Disability Inclusive Development in Africa

Side Event



2 December 2016 3:00 pm - 4.30 pm Conference Room 12
United Nations Headquarters

CHAIR

Ms. Daniela Bas, Director DSPD/UNDESA

SPEAKERS

Ms. Akiko Ito, DSPD/UNDESA

Chief Eric Ndubueze Ufom, President, Equal Rights for Persons with Disabilities International, Inc. (ERPDI), Nigeria

Mr. Amson Sibanda, DSPD/UNDESA

Mr. Adriano Monti, First Councellor, Italian Mission to the UN

Mr. Oleg Serezhin, DSPD/UNDESA

Ms. Beatrice Kaggy Nabulime, Assistant Commissioner, Disability and Elderly, Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Uganda

This event will present the main challenges persons with disabilities face in the Africa region. These include experiences of exclusion and discrimination, and challenges to the enjoyment of their fundamental rights and inclusion in development. In Africa, as in other regions, persons with disabilities are disproportionately likely to live in poverty and, too often, lack access to education, health care, employment opportunities, housing, social protection systems, justice, cultural expression and participation in political life. The ability of persons with disabilities to participate in society is often frustrated because physical environments, transportation and information and communications systems are not accessible.

DESA/DSPD has taken many initiatives to overcome challenges that persons with disabilities are facing at national and regional levels. In its work DESA/DSPD applies a two-pronged approach with a focus on strengthening the normative base on disability as well as contributing to building national capacities for inclusive development. One of the major contributions by DESA/DSPD to this work is a Toolkit on Disability for Africa that has been designed to build capacity of government officials and DPOs members to promote inclusive development in line with the CRPD framework.

