



The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations, New York

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

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**MINISTRY OF LABOUR & SOCIAL PROTECTION,  
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SENIOR CITIZEN  
AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

**DURING**

**THE 17<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO THE  
CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES  
*JUNE 11-13, 2024***

***CONFERENCE ROOM 4  
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK***

**Thank you, Chairperson,  
Excellences, distinguished delegates**

Kenya is honored to participate in the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

**Chairperson,**

1. This year's conference theme aligns with Kenya's Constitution and Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda.
2. Kenya is committed to disability inclusion, implementing policies to improve livelihoods and economically empower persons with disabilities while protecting their rights.
3. Climate change significantly impacts persons with disabilities, exacerbating inequalities and increasing their vulnerability.
4. To mitigate climate change effects, Kenya has enhanced disaster preparedness and promoted inclusive resilience-building and displacement management.
5. Kenya intends to plant 15 billion trees by 2032. We are implementing a community-focused climate action programme, ensuring 90% of funding supports vulnerable populations, including persons with disabilities.
6. Our Humanitarian Innovation Programme addresses data, system, and solution gaps to include children with disabilities and their families in humanitarian crises.

**Distinguished delegates,**

7. The World Health Organization estimates that 2.5 billion people need assistive technology, yet only ten percent of those in low-income countries have access to it.
8. To address this, Kenya has developed a Rehabilitative Services & Assistive Technology Strategy for 2022-2026. It's our roadmap for targeted investments to promote access to assistive devices for persons with disabilities, enabling their full participation in society.
9. Additionally, Kenya and its partners conducted an assessment on the support needs of persons with disabilities and their caregivers. This has led to the development of gender-responsive programmes that provide respite care and strengthen community support systems.

## **Chairperson,**

- 10.** In response to SDG 8, on decent work and economic growth for all, Kenya has enrolled 4,605 trainees with disabilities in relevant courses and developed a career portal accessed by 5,726 individuals, significantly enhancing employment opportunities for persons with disabilities.
- 11.** Despite efforts by the Government of Kenya to address the well-being of persons with disabilities, inadequate funding remains a challenge. We urge State Parties to ensure CRPD compliant programming and budgeting to effectively achieve disability inclusion in all sectors.
- 12.** In conclusion, Kenya looks forward to the conference discussions and exchange of ideas, to prompt action to push disability inclusion to the top of the socio-economic and political agenda, ensuring we “leave no one behind”.

**Thank you**