PANEL DISCUSSION

49th session of the Commission for Social Development

Mainstreaming Disability in Development for Poverty Eradication

1.15 - 2.45 p.m., 10 February 2011
Conference Room B, NLB, UN Headquarters, New York

Facilitator:
Akiko Ito, Chief of SCRPD, UN DESA

Moderator:
Shuaib Chalklen, UN Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development

Panelists:
1. Ronald Wiman, National Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland
2. Stefanie Ruff, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany
3. Keiichiro Nakazawa, Japan International Cooperation Agency USA Office (JICA)
5. Charlotte V. McClain-Nhlapo, United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
6. Maria Reina Veronica, Global Partnership for Disability and Development (GPDD)

Organized by:
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) in collaboration with the Special Rapporteur on Disability, Governments of Finland, Germany and Norway, World Bank and the Global Partnership for Disability and Development (GPDD).

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Persons with disabilities, on average, as a group experience worse socioeconomic outcomes than persons without disabilities: they have less education, lower rates of employment, higher unemployment rates, lower wages and worse living conditions. Addressing adverse socioeconomic outcomes among persons with disabilities should be an integral part of collective efforts to reducing the risk and impact of poverty. Action is needed to mainstream disability into national and international development efforts, including efforts to eliminate poverty.

The Panel will discuss key issues concerning the inclusion of disability in development, particularly in the context of ongoing global efforts towards poverty eradication with reference to policy frameworks on disability and development. The presentations will reflect the multi-dimensional nature of disability as a development issue as it relates to eradication of poverty. Good practice examples of including disability in development will be exchanged, with a view to contributing to successful poverty eradication and development for all.