



Arab Republic of Egypt  
Ministry of Social Solidarity

## **CRPD – New York**

### **Speech of H.E. Minister Nivine El-Kabbag**

### **Egypt's Achievements on Rights of PWD**

**Tuesday, 11 June 2024**

I have the pleasure of participating in the the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

People with disabilities in Egypt have made significant achievements across various sectors, contributing to the nation's cultural, social, and economic fabric.

**For the first time, Disability Law and bylaws were issued in 2018:** a comprehensive law that guarantees the rights of PWD, including access to healthcare, education, employment, and social services. It also mandates the inclusion of disability issues in national development plans.

**National Council for Disability Affairs (NCDA):** was established to promote the rights of PWD, ensuring their full inclusion in all aspects of life.

**2% of the Parliament members** are PWD, advocating for disability rights and inclusive policies.

**Social Protection:** Nearly 2% of severe and medium disabilities are benefiting **of monthly** cash transfer and are eventually beneficiaries of subsidize food.

**PWD have the right to benefit from Specialized Health Services,** taken into consideration that they are exclusively covered under the universal health insurance.

**Increase of Rehabilitation Centers** by 100% to avail rehabilitation services, especially in rural and remote areas.

**Inclusive Education Initiatives** were considered to integrate students with disabilities into mainstream schools.

The Egyptian government enforces a 5% employment quota for PWE in both public and private sectors.

**A National Network for PwDs employment Services** was launched to support PwDs to know about available vacancies and apply to get employed.

**Entrepreneurship Support:** 3,3% of SMEs target PwD to support their entrepreneurship opportunities.

**Assistive Technology:** Innovations in assistive technology, with local startups developing affordable solutions.

**Accessible Infrastructure:** Efforts are being made to improve accessibility in metro stations, train stations, universities and all new buildings.

**At the level of Arts and Culture... A Theatre that was established especially for PWD,** where they promote their cause and help assert their rights as equal persons, with different abilities.

**We also have orchestra** constituted of Visually Impaired players and singers

**Media Campaigns:** Various campaigns aim to change societal perceptions and promote the inclusion of people with disabilities.

**The Ministry is not working alone in this sector**, but it is rather a integrated and complementary effort from different partners, including government institutions, NGOs, international organizations and media.

It is a not way to go to achieve our aspired goals, though we are proud of the current achievements, but this would even insight us to go further and faster with our partners for the full achievement of capacities of persons with disabilities, or as rightly said, persons with different abilities.