**Oral statement for the ID with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons – HRC 44 (July 9, 2020)**

Thank you, Madam President.

The International Disability Alliance congratulates Ms. Jimenez-Damary for her work as Special Rapporteur and praises her active engagement in reporting on the most excluded groups of internally displaced persons, including persons with disabilities.

Her report highlights the precarious situation of around seven million persons with disabilities across the globe who are further marginalized in the context of internal displacement. As clearly stated, displaced persons with disabilities experience multiple and intersectional forms of discrimination. Stigma, unawareness and lack of inclusive approach from government agencies and humanitarian actors continue to hinder the access to basic human needs including shelter, food, health care, information and education for displaced persons with disabilities.

In line with the report, we want to stress that for all phases of the displacement response and for durable solutions to be inclusive, they must follow the principles and obligations enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, including the meaningful engagement of persons with disabilities through their representative organizations. We also encourage the use of the IASC guidelines on the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action as practical guidance.

Finally, we call UN Member States to follow the recommendations of this report to actively involve displaced persons with disabilities and to recognize them not as recipients of aid or charity, but as rights holders and agents of change, with valuable expertise for the planning, implementation and monitoring of displacement responses and for building back better to leave no one behind.

I thank you.