



Intervention on behalf of the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities

Addressing multi-dimensions of poverty and inequalities

**July 10th, 2017
3:00pm – 6:00pm**

Persons with disabilities comprise an estimated 15 per cent of the world's population, and are significantly overrepresented amongst those living in poverty. In recognition of this, the 2030 Agenda explicitly highlighted that 80 per cent of persons with disabilities live in poverty worldwide.² There must be a systematic approach to inclusion, particularly in providing the critical funding to effectively and sustainably address poverty.

In many countries austerity measures have been imposed, which reduce government expenditures on human rights, development and social welfare when and where they are most needed, and persons with disabilities are often among the hardest hit. A rights-based response to economic crises must be applied to effectively lift persons with disabilities and their families out of poverty, and contribute to the achievement of inclusive growth and sustainable development. We are calling on all Governments to ensure that their commitments on inclusion are followed by the critical funding needed to fully realize poverty eradication.

We recommend to:

- Introduce measures and policies to ensure that persons with disabilities, including women, children, youth, older persons and indigenous persons with disabilities, are protected from poverty and benefit equally from mainstream poverty alleviation, development and wealth-creation programmes.
- Meaningfully include persons with disabilities, and their representative organisations, within the development and implementation of poverty eradication and funding policies.
- Collect and disaggregate data by disability and utilize the Washington Group Short Set of Questions.