WHY EMPLOYERS SHOULD RESPOND

• To demonstrate leadership in addressing the unacceptably high unemployment rate of adults on the autism spectrum, estimated to be more than 80%.

• To improve the quality of their products and services by tapping the specialized talents of employees on the spectrum, such as superior pattern recognition and attention to detail.

• To achieve a better understanding of their customer base by having a workforce that better reflects the general population.

• To offer an attractive work environment to employees – a workplace where people with autism thrive is generally a great place for all employees to work.

AFTER A COMMITMENT IS MADE

• Commitments include an agreement to report on an annual basis on progress made to realise the commitment, throughout its duration.

• Commitments will be recognized in a ceremony at the United Nations on World Autism Awareness Day 2016.

“This year, I am pleased to launch an employment ‘Call to Action’, inviting businesses to make concrete commitments to employ people on the autism spectrum. We encourage public offices, corporations, and small businesses to have a closer look at the way they perceive people with autism, to take the time to learn about the condition and to create life-changing opportunities.

People with autism have enormous potential. Most have remarkable visual, artistic or academic skills. Thanks to the use of assistive technologies, non-verbal persons with autism can communicate and share their hidden capabilities. Recognizing the talents of persons on the autism spectrum, rather than focusing on their weaknesses, is essential to creating a society that is truly inclusive.”

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

#WAAD2015 #AutismAdvantage