

**Tentative Programme of the 18th Session of the Conference of States Parties to the  
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities  
10 to 12 June 2025 | United Nations Headquarters, New York**

**Tuesday, 10 June**

**10.00 am to 1.00 pm ( General Assembly Hall)**

**Opening of the Conference of States Parties (item 1)** chaired by Ms. Bjørg Sandkjær, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination, UNDESA

**Election of Officers (item 2)**

**Adoption of the agenda (item 3):** chaired by H.E. Jayantha Jayasuriya President of the Conference and Ambassador of Sri Lanka

**Organization of work (item 4)**

Opening remarks:

1. President of Conference
2. H.E Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations
3. H.E Philemon Yang, President of the General Assembly (video message)
4. Ms. Miyeon Kim, Chairperson, Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
5. Ms. Heba Hagrass, Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
6. Dr. Joseph Murray, Civil Society Representative, International Disability Alliance and World Federation of the Deaf

**Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: (item 5a): general debate\***

**3.00 to 6.00 pm (General Assembly Hall)**

**Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: (item 5a) general debate (*continued\*\**)**

## Wednesday, 11 June

### 10.00 am to 1.00 pm ( Conference Room 4)

**Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: (item 5a) general debate** (*continued\*\**)

**Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: (item 5b (i)):**  
**Roundtable 1: Empowering persons with disabilities and enhancing social development policies through innovative financing** (cochaired by Ms. Zuleikha Tambwe, Vice President of the Conference, Tanzania, and Mr. Javier Güemes, ONCE)

Presentations by:

- Ms Jane Fitzgerald Spring, Disability Strategy Advisory Council, Australia;
- Mr. Łukasz Krason, Government Plenipotentiary for Persons with Disabilities, Poland;
- Mr. Boucar Diuouf, Director General of Social Action of the Ministry of Health and Social Action, Senegal;
- Dr. Ola Abualghaib, Director, United Nations Global Disability Fund/UNPRPD;
- Mr. Matrika Prasad Devkota, KOSHISH (national mental health self-help organization) Nepal

Interactive discussion (Q+A)

Summary of the Chair

### 3.00 to 6.00 pm ( Conference Room 4)

**Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: (item 5a) general debate** (*continued\*\**)

**Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: (item 5 b(ii): Roundtable 2: Leaving no one behind: using AI as a tool for supporting inclusivity to strengthen the participation of persons with disabilities** (cochaired by Mr. David Pedroza, Vice President of the Conference, Peru, and Ms. Susan Mazrui, G3ICT)

Presentations by:

- Mr. Lim Zui Young, Oobee, GovTech Singapore;
- Ms Dovilė Juodkaitė, Expert on disability inclusion in the contexts of new technologies and AI, Lithuania;
- Mr. Alexiei Dingli, Department of AI, University of Malta;
- Ms. Jutta Treviranus, Inclusive Design Research Centre (IDRC), OCAD University, Canada;
- Dr. Mohammed Ali Loutfy, Global Initiative for Inclusive Information and Communication Technologies

Interactive discussion (Q+A)

Summary of the Chair

## Thursday, 12 June

10.00 am to 1.00 pm ( Conference Room 4)	3.00 to 6.00 pm ( Conference Room 4)
<p><b>Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: (item 5a) general debate</b> (<i>continued**</i>)</p> <p><b>Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: (item 5 b(iii) Roundtable 3: Recognising and addressing the rights of Indigenous persons with disabilities and their role in advancing disability inclusion.</b> Co-chaired by Ms. Elizabeth Tudor-Beziés, Vice President of the Conference, Canada, and Ms. Christine Kandie Lebelit, Endorois Indigenous Women Empowerment Network of Kenya)</p> <p>Presentations by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Jenny Tibocha, Directorate for Guarantee of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of the Ministry of Equality and Equity, Colombia;</li> <li>• Ms. Olga Montúfar, Network of Indigenous and Afro-descendant Women with Disabilities of Latin America and the Caribbean, Mexico;</li> <li>• Ms. Tahlia-Rose Vanissum, People with Disability Australia, Australia</li> </ul> <p>Interactive discussion (Q+A)</p> <p>Summary of the Co-chair</p>	<p><b>Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: (item 5a) general debate</b> (<i>continued**</i>)</p> <p><b>Interactive Dialogue among States parties, the United Nations system and other stakeholders on the implementation of the Convention (item 5 c),</b> chaired by President of the Conference, Sri Lanka</p> <p>Presentations by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Bjørg Sandkjær, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination, DESA</li> <li>• Ms. Ilze Brands Kehris, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, OHCHR</li> <li>• Ms. Charlotte McClain-Nhlapo, Global Disability Advisor, World Bank</li> <li>• Dr. Ola Abualghaib, Director, United Nations Global Disability Fund/UNPRPD</li> <li>• Ms. Roxana Widmer-Iliescu, Head of Digital Inclusion Service, ITU</li> <li>• Ms. Anne Sina, Civil Society Representative, Disabled People's Organisations Denmark (DPOD)</li> </ul> <p>Interaction with States Parties (Q+A)</p> <p><b>Decisions by the Conference of States Parties (item 6)</b></p> <p><b>Closing of the meeting (item 7)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statements by the Vice-Presidents</li> <li>• Closing by the President of the Conference</li> </ul>

\* The overarching theme of the session is “Enhancing public awareness of the rights and contributions of persons with disabilities for social development leading up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Summit for Social Development”.

\*\* Depending the actual progress of the proceedings under the agenda item 5 (a) (general debate), contingency arrangements where necessary may be made by the bureau to use the first 60-minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> meeting during the session on 11 and 12 June in order to exhaust the list of speakers duly inscribed for the general debate.

\*\*\* More updates about the Conference of States Parties to the CRPD and the work of the United Nations for persons with disabilities is available at the UN ENABLE website link: <http://www.un.org/disabilities>