

## Special Session on “Making humanitarian action inclusive of persons with disabilities”

### Commitments to implement the Charter on inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action

- Italy endorses the Charter on inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action and commits towards its implementation.
- Italy commits to ensuring that its humanitarian response plans and programs reflect the different needs and capacities of women, girls, men and boys with disabilities, by end of 2020.
- Italy will support the development and implementation of global guidelines on disability inclusion in humanitarian action to be initiated in 2016.
- Italy will identify a disability focal point and/or establish technical help desks, in order to mainstream the issue of disability within humanitarian aid programs and manage specific actions for people with disabilities.
- Italy will collect quantitative and qualitative data on persons with disabilities, disaggregated by age and sex, that are comparable, reliable and ethically collected.
- Italy will develop and implement advocacy and awareness raising programs to enhance the understanding of the needs of persons with disabilities to all humanitarian actors willing to strengthen their response towards persons with disabilities.

✓ To ensure that humanitarian initiatives reflect the need of people with disabilities, Italy introduced a specific marker to verify that our humanitarian programmes are inclusive of persons with disabilities.

Moreover, Italy identified 3 focal points at HQ level and 12 focal points at field level, in order to mainstream the issue of disability within humanitarian aid programmes and manage specific actions for people with disabilities.

Italy organised, together with Handicap International, the European Disability Forum, IDDC, ECHO and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland a Roundtable in Bruxelles (7<sup>th</sup> December 2016) to inform EU Member States on the Charter on inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action.

We are planning to fund new programmes to be implemented in emergency situations not only to protect people with disabilities but also to collect quantitative and qualitative data, train humanitarian staff, raise awareness and advocate on the need of persons with disabilities.