRPD are similar to that of the national Constitution of Bangladesh which was envisioned by our father of the nation [inaudible] rights and fundamental freedoms of people with disabilities featured as one of the priority policies of the present government led by the Prime Minister. They ratified the CRP is the eighth country subsequently Bangladesh enacted to rights-based laws for persons with disabilities and autism. They are protection of the rights of persons with disabilities act of 2013 and new development disability protection prospects 2013.

Madam Chair, according to the fifth population and housing census, the number of people with disabilities is 1.4% of Bangladesh total population of 160 million. Several exemplary measures have been taken to establish to ensure equal rights, respects and dignity of the people and participation and equal opportunities of disabled citizens of the country. The government has established autism resource centers and hospitals with full accessibility for both male and female persons with disabilities. The government is developing integrated development service center since 2009 covering all districts. One-stop mobile therapy service has been introduced since December 2015 to deliver door-to-door therapy services on the peripheral p inaudible]. The government approved a comprehensive project to set up a separate disabilities complex and disabilities sports complex. These complexes will be international centers of excellence for persons with disabilities, autism and other neurological disorders.

Madam Chair [inaudible] [direct] advisor to the advisor on [ICUN] and has claimed the primary role in promoting the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities including autism in our country. Bangladesh delivered the resolution entitled the social economic needs of individuals families and societies affected by autism spectrum disorders, develop disorders and associated disabilities was adopted by consensus in 2007. Every year, the mission of Bangladesh arranges high-level events at the UN to observe [inaudible].

And then, Madam Chair, I would like to reiterate the government of Bangladesh is committed to take account of persons with disabilities in all development efforts for poverty elimination and for equalization of opportunities in the country in achieving the 17 goals of 2030 agenda noting [inaudible]

[applause]

>> I thank the distinguished representative of Bangladesh and now I give the floor to the distinguished [inaudible] Kazakhstan

>> Madam Chairperson, distinguished participants of the session, one of the priorities of the social policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan has always been care for persons with disabilities. At the same time ratifying the convention on the rights of disability in February 2015, Kazakhstan made a very meaningful shift from a medical approach to a human rights approach in dealing with persons with disability. As part of the national plan of measures even before the ratification of the convention, amendments were made to 24 laws and four codes. This process has continued after ratification.

I just wanted to focus on the most important changes that have occurred in our country.

First of all, while maintaining all forms of social support assistance we have expanded the list of services and goods that are provided to persons with disability. At the same time what is most important is that these services are not distributed by central bodies, but based on a community-based rehabilitation work.

Also automating the provision of services so that it is quicker. We are also working on implementing a plan to change the negative stereotypes in society toward peoples, persons with disability in the area of employment we are providing support to persons with disability not only by creating new standards for job placement but also we are financing job creators when they provide jobs to persons with disabilities. This is also focused on training. There is a special program to train women entrepreneurs with disabilities. And the state job creation program is putting persons with disabilities as a top priority.

In the area of accessibility, the infrastructure, new rules are being introduced to ensure accessibility. At the same time priority is placed on the special needs of various types of disability and also new technologies. Currently we are introducing a new system based online throughout Kazakhstan.

I wanted to just tell you about a very important change that is occurring even now as we are here in Kazakhstan. We are taking the first steps to establishing small housing units for persons with cognitive impairment. Also I wanted to tell you about participation of persons with disability in public life.

[Applause]

>> I would like to thank the distinguished representative of Kazakhstan and I now give the floor to the distinguished delegate of Liberia.

>> Good morning Madam Chair. I am pleased on behalf of the government and people of Liberia to make this special statement on the implementation of the convention on the rights of persons with disabilities.

Liberia ratified the convention on July 26, 2012 and has since demonstrated her commitment for respecting the rights of persons with disabilities through collaborative efforts of persons with disabilities, government issues and agencies as well and as international partners. Demonstrates the establishment of the national commission on disabilities as an autonomous that is mandated the [inaudible] ensure the well being of all persons with disabilities in Liberia. With administration phase of this entity by persons with disabilities who are all appointed by the president of the Republic of Liberia, development through the commission worked with people with disabilities to ensure they work [inaudible] disabilities by subsidizing several disabled people's organizations throughout the country and giving support to persons with disabilities in all forms especially in macro loans.

Additionally, our government has also helped awareness raising programs to enlighten the minds of persons with disabilities as well as other actors and stakeholders on the rights of persons with disabilities. The government of Liberia also has recognized to ensure the rights of persons with disability are protected and respected the social component has been reinforced it is from this perspective the demonstration of [inaudible] responsibility to care for the welfare persons with disabilities which was formerly under the Ministry of health and social welfare.

Through the collaborative efforts of the government with international partners, social [inaudible] international handicap international we have been able to make significant progress toward [inaudible] education special and inclusive education through providing teachers training on inclusive education. This project also includes inclusive education awareness and sensitization workshops for parents of children with disabilities. Community leaders, county representatives of nongovernmental organizations.

The two institutions also helped in harmonizing and finalizing the finalization of the inclusive education practices in the projects. In furtherance is first draft of the inclusive education policy has been children of the project [inaudible] division has been sent to Ghana and Kenya respectively on a one-year inclusive education training scholarship program.

[Inaudible background audio]

[applause]

>> I thank the distinguished delegation from Liberia and now we give the floor to the representative of disabled rights international.

>> I'm here as representative disability rights international. DRI is an organization dedicated to the promotion of human rights and full participation in society of people with disabilities worldwide. Since 1993, DRI has document of the conditions and institutions like psychiatric hospitals, orphanages shelters and other facilities where people with disabilities are [inaudible] there I have trained activists with disabilities and provide assistance to government and disability rights group in more than 25 countries. In Latin America for the last few years we've been working in Mexico and Guatemala regarding the rights of people with disabilities to live in the community according to article 19 of the CRPD. DRI is committed to institutional [inaudible] people with disabilities worldwide especially children, the lack of opportunities and support in the community are condemned to live in institutions for their whole lives. Article 32 of the CRPD talks about international cooperation. This article recognizes the importance of the state international cooperation in support of national [inaudible toward realization of proposed objectives of the convention. State parties should regulate behavior of private sectors including foundations, charities, business companies, even donor countries.

We have to make sure the money does not put children at risk of torture abroad that would similarly be impermissible in their own countries.

In 2016 DRI participated on the evolution of the state of Guatemala and [inaudible] committee of the rights of persons with disabilities and including observations on the initial report and the [inaudible] state to finalize [inaudible] in the country and also the committee recommends that the state party ensure that funding source from international cooperation is used in accordance with this convention. We need to educate international and national donors on the investment of the community alternative for children with disabilities instead of replicating models of segregation.

It is [inaudible] children with disabilities worldwide. Thank you.

[ Applause]

>> I should like to thank the distinguished representative of Disability Rights International. And I now [inaudible] distinguished delegation of Ukraine.

>> Thank you Madam Chair. Distinguished colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, more than six percent of Ukrainian citizens which is more than 2.10 million people are people with disabilities. Ukrainians get disabilities not only congenitally due to different health disorders or different events in their life, but also due to the absolutely diverse [inaudible] in 2014. Past in the year 2006 according to the practice in Ukraine in 2009 United nation convention on the rights of persons with disability is and will be the groundbreaking document to determine the movement for governmental and nongovernmental institutions all over the world to provide rights and legal and interests of people with disabilities in all areas of their lives.

Despite the Russian Federation aggression against Ukraine we make our best all provisions concerning the rights of persons with disabilities, external aggression [inaudible] occupation of Ukrainian and Crimea shows the Ukrainian government civil society and all Ukrainians [inaudible] people with disabilities most of all. They are ordinary civilians with disabilities. 60,000 internally displaced people with disabilities. Wounded serviceman who gained disabilities. Military actions affected not only social and economic situation in Ukraine, reduce social budgetary provisions but also cause a total violation of human rights of people with disabilities. In the described a situation NGOs of people with disability managed to consolidate influence on the governmental policy to promote protection of people with disabilities rights. Now we have hundreds of such NGOs and among them there are some organizations which contribute a lot to change legislation and control implementation. And here I should mention the national assembly of people with disabilities which has consulted of students in [inaudible]. Nothing [inaudible] without us is a fundamental principle for civil society in the field of human rights and disability supported by the president of Ukraine, the government and Parliament. We are grateful to the UN for full cooperation [inaudible] rights of peoples with disabilities in Ukraine, in particular while Ukraine's presentation of the first national report on the implementation of the convention on the rights of persons with disabilities. To implement recommendations of the UN committee on the rights of persons with disabilities, Ukraine has adopted respective action plan.

One should note that the provision of the Commissioner of the President of Ukraine for the rights of disabled persons introduced in Ukraine in 2016. This decision is a result of Ukraine's implementation of the UN convention on the rights of persons with disabilities. And proof of the government's commitments [inaudible]

[Applause]

>> I thank the distinguished delegation of Ukraine and I now give the floor to the distinguished delegation of Uganda.

