

UN IN ACTION

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CHILDREN WITH BONES OF GLASS

<u>VIDEO</u> <u>AUDIO</u>

NARRATION:

VIETNAM – CHILD IN WHEELCHAIR

Sixteen-year-old Phong Anh in Vietnam has a genetic disorder – osteogenesis imperfecta – which makes her bones fragile and easy to break. But she prefers to call herself 'Crystal'. (12)

CRYSTAL: (In English) F

CRYSTAL ON-CAMERA

"I'm proud to call myself Crystal, because I want people to see me as a girl who is vulnerable physically but can be hard to break mentally as the same time." (8)

NARRATION:

RICHARD ON PARENT'S BACK

Across the globe in Ecuador, eight-year-old Richard Herrera suffers from the same disorder which leaves him weak and prone to fractures. (8)

RICHARD: (In Spanish) M

RICHARD ON-CAMERA

"Because I am disabled, I have bones of glass and I cannot run and jump. If I fall, I can end up in hospital."

(7)

NARRATION:

Every day millions of children struggle. Many live

GETTING DRESSED FOR SCHOOL hidden lives. Discriminated against and stigmatized.

Limited as much by prejudice as by physical barriers.

(10)

Children with disabilities are among the world's most

marginalized. (7.5)

REPORT According to the UN Children's Fund, UNICEF,

implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities adopted by the United Nations in 2006 is critical to mobilizing support for disabled children.(11)

Abid Aslam, editor of the UNICEF State of the World's

Children report: (4.5)

ABID ASLAM: (In English) M

ASLAM ON-CAMERA "This means making a serious commitment to

understanding their needs, including them in the design of solutions, supports and services that are intended to

give them a fair chance at surviving, thriving,

succeeding." (16.5)

BOY WITH MOM

NARRATION:

Richard is growing up in Ecuador, one of the countries

that has implemented the Convention. Today, he's in

school and he's at the top of his class. (7.5)

RICHARD ON-CAMERA <u>RICHARD</u>: (In Spanish) M

"When I grow up I want to be a pilot." (2.5)

NARRATION:

Crystal is also surpassing expectations. (3)

CRYSTAL AT RADIO STATION

Every Friday, she goes to the radio station to record a special programme – Voice of Vietnam. Crystal has been doing this since she was eight years old. (9)

CRYSTAL ON-CAMERA

CRYSTAL: (In English) F

"I enjoy doing it because it can reach people in the remote areas and help them get updated with all the things happening here." (8.5)

NARRATION:

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES/SPORTS

She believes that she's giving something back to her community through radio. (3.5)

CRYSTAL ON-CAMERA

CRYSTAL: (In English) F

"The amount of support people gave me was so surreal that it made me feel more powerful and I believed more in what I do." (8.5)

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES/SPORTS

NARRATION:

Children with disabilities, just like anyone, have talents and aspirations. They should be given the same rights and opportunities to contribute to society. (9)

CRYSTAL ON-CAMERA

CRYSTAL: (In English) F

"People with disabilities or not, they would come up to me and say that I inspired them. And that's my biggest goal in life. So what could be more amazing than that?" (9)

UN LOGO

NARRATION:

This report was produced by Mary Ferreira for the United Nations. (4.5)