



Joint statement of the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) for the substantive informal session on 'Trade, technology and capacity building and other non-financial means of implementation' (December 10) of the Preparatory Process for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.

- Accessibility standards for ICT should be included in trade negotiations and agreements to ensure the access of disabled people in LMICs to the tremendous opportunities offered by global development.
- Only 5–15% (approximately 1 in 10 persons) of the population in need has access to assistive products – e.g. wheelchairs, canes, prosthetic and orthotic devices, spectacles, low-vision aids, hearing aids. Issues of tariff barriers and intellectual property are among the reasons that slow down the development of and access to badly needed assistive devices and technology.
- The ratification, enforcement and inclusion of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled should be included in trade negotiations and discussions.

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