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Co-Chair,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. I am speaking on behalf of the International Disability Alliance and the International Disability and Development Consortium, which speak up for the rights of the world's one billion people with disabilities.

My speech focusses on the need for a new approach to domestic resource mobilisation, in order to ensure that people with disabilities – and other marginalised groups – are included in sustainable development. I have two key recommendations:

1. First, on quality – public and private resources must be mobilised in a way that ensures accessibility.
2. Second, on quantity – additional resources must be mobilised, to meet the needs of the world's growing population with disabilities.

Recommendation one – accessible investments.

Inclusion in development is a principle enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Yet every day, new schools, new health centres, new websites, new transport systems, and new employment programmes are designed in ways that are inaccessible to people with disabilities.

Building in accessibility from the outset is cost-effective. The World Bank estimates that the additional cost of building an accessible school is less than 1% of the total.

We call for the Addis Ababa Accord to refer to accessibility in **paragraphs 13 and 30**.

Recommendation two – mobilising additional resources.

If no-one is to be left behind in development, no-one should be left out of development financing. This means budgeting for support services and social protection programmes for people with disabilities.

Such investment is economically smart. The International Labour Organisation has estimated that in low and middle income countries, exclusion of people with disabilities from the labour market costs up to 7% of GDP. In South Africa I have seen how targeted government support has helped women with disabilities set up hugely successful businesses creating many new jobs.

Yet there is wide variation in the budgets that different countries allocate for support to people with disabilities. In low and middle income countries this ranges from no resources to 0.5% of GDP, and in the OECD, spending on social protection alone averages 1.4% of GDP.

These variations suggest there is space for a significant increase in domestic resource mobilisation. And I have learned from advocacy across Africa that increases are possible.

But the scale of the post-2015 agenda is such that the approach to domestic resource mobilisation needs to change profoundly. We join with other civil society groups in calling for the Addis Ababa Accord to include the following principles.

First, to meet the resource needs of the most marginalised groups, including people with disabilities, countries should increase their tax base, in a progressive manner, with strong international support to curb tax avoidance by multinational corporations. **Paragraph 19** should make this more explicit.

Second, the balance between private and public finance should be struck with care, and businesses must report against sustainable development and human rights standards. This should be emphasised **in paragraphs 9 and 37**.

Third, **paragraph 56** should require that, by 2020, donor countries meet the 0.7% target for ODA.

Finally, we need financial data and statistics disaggregated by disability. This should be included in **paragraph 115**.

In conclusion: throughout the Financing for Development debate, much has been said about how to 'unlock the trillions' of dollars to fund sustainable development. Now is also the time to invest in unlocking the potential of the billion people with disabilities, who want to contribute to inclusive growth and sustainable development.