>> Chairperson, excellencies, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, Uganda is appurtenant to the convention on the rights of persons with disabilities and as such, article [inaudible] has incorporated all the main articles of this convention especially article 32 that has established equal opportunities commission. This commission has [inaudible] additional powers of the court. It's clearly aimed at limiting dissemination and inequalities. It has a tribunal and as such, and the public [inaudible] act in 2015 section 9 no government budget or sector can be passed without a certificate of compliance with [inaudible] regarding persons with disabilities.

Madam Chairperson Uganda also hosts over 1 million refugees and as such they come with multiple challenges that need to be addressed. And as such, Uganda has also established [the Child help line] to report any kind of violation a person of disabilities. Uganda has also an initial plan of action for children with disabilities. We have also undertaken countrywide training on service providers and also established a national Council for disability which has important messages regarding this challenge. Industry of [inaudible] development cultural institutions and a scaled-down gender-based [values] child marriages.

Madam Chairperson got has also put in program the women [inaudible] program which 30% must go to persons with disabilities. As such also we have disability [youth] program which also marks out 30% goal to persons with disabilities. The department also has a developmental firm for children were girls and boys with disabilities can present particular challenges including a forum for civil society organizations to report.

Uganda has also put in a ten-year module to address rehabilitation and disability with university and social institutions.

Madam Chairperson, in infrastructure [inaudible] government particularly enforced plans especially with the equal opportunity commission to enforce accessibility and inclusion in the physical infrastructure. Madam Chairperson, Uganda has made improvements since 1995 especially to do with disability [inaudible] information like publication in braille and not all public buildings are accessible to persons with disabilities. [Inaudible] to the grassroots in conclusion Uganda joins the world to uphold the [inaudible] government and affirm political will and [inaudible] remaining jobs and challenges.

[Applause]

>> I should like to thank the distinguished delegation of Uganda and I now give the floor to the distinguished delegation of Palestine.

>> Madam Chair, CRPD has figured prominently among the first international legal instruments that the state of Palestine acceded to. Palestine firmly believes in the principles of equality and nondiscrimination on behalf of the entire human rights system including as regards persons with disabilities.

Persons with disabilities, despite hardship and challenge, develop special abilities especially when the rights and needs are insured. They find ways to express their potential creativity and contribution to society. The simple idea that we need to move from assistance to persons with disabilities at acknowledging and meeting their needs to empowerment and acknowledging their contribution, left Palestine in the social protection sector strategy to add to the pillars of prevention and protection the pillar of empowerment. This respective also lends to a decision to review existing legislation, namely the disability law of 1999, which provides a basic set of rights for persons with disabilities. A national committee has been established and joined by civil society institutions to work on modernizing the law and expanding its scope. National policies and budget will reflect this new orientation including through [inaudible] custom exemptions and cell phones along the lines of protection and empowerment are the Bureau of statistics is elaborating the necessary indicators to provide policymakers and implementers, the Ministry of Education is also contribute to this national effort especially after having adopted the inclusive education policy highlighting the importance and necessity of developing awareness programs on disability from a human rights perspective.

Also, the new strategic plan for the local government sector includes environmental harmonization accessibility and community integrations for persons with disabilities and information on these issues has been distributed through the local governance journals to all local authorities. Palestine is now in the process of finalizing its initial report and limitation of the CRPD and will hold national consultations with civil society including the disability for persons with disability movement in Palestine and the report will assess what has been done and still needs to be done to comply with the CRPD in letter and spirit and persons with disabilities and their representatives will be associated in all future natural consultations we have on human rights safety spirit as all are aware, Palestine also, people in Palestine regrettably suffer from disabilities not only as a result of nature and of flaws of accidents but also as a result of over half a century long of Israeli occupation. Only a few years ago, 900 Palestinian suffered injuries leading to personal disability due to the war on Gaza. People with disabilities are also more vulnerable to the impact of occupation including of the blockade and checkpoints. This is why we [inaudible]

[Applause]

>> I should like to thank the distinguished delegation of Palestine and I now give the floor to European Network of Independent Living.

>> Dear Chairperson, members of the committee, ladies and gentlemen. On behalf of ENIL, European Network on Independent Living I would like to thank the organizers for the opportunity to address you today. The main focus of ENIL work is the promotion of rights of disabled people to live independently into the right of article 19 of the convention.

The devil is in the details. In many cases reforms do not lead to full inclusion And participation in community, but only substitute one type of exclusion with another. In the home of the person or in smaller residential setting. The choice to live in an institution is not an option and should be deleted from the draft general comments on article 19 because people with disabilities cannot exercise choice because there's a lack of options, legal capacity and they been pressured by family not wanting to be a burden, having been institutionalized for a long time and waiting lists for support.

To unlock the full potential of the convention and ensure all disabled people can ensure the right to live independently ENIL hold the urges the committee to formalize strong committee [inaudible] article 19 to ensure state parties ensure the deinstitutionalization project is not result in re-institutionalization. Make mention of services such as housing transport education and health accessible to all kinds and types of disabled people regardless of their support needs and network, provide concrete plans for deinstitutionalization with specific timing and budgets, prohibit the use of public and private funds for institutional care or [inaudible] access to personal assistance your support and a network of support services in the community and start systematic reforms policies and legislations to realize the transition from institutional care to community living which entails provision of accessible and affordable housing, personal insistence and inclusion of public service as part of the grassroots network we are deeply worried about the huge and growing gap between our rights, targets of the convention and lived experience of disabled people and their families. We call on states, parties and all stakeholders to take responsibility and close this gap. Now and with all means. Thank you for your attention.

[Applause]

>> I should like to thank the distinguished representative of the European network on independent living. And I now give the floor to the delegation of Morocco.

>> Thank you Madam Chair. People with disabilities are the priority in our Constitution. Because we fight all forms of discrimination due to disability. And people with disability are empowered. They enjoy all their rights. We have incorporated the convention on the rights of people with disabilities and its optional protocol in our Constitution. We have also enacted a law to protect the rights of people with disabilities and empower them. By preparing this legal text we have taken into consideration the opinion of civil society. We have worked to positively interact with different social fabric individuals and we have participated in seven different meetings. 30 different networks have participated in the final ratification and we have established a new institution for this purpose. We have adopted the approach of the Washington Institute.

. As for the empowerment and inclusive development we have prepared five decisions on transportation and infrastructure and we have analyzed four different urban [factors.] Marrakesh has become a symbol of that.

This cannot be achieved without A political will. And the importance that our king has attached to this issue. This proves that we have been working with the United Nations to empower this category. The full text is available on paper. Thank you madam Chairperson.

[Applause]

>> I should like to thank the distinguished delegation of Morocco. This was the last speech in this morning's general debate which will be resumed in the afternoon session. Now we have a change of, on the top table here to start a roundtable [inaudible] thank you.

>> …the Portuguese booth, going into English.

[speaking Spanish]

>> Good morning please take your seats.

[Speaking Spanish]

>> Good morning, please take your seat

[Gavel]

>> Excellencies, Honored members, distinguished members, Chair, this roundtable focused on promoting inclusive element and a limitation of the new urban agenda approved by the United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development habitat 3 which took place in Quito Ecuador last year.

It is a pleasure for me to share with the Chair of this Roundtable [inaudible] representative of civil society and an activist for the rights of disabled people. He is an author of various books and articles on social participation and inclusion of disabled people. This Roundtable is meant to address key issues in the area of inclusive urban development and effective implementation of a new urban agenda of UN habitat three.

The available data reveals that in the current model of urbanization, persons with disability suffer generalized lack of access to urban areas in urban services and communication. There are a number of factors that impede the promotion of inclusive urban development for persons with disability. Among these are the lack of awareness, lack of knowledge and good practice of inclusive urban development.

Furthermore, this, what is necessary is to ensure that persons with disability have full participation in society. The new urban agenda designed cities that are based on solidarity that are just, equitable, and that develop on the basis of democratic processes. Now our challenge is the limitation of new urban agenda.

This agenda in line with the sustainable development goals is committed to leaving no one behind and we hope that this morning's discussions will give us an opportunity to discuss the opportunities offered by the new urban agenda and the 2030 agenda to promote the implementation of the convention.

Now an exchange of views on the most innovative solutions To promote a new urban agenda for persons with disabilities is very important. The role of ICTs and the related systems in promoting the convention and in what way we can take advantage of national and regional strategies of inclusive urban development so persons representing organizations of persons with disabilities can take part in the discussion.

After presentation of the panelists, we will give an opportunity to representatives of organizations of persons with disabilities to make comments, ask questions. If there's time remaining at the end, we will give an opportunity to the panelists to take the floor once again. I would encourage all participants to make brief comments and I would urge you not to simply read a written statement. I would like to give the floor to Jean-Luc to present the first panelist.

>> Honorable representatives of states parties, dear participants, it is a great honor for me to co Chair this Roundtable. I'm going to immediately introduce Mr. [inaudible] of agriculture, irrigation, livestock, land and forestry of Sri Lanka, you have the floor.

