

**Special Session on INCLUSION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES INTO HUMANITARIAN ACTION on 23 May 2016, 16:00-17:00, Bayazit Hall**

The Vietnam Red Cross is pleased to represent the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement here today and we are grateful for the opportunity to speak on this critical issue at such an important event and among such a distinguished gathering.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of May, at a *Member States' Briefing on the World Humanitarian Summit* in Geneva, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies together endorsed the *Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action*.

The Charter is aligned with the Movement's *Disability Inclusion Strategic Framework*, adopted in December 2015. This Strategic Framework provides specific directions to ensure that all actions, policies and internal practices are: non-discriminatory towards and inclusive of persons with disabilities and promote disability inclusion throughout the Movement's work. While the ICRC, including the Special Fund for the Disabled, the IFRC and a large number of our 190 National Societies worldwide are active in addressing disability inclusion and responding to the needs of persons with disabilities in emergencies, much more needs to be done to involve and support persons with disabilities and their caregivers to address barriers that hamper their full enjoyment of rights and freedoms.

The focus given to the inclusion of persons with disabilities into humanitarian action at this Summit reinforces the significance of the Charter and commitment from multiple stakeholders to advance this important work. For the Movement, the alignment of the Charter with our Disability Inclusion Strategic Framework is significant as earlier highlighted, and will promote and be responsive to the gender-specific vulnerabilities, risks, needs and capacities of women, girls, boys and men with disabilities; and put national and local action and disability inclusion actors at the heart of our collective efforts in advocating for the needs and rights of people with disabilities.

Through the commitments set out in the Movement's *Disability Inclusion Strategic Framework*, we pledge to work towards having all components of the Movement adopt a disability-inclusive approach.

Thank you.

359 words / approx. two minutes