



World Autism Awareness Day
2 April 2019, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 1
United Nations

Assistive Technologies, Active Participation

Programme

10:00 a.m. Welcome and Opening

- Alison Smale, Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications, United Nations
- Message of the Secretary-General of the United Nations
- H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President of the UN General Assembly (tbc)

10:10 a.m. Keynote Address

- David James Savarese, documentary filmmaker, Open Society Foundations Human Rights Initiative Youth Fellow

10:25 a.m. Video excerpt from the documentary film "Deej"

10:30 a.m. Introduction to Panels

- MC: Maher Nasser, Director, Outreach Division, Department of Global Communications, UN

10:30 a.m. Communication: A Human Right

- Moderator: Elaine Hall, Founder, the Miracle Project
- Ryan Berman, Communication Partner
- Dr. Julia Ejioogu, Clinical Director, The Zeebah Foundation, Abuja, Nigeria
- Neal Katz, self-advocate and Community Teacher, UCLA
- Noor Pervez, Community Engagement Coordinator, Autistic Self Advocacy Network
- Ernesto Reaño, Director, Psicólogo Clínico, Lingüista, Peru
- Video: Ido Kedar, self-advocate, university student and author

11:10 a.m. Communication: Technology and Training

- Moderator: Elaine Hall, Founder, the Miracle Project
- Darlene Hanson, Director of Communication Services, REACH
- Michael Huang, Founder, Uplus Academy, Nanjing, China
- Chloe Rothschild, self-advocate, national speaker and Member of the Board, The Arc U.S.
- Video: Soma Mukhopahyay, Founder, HALO Clinic
- Video: Tito Rajarshi Mukhopadhyay, self-advocate and author

- **Statement** by Payam, self-advocate

11:45 p.m. Independent Living

- Moderator: Ramu Damodaran, Deputy Director, Outreach Division, DGC, UN
- Finn Gardiner, Communications Coordinator, Lurie Institute for Disability Policy at Brandeis University's Heller School for Social Policy, and Policy Fellow, Autistic Self Advocacy Network
- Tom Iland, self-advocate, author, presenter and consultant
- Sangeeta Jain, Joint Secretary, SOREM, India
- Judy Mark, Faculty Member, Disability Studies Department, UCLA
- Remi Tetot, Founder, Autism Stories, Cayman Islands
- Video: UCLA Disability Inclusion Lab

12:20 p.m. Tools: Telemedicine, Learning, etc.

- Moderator: Jeffrey Brez, Chief, Civil Society, Advocacy and Special Events, OD/DGC, UN
- Rachel Barcellona, self-advocate, Miss Florida International 2016 and Board Member, University of South Florida Center for Autism
- Archibald Brechin, self-advocate and Outreach Associate, Global Autism Project
- Molly Ola Pinney, Founder and CEO, Global Autism Project
- Pooja Panesar, Board Certified Behaviour Analyst, Kaizora Centre for Neurodevelopmental Therapies, Kenya
- Veysel Sahin, President, Autism Federation of Turkey
- Video: Marrok Sedgwick, educator and consultant for special education, non-speaking autistic self-advocate, and Creative Producer of Experimental Documentary Media, Fearless Minds Theatrical

12:55 p.m. Concluding remarks

- Maria-Francesca Spatolisano, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination, UN

The event is organized by the **United Nations Department of Global Communication** and **Department of Economic and Social Affairs**

Co-sponsored by the **Permanent Missions of Argentina, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan and Poland**