



7 June SDG Summit 2023 Informal Stakeholder Dialogue

Statement delivered by Jarrod Clyne, International Disability Alliance, on behalf of the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities

We call for the meaningful inclusion of persons with disabilities. Our key message is that: Non-inclusive systems inevitably produce inequity – Now is the time to transform society.

The declaration should explicitly address why people are 'left behind' and how the development agenda can 'reach the furthest left behind first' and offer concrete solutions. This requires recognizing the root causes and providing solutions to the systemic political and economic marginalization and discrimination experienced by all of the 'Major Groups'.

Accordingly, the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities (SGPwD) calls on the international community to create an accessible and inclusive world by making all funds and programmes disability-inclusive, providing support services to ensure community inclusion (para 36)

How can this be done?

Systemic changes are needed in data and funding:

- Data to drive disability-inclusive policymaking to accelerate the 2030 agenda (para 36(n))
- Call to provide dedicated funding for inclusive development for persons with disabilities, including for climate change and climate action (para 36(g))
- Align domestic and resource flows towards SDG implementation and introduce equitable budget processes that facilitate the active participation of OPDs (para 36(o))

Key themes

- Intersectional approach – women & girls with disabilities (paras 11, 12)
- Inclusive education/disability gap in education (para 36(b))
- Innovation & tech as drivers of sustainable development, including access to affordable and accessible assistive technology for persons with disabilities (paras 36(c)(j))
- People-centred approach to preventive DRR by creating sustainable mechanisms for meaningful participation including OPDs (para 36(f))

Leave no-one behind and reaching the furthest behind first means changing systems to eliminate marginalization and discrimination of persons with disabilities. This declaration is the perfect chance to chart the path for a better future for persons with disabilities in all their diversity, and realize our shared commitment of an inclusive equality for all.