>> Thank you. Good morning. I wish to thank on behalf of my country the government of Sri Lanka and the committee for giving me the opportunity to highlight the work we do in our country. As you may know, Sri Lanka is an island in the Indian Ocean with a population of 21 million. UN habitat says that our country, one of the least urbanized countries. With the current urban population being 18% of the population. So I think it will make you understand that our challenges are different to other countries.

Sri Lankan governments have considered housing a priority throughout the years. Heavy focus on our country in urban development creating opportunities for us to push to inclusive urban development. It must be acknowledged that the government of Sri Lanka has pledged to ensure sustainable organization. Also it must be highlighted the 2017 has been declared the year of public by his Excellency the president of Sri Lanka.

It is important the 10 to 15 of the population of Sri Lanka are estimated to be living with disabilities. Not only that, Sri Lanka is recognized as one of the fastest aging countries in the world. Last year we acceded to the CRPD and we are currently in the process of drafting a disability rights law falling in line with CRPD. We do have certain provisions and regulations that provide for accessibility.

With this background I would like to talk to you about my district and to the work we started doing there. Monergala is one of the poorest districts about five or 6 hours drive away from the capital. There are 11 main urban cities the district and 319 subdivisions. The disabled and age friendly city concept was implemented by the world health Council, the district of [inaudible] in 2011 with the [inaudible] we mainly followed disabled and age friendly cities concept in our framework, the work started in one of the cities in the district but now we are able to include the entire district in our work. Support for our work has been increased from the election committee to organizations like IEUS for support. Our focus is to eliminate barriers for people with disabilities and older persons, to help them be included in society. So we do not only focus on the physical environment but also look at social and economic inclusion. We always encourage participation.

This is some of the progress we have made for the last six years.

Okay I'm happy to say that we have so much to look Because his Excellency the president has recognized this concept and now the president is making plans to establish a special unit under the present, the unit will be looking to replicate in the inclusive city concept a number of districts in the country. A recent flood in Sri Lanka has proven that we have much more to do in preparation. Especially the inclusion of peoples with disabilities and those older persons with [inaudible] plan. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> I would like to [inaudible] Samuel Tororei, the commissioner of national land and director of Kenyan society for the blind. He has a doctorate in philosophy and environmental studies and a Masters in healthcare planning and a degree in education. He's also been in charge of human rights in Kenya and he was Chairman and vice Chair of the commission for human rights. You have the floor.

>> Distinguished delegates, excellencies, [ham jambo] that is a greeting from home. And we want to transport you to Kenya which we are using is a case study for illustrating the progress that we have made so far and the gaps that we may experience in getting our needs situated in the new urban agenda.

I start with the argument or a submission that legal policy frameworks are sufficient as platforms of action. As we have them today. We have declarations in various UN bodies in our various constitutions and in our various municipal laws which are beginning to affirm the rights to property for persons with disabilities. That is a big move, a perceptible move that we all appreciate. And that we need to build on.

And last year, the leaders in Quito adopted the new urban agenda. And to guide urban development in the future. And it is this agenda that we seek to be involved in and I congratulate this conference and especially this Roundtable for having chosen to depart from our usual comfort zone where we used to make declarations to a platform where we actually engage with this new agenda. And because this conference champions the needs of persons with disabilities to be included in this agenda it is important that we understand the principles that apply when these people are planning urban centers. It is a new area and urban planning or land-use planning is sometimes it is called, assigns uses and user rights to specific aces and definite order and [inaudible]. That's why it is planned that you will walk here, you will drive here, you will build here, you will set up industries here. All those spaces are planned. And when this planning is done we want persons with disabilities to be, their needs to be included.

Urban planning also creates an environment which is efficient and attractive and also that gives opportunity, or this kind of approach gives opportunity to realign urban planning to policies and legislation that address the needs of persons with disabilities.

In my presentation which I will not read, I have given a summary of the evolution of planning or land-use planning agenda and urban planning and Kenya and a case study. And I would like you to look at my presentation when you have time.

As it is now, the road to recognition of persons with disabilities needs started in the 1980s with the world program of action. You'll remember that if you are my age. This graduated into standard rules and culminated in the CRPD which is bringing us here. And the first concrete contribution from this declaration was the concept of universal design. And this is now what we ask that it be used in urban Planning.

And as we conclude we want to make some observations, that recognition of our needs as persons with disabilities must reside in the constitutions, in our constitutions, in our municipal laws and in international law. This therefore would beg the question, is the new urban agenda document, how responsive is it to the needs of persons with disabilities? The document has 175 paragraphs. Only two mention persons with disabilities directly. You can see the amount of work you still have.

But now there is a paradigm shift. Which is brought both to Kenya and other countries. In the case of Kenya, we can demonstrate, domesticate any treaty through article 6 of our Constitution and we intend that the new urban agenda will be one of those as will be other things that expand our treaty.

I invite you to Nairobi. Nairobi is a growing city. 60% of our population is in informal settlements and that's where the greatest challenge for persons with disabilities but we have a good plan for advocacy now. Away from participation to practical programs of action. We now invite all of us to engage seriously in the issue of inclusion for persons with disabilities in everything we do and in conclusion, this conference was a serious milestone in this journey in the journey of recognition, those around the table will go a long way in propelling us toward our desired destination. And that is a fulfilled, independent life for all persons with disabilities. I thank you.

[Applause]

>> I would like to thank Mr. Tororei for his presentation and like to call Mr. Marcantonio Pellegrini national Secretary for the rights of persons with disabilities at the Ministry of human rights Brazil. You have the floor.

>> I would like to greet the table and all the delegates and members of this panel here. today it's very good to be able to speak about this urban agenda. In Brazil we have legislation that is the statute of inclusion that put in practice since 2015. The convention was ratified back in 2008 has been following the convention implemented in Brazil also signed the [facultative] protocol and within this universal comprehending the convention, urban issues have been attended to. And there's a secretariat which today articulates among the several ministries and different bodies of government, trying to implement these actions or measures. We created an obligation through the municipalities, the cities, in order to receive financial resources geared towards public works and modernization services. In order to get the resource, the city has to present a plan of urban mobility that includes accessibility, and in this way I will be describing these.

So for people who cannot see, you can see a bus stop with a shelter and a proto-tactile flooring. Enough room for a wheelChair that have a safety lane for safe crossing. You have lights, traffic lights that are also, and they emit sounds for people who cannot see. This is a result of this planning and the convention. Obviously this being said, I miss the presentation by the panel, I missed, I lost the video. In the areas of most traffic and most structure, cities people tend to congregate in urban areas. However, next slide please, you can see a picture of the same situation. How it used to be. The before and after, it was presented also with conditions ensuring circulation accessible to everyone. This is also to encompass public parks. The law provides for that. It creates that obligation. Public parks should also offer possibility for disabled people to their place, so we have toys for children that's provided for. Today in Brazil we see it is becoming more and more common, gyms free open-air gyms were people with disabilities can exercise [inaudible] themselves but urbanism also has to do with housing. And so houses that used to be delivered before to... via the government programs for people with lower income, they have to ensure accessibility, ground-floor housing in part of these houses had to be accessible. That presented a problem because throughout their lives, situations could happen that could bring a reduction of mobility and the person then would be prevented from using their house in the same manner. And so Brazil adopted a universal design for housing. Please go back one slide. Universal design for housing is increased houses in size so every house delivered via public financing insures and contemplates that somebody who is wheelChair-bound can move around fully.

Also created an obligation for Housing units that do not benefit from government financing which is under regulation and they will also have to start providing 100% accessible housing that should be enacted in the near future. Also create obligations to the hotel network because people use hotels not only for leisure, but also for work. Treatments. And determine cities where they have certain types of treatment available, so a certain percentage of rooms must be accessible by law.

Within the public transport system the obligation of accessibility was also provided. Most of the urban public transportation options today are accessible, as you can see a microbus in the picture and also a van that are accessible to the disabled, where the Chair actually juts outside the van.

Another situation on the airline industry that also created obligations so that these people can use, can fly comfortably. Okay we are advancing slides.

We have a commitment with the WHO in the training of professionals and disseminating the correct use of wheelChairs because a person cannot use the wheelChair, they are not going to be mobile. These among other solutions are being employed in Brazil and we have been advancing significantly. Thank you very much.

[Applause]

>> Thank you. Our next panelist is Mr. Castaneda, president of Gates USA. He's an internationally acknowledged expert in policy for disabled persons. He's also a presidential appointee to the public member of the architectural and transportation barrier compliance access board. In 2018 Dr. Castaneda worked to improve participation for children disability through research programs and [inaudible]. Mr. Gates you have the floor.

>> Thank you very much. It is an honor and a pleasure to address you this day because this day we are talking about an issue that affects us all, which is the way we live in our cities, the way we build our cities, the way we think about our cities. I oftentimes like to say to my colleagues in the field of urban planning, I say you know I love cities but they don't love me back. They don't love me back yet. Because we have not done enough to make our cities inviting for all people. We have not done enough to reimagine how our cities can be built and how they can respond to people on their terms and within their lifestyles.

