



Statement on behalf of the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities

Second informal negotiation on the HLPF Ministerial Declaration 2017 June 20th, 2017

Thank you Excellency.

Today, I again speak on behalf of the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities.

We are very encouraged to see the increased references to disability in the second draft of the Ministerial Declaration, and we strongly urge Member States to maintain and further strengthen these references.

It is important to highlight, that the cyclical effects of poverty are not isolated to the person with a disability, but rather the effects of poverty reverberate to their families and their communities, and impact generations. With this in mind, we strongly recommend Member States to include persons with disabilities when speaking to intergenerational poverty.

We would like to appeal to Member States to not include any language regarding behavioural and neurological disorders in relation to SDG implementation. These type of categorizations may lead to such persons facing restrictions or barriers to their full participation in society. These terms should not determine or undermine the protection of their rights, recognized under human rights law, including the rights enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

We have shared further concrete language recommendations, in particular regarding accessibility and inclusion that will further strengthen the current draft, with the UN Secretariat and remain at your disposal to further strengthen the text to truly leave no one behind.

Thank you very much once again.