

**Special Session  
on inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action**

2 minutes intervention on HI commitments

Dear M. Secretary General, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

I'm particularly proud to announce that 3 major NGO networks, Interaction and ICVA and BOND are joining our efforts and endorse the Charter. No doubt they will from now on actively promote it among their members and within the humanitarian system as a whole, ensuring a wider reach and more commitments to come in the future.

In addition, we can rejoice in the impressive number and diversity of individual NGOs that are also on board with more than 40 organisations ranging from local actors to international mainstream humanitarian stakeholders.

The scope of the movement shows there is a collective agreement within the humanitarian community on how urgent and important it is to take decisive action for disability inclusive practices.

Handicap International has taken commitments concerning all 5 core principles of the Charter. We are convinced that the development of global guidelines will have a significant impact on the crisis-affected persons with disabilities. That's why we are fully committed to support the elaboration and implementation of those guidelines, to be initiated in 2016. As an expert organisation, we are ready to take a leading role in different sectors.

We are equally committed to continue working towards eliminating the barriers that prevent access to humanitarian services for persons with disabilities and support the other actors to do the same.

We will intensify our cooperation both with national and international humanitarian actors ranging from DPOs and NGOs, to States and UN agencies. We will also relentlessly advocate for the full implementation of the Charter.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our commitments. We look forward to collaborating with all of you to make humanitarian action inclusive of persons with disabilities.