You see, I was born in Venezuela in 1978 and by the time my parents took me to first grade, no school would allow me to enroll b that I could not be incorporated into the class. That there would be too many barriers and that it would be better for me to be educated at home. And so I encountered in my young life being denied a right to an education because that city, that school was not acceptable, was not able to have the education or the structures to allow me to to allow me to contribute.

My story changed when he moved to the United States where there were laws and policies and support and the teachers made me feel like I was like any other student in that class. You see, I was able to go from being denied an education to concluding a PhD in in urban planning not because I changed but because the environment around me changed.

This is what we are all trying to do. We are trying to reimagine what are these environments that we are building and how do we actually do that. So my role as the president of [gates] an organization founded 10 years ago in conjunction with the UN convention, is to help coordinate global efforts around article 9 of the CRPD and work together with partners to use other frameworks, such as article 11 of the sustainable development goal which talks about building inclusive and resilient cities as well as working with many of you here in the last six months in negotiating the new urban agenda. We were able to go from one or two [inaudible] to people with disabilities and in the final document were able to, through the coordination of all of you in this room, working with your member states, to have 16 references to people with disabilities. But more importantly, a standalone paragraph which now specifically directs local governments to holistically plan for the need as well as the opportunities and contributions of people with disabilities.

So, let us come together and look at the ways that we can coordinate instead of duplicate our efforts. Accessibility, accessibility is a requirement but it's not just a regulatory requirement. It's a requirement of imagination. It's a requirement for political will. It's a requirement for court knitting budgets. It's a requirement for our partnership. And that means that we will be able to position accessibility and the best practice for building digital technologies the best practice for building schools the best practice for building transportation systems and I think we are on our way there. The new urban agenda includes for the first time in these global debates on urban planning the words universal design. The words reasonable accommodation. The words accessibility as it relates to people with disabilities.

So we have several tools. We have efforts in all of the countries around the world. But there still remains a gap between national commitment and local capacity. And the local coordinating mechanism. And the local technical knowledge. And so I am now committing myself to working with all of you to help coordinate those local efforts, to help build alliances between city governments so that they can exchange best practices. And to help organizations like the World Bank and global corporations like Microsoft and others really work together to see what works and see how we can scale up. One of the ways we are doing this is working on a global initiative called Smart cities for all. There will be $1.5 trillion invested at the local level to deploy technologies that allow digital services within cities to connect people. To improve people's quality of life. However there is no structure mechanism or even way of helping these local governments ensure the digital services don't leave anybody behind.

So the smart cities for all initiative, Which I am leading, and was supported by our colleagues at Microsoft and others, we are now building tools to help governments at the local level ensure that they don't have to do digital accessibility. That they have the tools, procurement policies on digital accessibility. An inventory of standards. What are the digital accessibility standards that cities have to consider? A tool that allows them to communicate the benefits, a communication tool. So these are tools that local cities can use and it is not enough to have these tools available in English. We are working with our partners and we now are happy that it's translated into Spanish, Portuguese, we are going to have Japanese, Korean, Arabic, Hindi and [Burundi] available so that the local governments have the tools they need to build the additional services that do not leave anybody behind.

You see, I think one of the things that we have to realize is that disability is something that any of us can join in anytime and it's in our life and self-interest to build cities that accommodate us all and [inaudible] that occur in the lives of those we love. However the challenge for us is great. The total land area that has been built in the history of our civilization will need to double, the rate of urbanization is so large that it will double in the next 20 to 30 years. If that construction, if those efforts on our plan for we will continue to perpetuate inequality and marginalization, poverty and exclusion and quite frankly, we are missing out on that potential, the given potential that can really drive us forward.

So what I would like to encourage each of us to do, is whether you are involved in conversations about climate change, if you are involved in conversations about gender issues are involved in conversations about migration are refugees there is an urban dimension to all of these issues as well as accessibility connection to all of these issues. If you are looking at replanting 1 million trees in the city of Los Angeles you have an opportunity to rethink the way your sidewalks are structured. To remove barriers on sidewalks. If you are looking at building more environmentally friendly or more gender friendly cities, think about the intersection between gender and disability.

So all of these issues really boil down to making sure that the environment reflect the values that we have. Because really we build cities based on the values that we have. Our values become tangible, become physical in the way that we build our cities. So let us take what we have learned from the cities of the past. Let's take the political. We have today to then transform the way we think about our cities to understand that we have the values and the framework, the technical solutions are there. Let's just coordinate the effort. Let's standardize our approach. And let's build cities that allow our human dignity and human potential to be realized. I stand committed to this fight. I will be working in this area between article 9 and goal 11 and the agenda for my entire life. And if you'd like to be involved in these conversations through the [contact three] Gen. assembly of partners you can email me at Victor@GAATES.org. And we will invite you to join the conversation and help us address accessibility [inaudible] four at the new world urban forum. So let us be president at the new world urban forum and help our colleagues in urban planning make cities that love us back. Thank you very much.

[Applause]

>> I should like to thank Mr. Castaneda for that presentation and I call on Immaculada Placencia and she's [inaudible] for the European Union for the disabled, you have the floor

>> [inaudible] to be able to share our experience in that successfully have achieved accessibility following design for all approach. And to share based on the context of an urban agenda accessibility in the urban environment illustrates... sorry, can I have the slides? Please, thank you, next slide. Accessibility in the urban environment illustrates the intersection of three thematic areas, three thematic areas indicated in article 9 of the convention namely the built environment, transport and ICT. These are the crossroad of most services open and provided to the public in modern societies. This intersection adds yet another challenge to the traditional challenges for implementing accessibility, indeed it relates to the issue of breaking silence and ensuring accessibility knowledge in order to ensure seamless accessibility for persons with disabilities.

As technology permeates our lives in urban environments it is not enough to render separately accessible the built environment, the transport for example vehicles, or telecommunication services and infrastructure. In fact, ICT is embedded in the built environment as it is in transport. Take for example a bus station with real-time information displays and kiosks. The same information is being provided in the Internet and mobile apps and even in the vehicles while they are equipped with dynamic displays. All these elements in the chain need to be accessible and operate in an accessible manner together.

In addition, more and more ICT products are used in the provision of services. Take for example smart phones with mobile apps to buy a ticket or get an appointment to the doctor or E readers to get access to books and information or multiple devices needed to get access to our money in banks beyond ATMs. Those include payment terminals, decoders, electronic signature devices. Other examples are computers and tablets to connect to the Internet and make use of E government services which by the way also required high-speed broadband connections for example to be able to use video communications for using sign language.

The challenge for Europe in the built environment is that often to remove existing barriers as many urban environments has also built however for ICT, the key word is prevention. This is not only because a lot of ICT is still to be created. But also because of the short life span which allow for regular replacements. Making accessible the next generation of ICTs is the most cost-effective option. However, certain ICT elements are shaping the infrastructure of smart cities. They require higher investments and will stay for longer. It is in those elements like for example brought that and new telecommunication services we are investing on accessibility will pay better. Other Wise in the cities we will be retrofitting accessibility as we are doing now in the built environment and this requires additional significant cost.

It is also in the area of ICT that new significant accessibility skills and guidance are needed. Plenty of accessibility solutions and standards exist for the built environment or for transport vehicles for persons with physical disabilities. But we have seen an important development of sharing knowledge and how to make information accessible for persons with sensory disabilities. However, it is only very recently that attention is being paid and solutions are being developed to make technology accessible to persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities.

Recent documents providing guidance on this area indicate that accessibility requirements for persons with intellectual disabilities include different needs. For example using consistent terminology, explaining the meaning of symbols, being consistent in the use of words, using readable fonts, having visible and intuitive controls, programming consistent behavior of the software we use, feedback on user actions, provide enough time for reaction and simple instructions, and allow for personalization for choices in the user interface. Isn't that what each of us would wish for ICT that we interact with? Aren't these just good examples of design for all or universal design. This requirement illustrates one more slogan that you designed for persons with disabilities is good design for all.

Furthermore, those solutions Will be longer used and with more satisfaction by consumers. Contributing to more sustainable consumption patterns.

The new urban agenda provides a vision for accessibility of infrastructure, housing, transport services. It also provides indications for its implementation, highlighting benefits for all. However, many challenges remain for the successful implementation of accessibility and it is not only the obvious need for resources, which seems to be often taken out of proportion. Indeed when asking those implementing accessibility or paying for accessibility, and often a figure of less than 1% of the total construction cost is given for the built environment. When new buildings are concerned. Insignificant figures are indicated for other products and services in the area of ICT when accessibility is embedded in the development cycle from the beginning.

Big challenges remain to set clear commitments and policy frameworks for ensuring that public money is only spent when accessibility is respected. Or for example setting clear and adequate accessibility requirements for the private sector.

