



## Economic and Social Council

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Commission for Social Development

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Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and  
the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

Draft resolution: Antigua and Barbuda\*

Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda

The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

“Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda”

*“The Economic and Social Council,*

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action<sup>1</sup> and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-

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\* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China

<sup>1</sup> *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

fourth special session,<sup>2</sup> as well as a continued global dialogue on social development issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning persons with disabilities, ~~including as well as the resolutions adopted by the~~ **General Assembly,**

Acknowledging that the majority of the 650 million persons with disabilities in the world live in conditions of poverty, **and in this regard recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty on persons with disabilities,**

Acknowledging **that persons with disabilities, particularly women and children with disabilities** ~~the vulnerability faced by women and girls living with disabilities as they~~ are subject to aggravated and multiple discrimination;

Convinced that addressing the profound social, cultural and economic disadvantage experienced by many persons with disabilities and that promoting progressive removal of barriers to their full and effective participation in all aspects of development will further the equalization of opportunities and contribute to the realization of a “society for all” in the twenty-first century,

Welcoming **the adoption of the** ~~the fact that since the opening for signature of the~~ Convention on the Rights of Persons with

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<sup>2</sup> Resolution S-24/2, annex.

Disabilities and its Optional Protocol **thereto on 13 December 2006 and the fact that since their opening for signature** on 30 March 2007, one hundred and ~~twenty-three~~ **five** States have already signed and ~~fifteen~~ **sixteen** States have ratified the Convention and ~~seventy six~~ **seventy nine** States have signed and ~~nine~~ **ten** States have ratified the Optional Protocol, ~~and calls upon those States which have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying the Convention and the Optional Protocol as a matter of priority,~~

**Recognizing the importance of the forthcoming fifth review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning disabled persons, including its updating, to be conducted by the General Assembly in 2008,**

Concerned that halfway through the target date of 2015, the situation of persons with disabilities ~~as a group~~ has not been adequately considered, including in the discussions and reports on the **internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,**

1. **Calls upon those which have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying the Convention and the Optional Protocol as a matter of priority;**

2. Expresses concern about the persistent gap between policy and practice regarding mainstreaming the perspective of persons with disabilities, including their rights and well-being, in the work of the United Nations in realizing the Millennium Development Goals;

3. Encourages States, entities of the United Nations system and other members of the international community to take advantage of the range of international normative and policy instruments on disability, including the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, in guiding their efforts to ensure that the issues ~~that affect~~ **related to** persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities are incorporated in the formulation of policies, the conduct of their mandate and missions, as well as in their budget allocations, aiming at the full and effective participation **and inclusion** of persons with disabilities in development, both as beneficiaries and agents;

4. Invites States, **relevant** UN entities, including the **agencies**, funds and programs, as well as regional and international financial and development institutions, civil society, as well as the private sector, to **take into account** ~~consider~~ and include **mainstreaming** issues ~~that affect~~ **related to** persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities when developing their work strategies and action plans to promote the education and training of ~~their staff and~~ personnel to ~~enable~~ **foster** increased sensitivity, knowledge and skills to understand how to address ~~disability~~ issues **related to persons with disabilities** in their respective mandates and work;

5. Requests **relevant** UN entities, including **agencies**, funds and programs, as well as regional and international financial institutions to include issues ~~that affect~~ **related to** persons with

disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities when planning country offices **in accordance with their mandates**;

6. Urges States, **relevant** UN entities, including the **agencies**, funds and programs, as well as regional and international financial and development institutions, civil society, as well as the private sector, to give priority to the promotion of full and productive employment and decent work for persons with disabilities as a key factor in ensuring that persons with disabilities benefit from development on an equal basis with others, and fully enjoy all human rights, including the right to work, and the opportunity to gain a living by work freely chosen or accepted including by providing access to education and training, access to microcredit schemes and entrepreneurial opportunities, fostering a labor market and work environment that is open, inclusive and accessible to persons with disabilities, promoting inclusive employment and human resources policies and reasonable accommodation in the workplace;

7. Urges also States, **relevant** UN entities, including the **agencies**, funds and programs, as well as regional and international financial and development institutions, civil society, and the private sector to promote the participation of persons with disabilities **on an equal basis with others** in decision-making **as well as their involvement in the formulation, implementation, and evaluation of strategies, plans, and programmes pertaining to them**; ~~in issues that concern them~~;

8. Stresses the need to enhance the accountability of all actors, including ~~within~~ **at** the highest levels of decision-making, in the work

of mainstreaming disability in the development agenda, including in the assessment of the impact of development efforts on the situation of persons with disabilities;

9. Recognizes the strategic importance of complementing efforts towards the mainstreaming of the issues ~~that affect~~ **related to** persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities including while considering the allocation of resources;

10. Encourages all States, concerned intergovernmental organizations and international organizations as well as civil society, **particularly organizations of persons with disabilities** and the private sector, to engage in cooperative arrangements that aim at providing necessary technical and expert assistance to enhance capacities in mainstreaming issues ~~that affect~~ **related to** persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities in development efforts, and in this regard encourages the UN Secretariat and other relevant bodies to find improved ways to enhance international technical cooperation;

11. Encourages States to mainstream disability in poverty eradication policies and strategies **to ensure their accessibility** and in this regard encourages the international community to provide support and assistance;

12. Urges all States, international and regional organizations and civil society, **particularly organizations of persons with disabilities** to ensure that international cooperation, including

international development programmes, is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

13. Urges **States**, relevant entities of the United Nations system, including agencies, funds and programmes, and invites international and regional development organizations, finance institutions to take concrete measures to incorporate issues ~~that affect~~ **related to** persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities, and accessibility requirements, in development cooperation and development finance activities;

14. Requests the Secretary General to prepare a report on the implementation of this resolution on the 46<sup>th</sup> ~~46<sup>th</sup>~~ **48<sup>th</sup>** session of the Commission on Social Development. ~~and looks forward to the forthcoming fifth review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, including its updating, to be conducted by the General Assembly in 2008 and the guidance that the background report by the Secretary General will provide, particularly in the area of improving disability mainstreaming.~~

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