



Roundtable 1: Disability and business: realizing the right to work in open, inclusive and accessible environments for persons with disabilities

10.00 am to 12.00 pm, December 1, 2020
VIRTUAL

Co-chairs:



H. E. Ambassador Katalin Annamária Bogyay

H.E. Mme. Katalin Annamária Bogyay, is the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations. She was Hungary's Ambassador and Permanent Delegate to the UNESCO (2009-2014) and the President of UNESCO's General Conference (2011- 2013), the State Secretary for International Affairs for Education and Culture (2006-2009), and Founding Director of the Hungarian Cultural Centre in London (1999-2006). Prior to entering government, Ms. Bogyay had a distinguished career as an international television broadcaster, film producer and writer.



Mr. Edwin Osundwa

Mr. Osundwa is the Country Representative for Sense International (Kenya), and has many years of experience working across services and advocacy for inclusion of people with deafblindness.

He holds a master's in development studies and completed CRPD-SDG Bridge training. Sense International's recent relevant publications include research on the barriers facing youth with disabilities in gaining employment in Nairobi County, and the Global Report on Deafblindness co-authored with the World Federation of the Deafblind, which has a section addressing 'Deafblindness and work'.

Panellists:

 <p>Ms. Phyllis Choo, Singapore</p>	<p>Ms. Phyllis Choo is the Director of Planning, Community Integration and Development at SG Enable, an agency in Singapore dedicated to enabling persons with disabilities. One of SG Enable's key functions is to enhance employability and employment options. It builds employers' capabilities to train, hire and integrate persons with disabilities, through advisory and consultancy services, disability management workshops and training, job shadowing and mentorship programs, and online resources. It also helps employers identify areas of improvement to become more inclusive employers. When employers are ready to hire, SG Enable and its civil society partners provide job placement and job support services.</p> <p>More info about SG Enable: https://employment.sgenable.sg/#</p>
 <p>Ms. Alejandra Consuelo León Rodríguez, Colombia</p>	<p>Ms. Alejandra Consuelo León Rodríguez has a Masters in Development Management and specializes in Human Rights and Social Development as well as in Social Management. She has had professional experience in public and private entities, as well as in management or advisory positions of Organizations of People with disabilities at an international and national level. She has participated in the design, management and control of projects and programs related to persons with disabilities, especially in matters of human rights, legislation, accessibility and labor inclusion. In the last 11 years she has managed the</p>

	<p>Productivity Pact Program, which built in a participatory way, the Territorial Model of labor Inclusion for persons with disabilities in Colombia.</p>
 <p>Mr. Yuval Wagner, Israel</p>	<p>Mr. Wagner is the Founder and President of Access Israel. He established Access Israel over 20 years ago after a helicopter accident that left him wheelchair bound. Mr. Wagner had an immersive impact on the accessibility developments in Israel and has extensive knowledge on the current accessibility issues in Israel and around the world.</p> <p>Mr. Wagner developed an Award-winning model for implementing accessibility in large organizations. Access Israel, and Mr. Wagner at its forefront, is working continuously to promote and implement the UN's SDG in regard of accessibility and inclusion for people with disabilities.</p>
 <p>Ms. Caroline Casey, Ireland</p>	<p>Caroline Casey is an award-winning social entrepreneur and founder of The Valuable 500.</p> <p>Committed to building a global movement on inclusive business for the 1.3 billion people in the world with a disability, over the past two decades she has set up several organizations and initiatives centered on disability business inclusion.</p> <p>Her latest initiative, The Valuable 500, is a campaign to get 500 businesses to commit to put disability inclusion on their leadership agendas. Launched at the WEF Annual Summit in 2019, Casey succeeded in bringing disability inclusion onto the main stage at DAVOS for the first time ever with the support of global business leaders.</p>



Mr. László Lovászy, Hungary

Mr Lovászy is a member of the CRPD Committee. Mr Lovászy was representative of the Committee on Rehabilitation and Integration of People with Disabilities (CD-P-RR) at the Council of Europe, worked on disability-related dossiers and projects at the Hungarian Government, and became the first disabled adviser to a member of the European Parliament (EP) in 2009. Mr Lovászy is Member of the CRPD Committee since 2012. He is leading a Working Group on CRPD Art. 27 and was lecturer and rapporteur at the ILO conference “Making the Future of Work inclusive of persons with disabilities”, in November 2019. He has extensive knowledge and publications on economics, law and the labour market, and specifically on the changing world of work, ICT, robotics and artificial intelligence, with a disability perspective. He is lecturer at several universities of Hungary.



Mr. Don Watson, United States of America

Mr. Watson is the Vice President for Global Workplace & Enterprise Services at Merck. He represents Merck on the Steering Committee of the ILO Global Business and Disability Network and is Executive Sponsor for Merck’s Capability Network (Employee Business Resource Group focused on creating an empowering environment for persons with disabilities). Mr. Watson has supported and driven supplier initiatives to advocate for disability-owned businesses. In 2019, he was awarded ERG/BRG Executive Sponsor of the Year by Disability: IN for driving a global organization to encourage, inspire, hire, and advance disability inclusion around the world. He has led disability inclusion programs focused on universal design, mentoring, and talent acquisition.