Nevertheless, let me share with you some good examples of successful policies around the world. This is, they contain some common elements I'd like to share with you. Can I go to the previous slide please?

A comprehensive legislation setting accessibility in frameworks and combine protection from determination, public procurement as well as horizontal and sector legislation with clear accessibility requirements. There are examples around the world that this is effective.

The legislation that combines obligations to the public and with the private sector with coherent accessibility requirements. The legislation assigns, which assigns clear responsibilities to the various actors and implementation chain. That it contains realistic time frames and budgeting for the up limitation. It also includes, important and we see as an example of successful measures to include guidance for practitioners in the form of standards and technical documentation which is often linked to legal requirements.

There are formal tools for monitoring the up limitation and to provide feedback that need to be included. The legislation that contains effective enforcement and redress mechanism for which result, will result in remedial actions for breaches of implementation seems to be found successful element in that policy framework.

And of course also legislation that involves persons with disabilities not only in its implementation, but also that empowers them to participate in its enforcement.

The policies that include accessibility in the training of professionals for example, architects, engineers transport planes and many others is also required. But also, and let me, this is the final point in this list of successful measures, prevention policies that are put in place, for example investing in research on accessibility.

To finish, let me share with you that raising awareness, can I have the next slide? Raising awareness about positive results often stimulate peers to advance on accessibility. I would like here to refer to a European example. Since 2010 the access city award is provided by the European commission to cities which have taken significant steps to improve accessibility. Their work., Can I have the next slide? was given to large cities, small cities, old medieval cities, modern cities, cities and areas with friendly climate but also cities with challenging conditions like snow and ice. These cities have shown that it is possible to build accessible environments for all, providing physical access abilities but also accessibility in ICT and services based on those that are inclusive of persons with disabilities. We truly hope that these concrete examples of successful cities will inspire others, even outside Europe for contributing to a more accessible future for all. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> I should like to thank Immaculada Placencia. I am now pleased to introduce our last plan list, Mr. Markus Schefer, the presidential of international constitutional law since 2001 placing particular emphasis on discrimination he is the author of special work on disability in Switzerland looking particularly at ICT CRPD of the effects on domestic law. Thank you.

>> Thank you Mr. Chair. It's a great honor for me to be here. I'm Switzerland's candidate for the [ICR] and I am allowed five or seven minutes to share some of my thoughts on the issue at hand today. The organizers posed for questions. I would like to confine myself to two. First, one of the [inaudible] new urban agenda present state parties to implement the condition and second, how can inclusive development strategies capitalize on the knowledge and expertise of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations?

And let me turn to the first question. The new urban agenda takes note of the current and coming demographic changes leading to a substantial increase in the urban population worldwide in the near future. It stresses the need for planning, designing, financing, developing, governing and managing of cities in ways that ends poverty, reduces inequality and eradicates dissemination.

What are the chances of this agenda for implementing CRPD? I would propose to think of cities as experiment to laboratories for the up limitation of the convention. Let me expand on this. In urban areas large numbers of people live in comparatively small areas. Within such an area, planning, designing, financing, developing and governing can be highly integrated if done properly. Urban areas provide the opportunity to eliminate administrative boundaries. Within a unified administrative area, the need for coordination between various governmental bodies can be reduced, allowing coherent planning and designing, reducing the risk of confusing and inconsistent financing and ensuring more transparent government.

Due to the small geographical size of the areas, strategies are easier to formulate and are more likely to be successfully executed. This is one of those examples that shows the advantages of local government in disability law politics.

All of these traits specific to urban areas work in favor of implementing the convention. Its implementation very often is hampered by administrative complexities, vastly different geographical structures and competing sometimes in fighting government bodies. All of these obstacles can, if done properly, particularly be avoided in urban areas especially in those that are newly developed.

In addition, different urban areas can be used to experiment with different approaches and methods to implement the rights of persons with disabilities. Quite often, at the outset it is unclear which strategies for effectuating these rights will be successful. In this sense, urban areas can serve as experiment to laboratories, competing with each other, trying out different approaches an each other as far as their success is concerned.

Let me turn to the second question. How can inclusive development strategies and expertise of persons with disability send a representative organizations? As we all know, the convention, the CRPD requires that in all matters concerning its application states parties shall closely consult with and actively involve persons with disabilities including children with disabilities through the representative organizations. Here I would propose that mere participation in urban areas does not suffice. What we need today is immersion. What does immersion in this context entail, building the environment in urban settings get actual buildings means of transportation innovative digital solutions work opportunities up or education facilities and their management requires that the particular perspectives of persons with disabilities are integrated into the process of building from the beginning. It's not enough to ask persons with disability center organizations during the design and construction of infrastructure what their views are. They need to be active actors and all the processes of planning and in the execution of these plans. I would call this a turn from participation to co-construction. What does this turn entail?

Let me take an example of an architect designing a new playground for children. If you leave this task to a regular architect you will end up with a playground excluding children in wheelChairs or blind children. If however the architect from the time of inception of the first idea about the playground works closely with persons with wheelChairs and blind persons the architect will together with his or her accomplices design a playground in which all the children are able to play. This in turn will increase the expertise of this architect--on any future mandated changes the architect's abilities on this and other future projects but what can the state do to foster such co-construction? let me again take the example of architects.

In their education and important part pertains to how to manage the processes leadi of their buildings. The curricula in the education of these architects need to include the described immersion of persons with disabilities, the relevant process capabilities. And other important contributions the state can provide in this area focus on the incentives the state can provide for businesses, public procurement as has been mentioned, needs to include requirements to employ persons with disabilities as co-constructors from the beginning of this project.

And so now my seven minutes are nearly over. Let me briefly summarize my two points. First the new urban agenda promote the implementation of the convention because cities can be experiment laboratories to try out different ways of realizing the rights of persons with disabilities, and second, consulting persons with disabilities and organizations today must not be confined to mere participation. It requires their immersion pay persons with disabilities need to become co-constructors, not simply consultants. Thanks for your attention.

[Applause]

>> I should like to thank Mr. Schefer for that address and I would now like to open the floor. We have an hour left to us. Let's try and have as many people as possible contributing so therefore I would like to ask everybody to be as brief and concise as possible. There are two options here. We could either have the state representatives who can press the button on their microphone, but members of civil society have to raise their hand and you have to keep your hand in the air until the person drawing up the list has seen you, or put you on the list. So thank you very much for following those injunctions and I do like to give the floor to three government representatives. Before I open the discussion to the room.

The honorable representative of Qatar is now called upon to speak. Thank you.

>> If the representative of Qatar is not available maybe we can then go on to the representative of Kazakhstan.

>> I represent Kazakhstan. My name is [inaudible]. I would like to mention two things. First of all the participation, and I agree with Marcus Schaefer the participation of persons with disabilities should not and with consultations and with my own example I can tell you that last year the, someone who has been involved in advocacy once I joined the city Council I was able to achieve something I have not been able to do for many years. First of all, as a woman who uses a wheelChair I was able to ensure that in examining the budget we were able to obtain financing for various diagnostic equipment enclosing mammographs and others in order to provide medical services to women with disabilities. As a mother of a child I was able to ensure that children's playgrounds are accessible to children with disabilities. As an urban dweller I was able to achieve the fact that all new public transport will be accessible to people with disabilities. I want to say that it is important for this habitat three program the disability, the persons with disability should take an active part in decision-making and there should be gender parity, gender equality should be taken into account and participation of women with disabilities should play an active role. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> Thank you to the representative of Kazakhstan for that comment. I now give the floor to the representative of Qatar.

>> [Inaudible] we welcome you from our delegation and we would like to say that our infrastructure and [inaudible] go in line with the right with people with disabilities is a great subject today. And this conception for the needs and physical and psychological [inaudible] in this region. The subject is marginalized in the Arab world. In fact, the Arab environment is not very fit for people with disabilities. It does not respond to their basic needs. Given the accessibility to people with disabilities there are several obstacles they can face that directly impact their lives. On many occasions, these obstacles thwart their enjoyment of their rights. What we should mention today is the need to focus on architectures, globally in the Arab world specifically do not take the issue of accessibility into consideration enough. This does not only, it not only restricted the two regulations. It also includes the limits to access to training and implementation of plans in addition to the [offerings] of the necessary analysis by all beneficiaries. Therefore, the trend for a comprehensive programs and policies in line with necessary design with which we should attach importance to. We must include and ensure a conference of planning for all facilities that ensures accessibility for people with disabilities, disregarding their age and race and so on. We can say that the accessibility through infrastructure and transportation as well as technology does not only benefit people with disabilities. It also benefits other categories of the society who also need accessibility to the environment.

Comprehensive planning and designing is not only restricted to the humanitarian aspect, but also include social and economic aspects. Therefore it's needed, it’s very urgent.

Moreover, the state of Qatar in all its organizations and agencies attaches great importance to people's with disabilities and their different issues. Especially the issues of quality of services provided to them whether in governmental institutions or centers to improve these services. This goes in line with the comprehensive and sustainable development that we have been going for. In fact the development plans are based on the human rights. This is a quantum leap that we need. And development will not be insured without taking care of human rights.

