

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

Commemoration of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities

3 December 2024, 10:00am (EST)

UN Headquarters, New York

Opening (in person), Conference Room 6, 10:00am – 11:00am (EST):

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Time | <i>Welcome and Introduction</i> |
| 10:00 – 10:05 | Introduction to the International Day and setting out the theme by the Co-Moderators.

<i>Policy overview of the global disability agenda: key achievements and milestones</i> |
| 10:05 – 10:15 | <i>Remarks by the Co-Facilitators of General Assembly Resolution on “Inclusive development for and with persons with disabilities”</i>

H.E. Mr. Antonio M. Lagdameo , Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations.

H.E. Mr. Hussein A. Kattanga , Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations (TBC). |
| 10:15 – 10:20 | <i>Remarks by the President of the Conference of the State Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (COSP)</i>

H.E. Mr. Sugeeshwara Gunaratna , Charge d’Affaires and Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations. |
| 10:20 – 10:25 | <i>Remarks by Chairperson of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</i>

Ms. Gertrude Oforiwa Fefoame , Global Advocacy Manager for Social Inclusion, Sightsavers. |

10:25 – 10:30 *Remarks by Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities (via video message)*

Ms. Heba Hagrass.

10:30 - 10:35 *Remarks by International Disability Alliance (IDA)*

Mr. José Viera, Executive Director (interim), IDA.

10:35 – 10:40 *Closing*

Mr. Charles Katoanga, Director, Division of Inclusive Social Development, DESA.

Co-Moderators: **Ms. Mina Mojtahedi**, Disability Inclusion Team Lead, Executive Office of the Secretary-General and **Dr. Mohammed Ali Loutfy**, Disabled People's International (DPI) representative to the United Nations in New York, Director for Capacity Building and Advocacy at G3ict - Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs.

COFFEE BREAK: 30 MINUTES (approx.)

Time *Artistic contribution*

11:30 – Video message by **Mr. Takafumi Yuki**, a 5 Times International Emmy-nominated producer; Director of the Film “Mother’s Touch”, introduced by Ms. **Akiko Ito, Chief, Programme on Disability, Division of Inclusive Social Development, DESA.**
11:35

Panel Discussion (virtual), 11:35am – 1:15pm (EST):

11:35 - *Welcome and Introduction*
11:40 - Short round of introductions of the panel by the moderator and setting the scene for the discussion.

11:40 – *From the global to the local: Strengthening social development priorities for;*
11:55 *with and by persons with disabilities*

Ms. Maryangel García Ramos Guadiana, Executive Director, Women Enabled International.

Ms. Abia Akram, CEO, National Forum of Women with Disabilities and Chair, Global Forum on the Leadership of Women with Disabilities.

Ms. Caroline Casey, Founder, The Valuable 500.

This segment will discuss the upcoming Second World Summit for Social Development, scheduled to take place in Doha, Qatar in 2025, an important forum for persons with disabilities to advocate for and shape inclusive social development, in partnership with other stakeholders.

11:55 – *From the global to the local: Leadership of persons with disabilities promoting*
12:10 *international peace and security*

Mr. Giles Duley, United Nations Global Advocate for persons with disabilities in conflict and peacebuilding situations (*via video message*).

Mr. Michael Ashley Stein, Co-founder and Executive Director of the Harvard Law School Project on Disability, Visiting Professor at Harvard Law School.

Persons with disabilities have been a leading authority and contributors to the development of international law and policy furthering the protection and inclusion of persons with disabilities in the context of peace and security. This segment will highlight important new developments in this field.

12:10 - *From the global to the local: Advancing disability-inclusive sustainable*
12:25 *development through climate change advocacy and leadership*

Ms. Daphne Frias, North American Regional Focal Point for Sustainable Development Goal 16 at the UN Major Group for Children and Youth.

Mr. Nir Shrestha, UNESCO Global Youth Grant laureate.

Dr. Takashi Izutsu, Empower Youth Inclusion Project, University of Tokyo.

Recent global climate change conferences have demonstrated a growing presence of disability rights activists in the climate change agenda, particularly of youth with disabilities. The discussion will present ideas and initiatives that harness the promise of young persons with disabilities in order to achieve sustainable peace and development by urgently tackling the climate crisis.

12:25 – *Global Digital Compact and the leadership of persons with disabilities: the*
12:30 *cross-cutting perspective on the Technologies and the Pact for the Future*

Mr. Axel Leblois, Founder and President Emeritus, The Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs.

12:30 – *Q&A session*
12:45

12:45 – *Concluding remarks and wrap-up*
12:50

Wrap-up of main points raised by the panellists and takeaway messages from the discussion by the moderator.

12:50 - *Closing*
13:00

Moderator shares final remarks, concludes the discussion and thanks the panellists.

Moderator: Ms. Mina Mojtahedi, Disability Inclusion Team Lead, Executive Office of the Secretary-General.

Artistic Contribution: Performance by Heidi Latsky Dance (in-person), UN visitors information desk, General Assembly building, 1:15pm - 2:30pm (EST):

13:15 -14:30 *Performance by Heidi Latsky Dance (HLD)*

Heidi Latsky Dance (HLD) is a physically integrated dance company that challenges conventional ideas of beauty and ability. Founded in 2001, HLD includes both disabled and non-disabled dancers in its critically acclaimed works such as "GIMP" and "ON DISPLAY." HLD is dedicated to promoting inclusivity through performance, outreach, and advocacy.

Guiding Questions (Panel Discussion):

From the global to the local: Strengthening social development priorities for, with and by persons with disabilities

1. How can we best ensure the meaningful participation of leaders with disabilities, including from the Global South, in line with "nothing about us without us", during the upcoming Second World Summit for Social Development?
2. How can we leverage the Second World Summit for Social Development to strengthen the inclusiveness of social development, from the global to the local?

From the global to the local: Leadership of persons with disabilities promoting international peace and security

3. Why is international humanitarian law and international human rights law relevant to persons with disabilities? How have their experiences shaped the development of this body of law over the years?
4. What emerging developments in international peace and security particularly relate to persons with disabilities? How have communities of persons with disabilities led on these developments?

From the global to the local: Advancing disability-inclusive sustainable development through climate change advocacy and leadership

5. What unique experiences, ideas and skills do young leaders with disabilities bring to the climate change movement? How can we amplify their leadership for achieving progress on the SDGs?
6. How can we ensure that disability inclusion, accessibility and participation are prioritised for generations of persons with disabilities to come?