We also attach importance on inclusion and empowerment in terms of education and healthcare. We ensure accessibility as a main strategy. Our specific architectural plan in facilities and government structures has been the key topic of our campaign of 2007 and 2008, the microphone is off.

[Applause]

>> I would like to thank the presenter of Qatar for the contribution. I'd like to give the floor to the honorable representative of Slovenia. You have the floor.

>>... accessible built environment is based on the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia as the principle of ensuring the opportunities and treatment for all. In addition to that Slovenia has adopted several acts and standards as well as the first and second action program to ensure persons with disability full participation in society. In terms of accessibility, article 9 of the CRPD seems to be wide enough in scope at least for the time being. To achieve this objective, inclusion in urban development should go hand in hand with a job offer, affordable housing and a robust network of supporting services needed. For the process of [inaudible] generalization and community-based living. Nothing is more significant for an independent living of persons with disabilities than their financial independence This in turn obliges all stakeholders to combat the most resilient obstacles, namely [Justice] and stereotypes information and communication technology should also become an integral element of inclusion. However the challenge is to achieve a consistent and full implementation of accessibility in urban development in public and especially private sectors. [Inaudible] Slovenia practices in this area. The Slovenian Association of disabled workers has launched a project entitled disability a friendliness a pallet. A working group developed an action plan for the municipalities containing schematic actions aimed at raising awareness of [ inaudible] including those with disabilities. Did the development and promotion of an integrated involvement of various social factors resulted in activities and actions that significantly contribute to the quality of a person's life or the persons with disabilities and their families. A number of [inaudible] in Slovenia accessible tourism relates mainly to the wellness factors not so much too general tourism but also for persons with disabilities. The [inaudible] travel agency founded by Slovenian Association for mental health is particularly successful in this area and was rewarded by the prestigious UN award for innovation of [inaudible] UAC. The third capital [inaudible] which received the bronze accessibility award 2015 for accessibility to build environment public transport and information and for a variety of services and programs dedicated to persons with disabilities. [Inaudible] also offers three on call transport stations and

[No audio]

[Applause]

>> I thank the honorable representative from Slovenia for that presentation. Now I’d like to give the floor, to alternate between the civil society and member states I would like to once again ask representatives of NGOs to raise your hand if you would like to contribute to the debate so that you can put your name on the list. And give you the floor. I would now like to give the floor to the first representative of civil society. TBM international.

>> Thank you. I'm speaking on behalf of TBM which is an international disability and development organization focusing on creating an inclusive world. TBM works in partnership with more than 350 partners organizations and plummeting more than 600 projects in Africa Asia Latin America and the Middle East. [Inaudible] 23rd agenda for sustainable development in the CRPD especially implementation of the SDG's and the urban agenda at the partnership level moreover we provide a political and supporting partners in PPOs from the global South and the meaningful participation in processes like the global monitoring of the SDGs during the high-level legal form.

Furthermore [inaudible] employees the full participation of GTOs is critical in ensuring successful living environments in urban settings. In this regard women [inaudible] with disabilities must be [inaudible] our attention not measuring the [inaudible] SDGs the presence of disabilities with them from our society and our focus for disability includes indicators and status integration from, come to this strong conclusion. What's get measures gets done.

To ensure International comparability, our time priorities of SDG [inaudible] recommend the use of a short set of questions involved by the Washington group. TBM also works with local GTO's and partners in times of conflict and national disasters to ensure the inclusion of persons with disabilities. TBM is increasingly engaged in a mainstream [inaudible] access to supportive efforts to include persons with disabilities. On a global as well as national level it will continue to support implementation of habitat three and defend the framework on disaster risk reduction and [inaudible] disabilities and humanitarian action. Hence all the work focuses on inclusion of persons with disabilities and to truly leave no one behind. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> Thank you for that contribution. I would now like to give the floor to the honorable representative of Bulgaria. Do you have a question you wish to ask?

>> Thank you, Chair. Thank you, speakers about the interesting presentation. I would like to mention that it's very important to have accessibility in general and also it's very important to implement much more mainstream measures and disability policy. It is very crucial. And also it's very crucial for the urban development. Governments require more mainstream measures in general. Also municipalities put a lot of effort for this. For example, Sophia, the capital of Bulgaria where the biggest part of the Bulgarian population lives is putting a lot of efforts to make accessible infrastructure, public transport, which is really a very good example, but still the big challenge in front of us is how we can measure the social impact of accessible infrastructure and how we can measure how many people with disabilities can benefit from it. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> Thank you. We will try to answer the question to the panelists. I would like to give the floor [inaudible] Brazil NGO to take the floor.

>> Your excellencies, honorable ministers, distinct delegates, representatives from civil society, I am [inaudible] and it is with great pleasure that I address this conference. session of this conference as a complete effort of the international community to [inaudible] UN CRPD organization, and also for the Brazilian organization itself for the very first time addresses a form in the UN system, now holding its US ECOSOC equity of status] the aim of three promoting a new mode of urban development includes sustainable to promote equity, welfare and shared prosperity will not be fulfilled if you do not have also access to justice for all. SDGs and if accessibility does not occur within the judiciary system as a whole where if necessary governments can be challenged in their essential lack of implementation of the national and local development policies where the rights to the city or upon the change will sometimes be insured. One might not forget that equity is also an issue of social justice and of access to the public sphere. As a fact that UN CRPD community in its concluding observations consider the initial report of Brazil inviting members of the government, also legal professionals to consider and take action recommendations of the UN body could be fully implement it. The organization is particularly concerned about the committee’s observation about an accessibility of judicial facilities. The bar also recognized [inaudible] that Brazil take the steps of [inaudible] in full conformity with article 12 of the convention. In their commitment with implementation of the convention since 2008 eight the Brazilian Bar Association has [inaudible] and also regional bodies in each Brazilian state in its 27 chapters throughout the country. The Brazilian bar was founded in 1930 and comprised 1 million lawyers in this deregulated body of the legal profession in Brazil. The bar does participate in several human rights bodies in Brazil holding seats for example the national Council on human rights, the national Council of the rights for persons with disabilities. In its current mandate, the commission is following very closely the measures taken by Brazilian government to make effective the recently approved Brazilian inclusion law which in its provisions recognizing the rights of persons with disabilities enact a great standard for living for themselves and their families including housing transport and accessibility. It's very much related to

[Voice off microphone]

[Applause]

>> I would like to think the representative from Brazil and I now like to call the representative of [inaudible] gender Brazil.

>> I would like the [inaudible] yes. It is possible.

>> My name is Claudia Burnett. I'm a journalist and activist. I am the founder of a nongovernmental organization in Brazil existing for 15 years. Our work is toward the inclusivity for disabled persons, especially in poor communities. A great percentage of people living in poor conditions across the world [inaudible] offers full accessibility for both physical and emotional in the Amazon forest, in the great prairies, everywhere. To my surprise, when I arrived here at the UN I was here before in 2006 when the convention was approved, I see precarious and a lack of accessibility in communication in addition to a lack of physical accessibility. I saw that several rights of people with disabilities are violated and although that left me surprised, with a surprise, negative surprise we have a campaign with the collaboration of other partners and the Ministry of education in Brazil. This campaign has been launched across the world and it underscores that acts of lack of accessibility constitute a crime, and it is important that each person that each person here present assume their responsibilities when they practice discrimination, when they daily negate access to persons with disabilities. Our theme is accessibility and coherent action, coherent action within the United nations and like other spaces are monitored in the UN, spaces should be monitors as well. A person, persons with disabilities have the right to the whole planet. At each second. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> Thank you for the contribution. I would like to give the floor to the representative of Morocco.

>> Thank you, Chairman. I would like to thank the panelists for their respective presentations for civil and the relevance of their recommendations. Persons with a disability have the right to have more and easier access to public spaces. They should be able to have better access to housing and to public infrastructure. Exclusion of persons with disabilities is a serious violation of their fundamental rights. Furthermore it penalizes the country in question and undermines all efforts aimed at human development and combating poverty. Habitat three is a true roadmap for the next 20 years, very important document especially since it provides important guidelines for strategy and insurance for implementation and support. Now, the mobility, the law adopted in Morocco stipulates that persons with disability who find themselves in the most vulnerable social situations should benefit from special support, should have special support. First of all, cities in the 21st century are particularly exposed to climate change, hence it is important to have mechanisms for adaptation and prevention. Secondly, persons handicapped with a disability should not simply be consulted. They should be involved in the decision-making. And thirdly exchange of good practices and strength and national capacity building is important especially for developing countries. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> Thank you for that contribution. I want to remind [inaudible] [speaking Portuguese]

>>... someone is occupying no it is important to ensure the sustainability of growth to count the needs of all individuals, Mecca Mexico considers implementation of the new urban agenda habitat three is the ability to bring together all actors to achieve these important goals. It is important to bring member states and multilateral organizations and the private sector and civil society. Mexico participated actively in habitats reconsidering this is a roadmap for the next 20 years based on an innovative vision to have inclusive and sustainable cities. That will replace the current model where persons with disability are disadvantaged. In terms of access to various services. As cofacilitator of habitat three Mexico was very active in promoting the right to city, gender equality and other rights. Now, given that according to the WHO we will spend at least six years of our lives living with some sort of disability so it is important to ensure access for, where sustainable development is important because it has an important role in mobility, transport, public management and capacity building. Currently, ICTs are transforming economies, government of societies

[Applause]

>> Thank you for your contribution. I want to remind speakers that they have two minutes maximum speaking time. Rather than reading a paper it would be a good idea to summarize what you have to say and I will give the floor to the representative of Canada.

>> [speaking Spanish]

>> I would like to thank the panel of experts. I feel very privileged to be here and I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all the stakeholders in developing the habitat three program.

>> Agenda on sustainable urban developments that seeks to leave no one behind that acknowledges the value of inclusion. This is a value that's hugely important to Canada. In fact, throughout the negotiation process, Canada fought hard to have groups like youth, women, children, immigrants, people with disabilities and members of the LGBT I community officially recognized in the new urban agenda. Everyone has a role to play. The collaboration and coordination of all actors including experts, governments, civil society will be necessary to implement the new urban agenda. Indeed, as we implement habitat three to the urban agenda and 2030 agenda for sustainable development we have to keep in mind that building a more fair, inclusive and equitable society starts with understanding the challenges of all of our citizens and in Canada the issues of Canadians with disabilities is hugely important. We ratified the UN convention on the rights of persons with disabilities in March 2010. And we continue to fight for those rights. That's why we recently held consultations across the country with over 6000 Canadians on our upcoming accessibility legislation. This legislation is going to help build a Not only that, but our government has announced hundred $80 million of new infrastructure investments in accessibility is underpinning those investments.

[Applause]

>> Thank you, Canada for the contribution. Before we go on with representative of China I would first of all like to give the floor to the panelists of Brazil. For an intervention. I was would also like to ask you to stick to the two-minute speaking time.

>> I would like to express my thanks for the representative of CDB from Brazil who presented important issues and talked about our public policies. We have a partnership with the sector that helps our countries in our validation we have a representative of public prosecutor's office as well and this inclusion is exemplified in legislation, which, this legal document instrument is very good but it was constructed by consulting several people across the country, people with disabilities. This legislation also, and it's very interesting to mention I made a list of our examples but these are questions that raise a lot of controversies sometimes but for sometimes for smears to implement important changes. In terms of decision-making we join the document on the rights of people or persons with disabilities and that is reflected in this legislation. Thank you very much.

[Applause]

>> Thank you very much for that. I would like to call on the honorable representative of China to take the floor.

>> At the state party of the convention the state government effectively promotes the comprehensive floor and [inaudible] persons with disabilities and their life in 2012 the Chinese government funded the regulations of sustainability and urban development setting out a clear and concrete of urban accessibility requirements in government facilities, [inaudible] funding accessibility for accessibility adaptation in 1 million hotels with persons with disabilities. More and more people with disabilities in China are now truly benefiting from urban development. The Chinese government highly appreciates the idea of inclusive development [inaudible] in the urban new agenda. Nevertheless the new urban agenda has a limited reference to persons with disabilities and falls short of meeting expectations and needs for urban life. China calls on all governments and implementing the new order but, new urban agenda to [pay] more attention to persons with disabilities develop specialized programs and measures and initiatives, so that persons with disabilities can benefit more from urban development. Cities should make the life of persons with disabilities better. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> I should like to thank you very much for that. I shall now call upon the Honorable representative of Norway to take the floor.

>> Thank you, Chair. The Norwegian government gives high-priority to the development and implementation of the new urban agenda. At least with respect to persons with disabilities. Our vision is a society where everyone can participate. Important to this vision is a good accessibility and environments that are safe and easy to use. To reach this vision the government is launching a nation's third action plan innovation design. It is important to society that everyone should have the opportunity to contribute. Our social and economic sustainability depends on as many people as possible to require skills and work and live active and independent lives. Universal design is an aspect of society that is particularly important for people with disabilities. The goal is that a society should include everyone regardless of disabilities. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> I should like to thank the representative of Norway. And I call upon the honorable representative of Portugal.

>> Sorry. Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, Portugal has specific legislation in the issue of accessibility since 1997. This first law more open was a substitute for a second one more exigent and comprehensive in 2006. This legislation establish the obligation that all the public spaces, public facilities and public and residential buildings has to comply with rules of accessibility. Moreover, additionally of intent of citizenship, accessibility is a factor of urban development and also the citizenship as I said, and for us it is important to reinforce this reality. Because after the approval of this legislation we have implemented other laws such as the law of 46 of 2006 that punishes and prohibits the discrimination based on disability and also in a pre-existing risk to the health. And also the CRPD brings to our government intent

[Applause]

>> We should like to thank you for that. And now before I call upon the next representative of the government of Senegal I would like to hear from the representative of civil society the tribunal of--

>> Chairman, delegates, I am Sergio [inaudible], I'm the supervisor of our accessibility policy in the accounts court which has a policy of accessibility that follows and monitors government actions in terms of accessibility. This tribunal has included in its auditing processes mandatory regulation for accountability in all actions regarding accessibility and it promoted action in public buildings and service industries to make recommendations for any barriers and eliminated. There were several actions also promoted to allow the administration system to improve their services so that we have an increasingly more inclusive society. Thank you very much.

[Applause]

>> Thank you very much for those significant words Portugal. I invite the representative of Senegal to take the floor. Thank you very much Mr. Chairman and I thank, my thanks also go to those who have spoken in such a relevant way. I would remind you that in Senegal the matter of accessibility has been considered because the different needs of the disabled are considered in our legislation by means of our building and construction code with particular provisions for public buildings. But beyond that, it is important to emphasize the point of advocacy under the national plan for disability. It is very important for all sectors to be involved whether we are talking of infrastructure and urban mobility, or of the environment, the urban environment, or sectors it is important that there be true advocacy for real commitment. That should embrace both government and civil society. And I would also like to stress how important it is to spread information about standards as established by the ISO. I would remind you here that there are measures which must be considered for developing countries because a lot of work has to be done and we are committed to carry it out. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> Thank you I know call on the honorable representative of Sierra Leone.

>> Thank you Mr. Chairman. Sierra Leone has as its, one of the key provisions of the person with disabilities act of 2011, accessibility and that provision clearly makes it mandatory for all public facilities, public amenities, whether it be educational facilities or whatever as long as it is public it should be accessible and it provides that there should be, the national commission for persons with disabilities should issue adjustment orders to proprietors of all public buildings and also public transportation. So, in that vein quite recently we in the commission engaged members in UNDP in the area of ensuring that these provisions are adhered to strictly. Also, the parliament has made it, I mean, the ministry of works and infrastructure have established a committee on accessibility. To ensure that all buildings are conformed to a proper building code that would ensure that persons with disabilities accessible public facilities. And to not only public facilities, but even every new building that is coming up should be made disabled friendly especially like learning institutions.

[Applause]

>> I should like to thank you for that. And now I call on the honorable representative of Sudan to speak.

>> The name of God the merciful when it comes to implementing the SDG's, Sudan has taken resolute action in order to boost its urban planning in such a way that it can help those with disabilities. And to this end, the law was promulgated in 2017 with special provision for the disabled. To the tune of 17% when it comes to access potential to public buildings. And a decree was also issued to explain the rights of the disabled… Our building code has also been included. It is covered by a public fund. When it comes to residential units. We would indicate here that Sudan has taken again a strenuous measure in order to facilitate accessibility and health of the disabled when it comes to new buildings being put up. Again, in transport, public transport steps have been taken to help the disabled to move around. Some services provided for the disabled are not taxed and he has been interrupted.

>> Thank you I would now like to give the floor to the honorable representative of Guinea.

>> Thank you very much, the Republic of Guinea ratified the CRPD and pursuant to that has undertaken some extremely important actions a law promoting and protecting the disabled and negotiations are underway to determine quotas for both the public and private sector for the employment of the disabled. An action plan has been drawn up to meet the needs of the disabled from 2016 to 2020. International and national confrontations have been carried out with the disabled persons being present there. Looking at inclusive SDG's, and again there are provisions that on the stock for the im [inaudible] implementation of the African a decade of the disabled and the health of for the disabled is a reality for the participation of civil society.

>> Thank you for that I would now like to call on the Honorable representative of the Netherlands to take the floor.

>> The representative of the Netherlands. Thank you.

>> Okay yes thank you Mr. Chair. First of all I would like to complement the pan I have two short contributions to make. One in update about implementation efforts, second a best practice related to shaping inclusive cities. The update, the implementation plan for convention. It consists of five tracks and very relevant for our discussion here today, one of the tracks centers around local implementation and from this track comes the best practice. Multiple municipalities in Holland now our curating town hall meetings to talk with residents, people with disabilities, local business owners about making a city inclusive and this is I would really like to share with this convention as a way to help further stimulate inclusive cities in the future. Thank you very much.

[Applause]

>> I should like to thank you and I think the Netherlands and I would remind you that the list for registering to speak is now concluded. I call on the Honorable representative of Turkey.

>> Thank you Mr. Chair. By CRPD mainstreaming are important issues as an integrative strategies for sustainable development. In this regard I would like to read a new urban agenda provide a vital opportunity to create a more accessible and inclusive urban development for persons with disabilities. In this respect, improving the overall participation and engagement of person in the implementation of the agenda is of critical importance. Turkey has recently published various practices that have improved accessibility for persons with disabilities. Followed the advancement of the Turkish disabilities act [inaudible]- introduced in terms of access in social life in cities. Ensuring their families and their representative organizations are taken into account during the decision-making process of service position was taken as one of the general principles [inaudible] in this respect is become possible for persons with [inaudible] by participating in city councils but in Turkey it has become [inaudible] greens cases to open as well as buildings, social and cultural infrastructure areas and public to be made accessible to persons with to persons with disabilities. [inaudible] institutions were encouraged to carry out various accessibility practices and important steps have been taken in terms of---

[Applause]

>> I should like to thank the representative of Turkey. And now give the floor to representative of Thailand.

>>Thank you Mr. Chair. Thailand has written into the new urban agenda as well as the [inaudible] persons with disability sustainable development gold, [inaudible] framework in order to promote inclusive urban development for all to be able to access everywhere and live independently together. In Thailand under [inaudible] person with disability act of 2007 we initiated accessible public [inaudible] communities transportation, houses, access to technology and device and employment of persons with disabilities in order to enable persons with disabilities to participate in order to do activity and society. However we still have two enhance more and more in order to support the full participation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of their lives as well as [inaudible] again no one will be left behind and they must be [inaudible] in economic development. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> I should like to think the Honorable representative of Thailand and now call on the Honorable representative of Malawi to take the floor.

>> I see the representative of Malawi is not available. I call on the representative of Ecuador to speak.

>> Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. The key [inaudible] in the new urban agenda shares the view of cities for all when it comes to equality of use and enjoyment in cities and urban settlements for the aim is to promote inclusion and ensure that all those present and future generations undergo no discrimination and can live in accessible settlements inter alia. This shared vision means that local and national governments enshrine the so-called right to the city, and the principal guaranteeing all freedoms and rights to dignified housing and therefore a life of peace and justice, so the new urban agenda undertakes to leave no one behind. This is not enough for Ecuador because we want to put those who need more in the front line, those who have been the victim of exclusive and, action, I'm referring to the poor and among them the most vulnerable, those who are disabled. We wish to ensure the equality of rights, social and cultural diversity, and inclusion in public areas. Lastly I would refer to paragraph 36 of the new urban agenda which commenced in Toluca in our region to facilitate access for the disabled. We have roundtables and meetings in Ecuador to promote access to habitat. For the disabled for the inclusion of everybody. Thank you very much.

[Applause]

>> Thank you very much. So that we can conclude appropriately and allow everybody to speak I would like to thank the interpreters and ask whether it would be possible to give us a further five minutes over the scheduled deadline so that we can conclude as well as possible. I now call on the honorable representative of Namibia to speak.

>> Thank you very much honorable Chair and also thank you to the esteemed panelists. Chairperson I want to make quick observation and that relates to [inaudible] and that something the esteemed delegate of the Dutch government mentioned also and also Senegal is a practical implementation of inclusive cities. I think one of the biggest challenges we face as a country is the question of competing interest, access to other services, the issue around poverty that affects all persons including that includes a person with disabilities but also the question of but also how do we champion the resource limitation the government could raise to [inaudible] arrays around inclusive cities I want the esteemed panelists to address some of those specific areas of how do we overcome the challenges of resource limitations.

>> Thank you for that very good point. And I would now like to call on the representative of Malawi to speak. We must apologize for the hitch in our order previously. You have the floor.

>> I thank you very much. For giving me this opportunity. I want to report that in Malawi we have developed a national standard for the code of practice on the accessibility and usability of the built environment. This ministry of gender has done in conjunction with the Malawi bill of standards and the development of this accessibility standard has come out of a coordination which we have done with the Federation of disability in Malawi, the Malawi counsel for the handicapped, and we get the input to ensure that the people who develop infrastructure, roads, houses, should follow these standards are persons with disabilities should not be left behind. So that persons with disabilities should be involved in various development activities in the Republic of Malawi. As I said, this standard as well inclusive because of the involvement of the Federation for disabilities in Malawi. In Malawi we respect the rationale which says nothing for us without us. And so when we are developing anything, we involve [inaudible] and they are in the forefront so that whatever we develop is in line with the needs of persons with disabilities. And I just want to say [inaudible]

[Applause]

>> I should like to thank the representative of Malawi for that. I now call on the representative of the Korean National Commission for Human Rights.

>> Thank you Mr. Chair. I am honored to attend the conference. National Human Rights Commission of Korea was established in 2001 as independent national body. The implementation of the CRPD and implementation to society in daily life is important for persons with disabilities. Our commission has been monitoring accessibility for persons with disability in public and private areas like public and private universities, hotels, banks, culture, arts and sports authorities since 2009 each year. Last year our commission appointed 178 persons to monitor six regional key areas including [inaudible] all over the country, the teams are consisted of disabilities themselves and civil societies. They monitor 245 public usages like post offices and job centers and 168 large-scale retail facilities for accessibility of persons with disability. The monitoring results were sent to the relevant organizations and 96% of them submitted their improvement plans to our commission. We made recommended to the government based on the results this year. At the moment we are monitoring [inaudible] surveys

[Applause]

>> I should like to thank you. My thanks go out again to the interpreters for giving us an extra five minutes so we can wind up in the best possible conditions. Now I’d like to allow the panelist to say something very briefly, sure they have anything additional they would wish to add to with the room. Madam Immaculata?

>> I would like to answer a couple of the questions that have been. And one question about mentioning accessibility and the impact on people and I would like to say that there is a need to set interrelated and complement approaches, technical monitoring of accessibility and then together with surveys on satisfaction and access [inaudible] remaining barriers for persons with disabilities. That is one. The other one is about the resources limitation. How to start. Step-by-step, and using the minimum, start with new buildings, use public procurement, use existing standards and clarify obligations to finish up, to say that we have to keep an eye that accessibility is just an instrument for ensuring equal access in serving disabled people thank you.

>> Thank you. For that important what other panelists like to take... I will just say briefly you can have only one minute. I would remind you. No panelist is asking for the floor. You have the floor.

>> Thank you, one of the few questions asked was from the Namibian representative about the cost. Money is always scarce, so you need planning, you need action plans that cover the overall issues that need to address, and only then you can figure out where to put how much money that's all I have to say at the moment.

>> Thank you very much. You have... you would like to take the floor you may. Go ahead.

>> Yes Mr. Chairman, I want to respond to two things I did not hear. One, is that we always say nothing about us without us. I have not heard people with disabilities demand active participation in the governance of cities and urban areas. We have done one better in Kenya the urban areas and cities act which just has been passed provides that persons with disabilities be represented in all councils, boards of urban areas and cities. So I'm looking forward to see how that will impact. Finally I have not heard as discussed the issues of informal [settlements] in the urban development. And we know that informality is a big issue. The most excluded persons with disabilities are those that live in informal settlements. I hope the CRPD conference and Secretariat will take this up on our behalf vigorously. Thank you and thank you for having had us and thank you Mr. Chairman for your able leadership. Thank you.

[Applause]

>> Thank you. Now we can just have a few concluding remarks on what has been stated. I think that this session does show if needed there is to show anything more that participation of the disabled is not just necessary but vital to any two issues and any real steps taken toward such inclusion. And indeed, inclusion of all minorities. And all those at a disadvantage. Participation is the best tool and improving print when it comes to the construction of towns everything pertaining to accessibility and infrastructure and services in particular transport and communication technologies, development here must really be for everybody. The new agenda for urban development does provide prospects for the disabled to promote the true participation and inclusion in society. There is also a need to move from the global level to the local one. And establish how it is possible to implement at a local level what we agreed upon a global one. Now we have made progress. We've got best practices. We know what everybody has done. We have heard the descriptions today and we can find more around us. So I should like to think everybody for your contributions. This cooperation between civil society and state representatives, government representatives I'm afraid the microphone went. I'm afraid the last words were lost.

I think the most important thing is that the major cities and transport networks be built for mankind. People don't think of the basic principles of full participation and inclusion we want have accessible cities. And how can we have a school, church, carpark or accessible unless everybody is able to use it. We have to have inclusion. I think states must ensure full participation and solidarity when they drop the plans. Money is there. Budgets are there. What is missing is the will. To build this and we human beings are those who build. I invite all of you who construct to build a better world for all of us. Thank you.

>> The meeting stands adjourned.