**WHO World Report on Disability 2011**

Joint project of the World Health Organization and the World Bank Group

The World report summarizes the best available scientific evidence on disability and makes recommendations for action to support the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006).

**World Report on Disability National Launch**

- The World report on Disability was launched on June 9, 2011 in New York.
- The global launch was followed up with national launches or policy dialogues in many countries including Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, Finland, Ghana, Ireland, Netherlands, Myanmar, Philippines, Slovakia, Togo, Turkmenistan, United States of America, The European Parliament.
- The goal of national launches and policy dialogues was to help WHO member states to use the report as a tool to strengthen their domestic policy and provision and/or international development work.

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**Contents of the Report**

1. Understanding Disability
   - Disability is part of the human condition, humanity, human rights
2. Disability-related picture
   - Data on incidence of disability and disabling conditions, income level, countries, poverty
3. General Health Care
   - Violence, health and age-related conditions, prevention, access to care
4. Rehabilitation
   - Policies, laws, access to services, personnel, resources, technology
5. Assistance and Support
   - Community-based rehabilitation, funding, communication support, information, assistance animals
6. Enabling Environment
   - Communication support for hearing impaired and speech impaired, universal design, environmental barriers
7. Education
   - Education outcomes by country income level, access to education, training of teachers, resources, policies
8. Work and Employment
   - Employment of PWD, barriers to employment, wages, anti-discrimination laws
9. The Way Forward—Recommendations

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**Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD) 2006 (R)**

- The Convention followed decades of work by the United Nations to change attitudes and approaches to persons with disabilities. It took to a new height the movement from viewing persons with disabilities as “objects” of charity, medical treatment and social protection towards viewing persons with disabilities as “subjects” with “rights”, who are capable of claiming those rights and making decisions for their lives based on their free and informed consent as well as being active members of society.
- International treaty to reinforce the understanding of disability as a human rights and development priority
- The purpose of the Convention is to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity.
- Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which interact with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.
- On 30 May 2011, Colombia became the 100th nation to ratify the UN Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

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**What the WHO Report on Disability tells us we should be teaching our students about disabilities around the world.**

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Recommenda3ons:
1. Enable access to all mainstream policies, systems and services
2. Invest in specific programs and services for PWD
3. Adopt a national disability strategy and plan of action
4. Involve people with disabilities in formulating laws, services and services for PWD
5. Improve human capacity of people working in education, health care, rehabilitation, social protection, labor, law enforcement, and media to ensure non-discrimination for PWD
6. Provide adequate funding and improve affordability
7. Increase public awareness and understanding of disability
8. Improve disability data collection
9. Strengthen and support research on disability

Translating recommendations into action
• Governments can...
• UN agencies can...
• Disabled people’s organizations can...
• Service providers can...
• Academic institutions can...

Translating Recommendations into Action:
Academic Institutions
1. Remove barriers to the recruitment and participation of students and staff with disabilities
2. Ensure that professional training courses include adequate information about disability, based on human rights principles
3. Conduct research on the lives of persons with disabilities and on disabling barriers, in consultation with disabled peoples organizations.

1. Tell students about the environmental barriers for persons with disabilities
• The governmental policies do not take into account persons with disabilities (for example, disaster preparedness and assistance)
• Beliefs and prejudices constitute barriers when workers cannot see past the disability (ability vs. disability)
• Lack of services in health care, rehabilitation, support and assistance in geographic regions particularly in developing and low income countries
• Problems with service delivery, staff competencies, quality and quantity of services
• Inadequate funding and resource allocation
• Lack of access to services, employment or education
• Lack of consultation and involvement of PWD in decisions
• Lack of data and evidence to support action

2. Tell students about global issues in Health Care related to persons with disabilities worldwide.
• An estimated one billion people (15%) live with disabilities around the world.
• Estimates range from 93 million to 152 million children between the ages of 0-14 years are living with disabilities.
• 18.6 Million (2.9%) have severe disabilities (Blindness, Hearing Loss, Down, Quadriplegic, Severe Depression)
• 79.2 Million (12.4%) have moderate disability (arthritis, low vision, alcohol dependency)

WHO estimates
• Developmental Disabilities 15-20%
• Hearing impairment 5%
• Speech, voice disorders 3%
• Language disorders <1%
• www.who@int.org
Reports of Prevalence of Disability Varies by Countries around the World
(By Percent of Population)

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<th>Country</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
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<tr>
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</table>

Tell Students that Disability is related to chronic health, environmental and social conditions
- The number of persons with disabilities is increasing, especially in chronic health conditions such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and mental disorders which influence the nature and prevalence of disability.
- According to the WHO, Hearing Loss is the number one condition leading to disability in the world.
- Patterns of disability in particular countries are influenced by trends in health conditions and environmental factors such as road traffic injuries, natural disasters, conflict, diet, and substance abuse. 20-50 million are injured from road crashes annually. Estimates of those injuries resulting in disabilities range from 2-87% (TBI + physical injuries)
- Reports of prevalence and incidence of disability around the world vary and are influenced by conditions that define disability.

3. Tell students about the need for data and research on persons with disabilities including...
- The impact of environmental factors on disability and how to measure it (policies, physical environment, attitudes)
- Quality of life of persons with disability in developing and developed countries
- Barriers to mainstream and specific services and what works to overcome them
- Accessibility and universal design programs appropriate for low income settings
- Interactions among environmental factors, health conditions, and disability and between disability and poverty
- Cost of disability and cost-effective public spending on disability programs

The Need to Improve Disability Data Collection
- Method for collecting data needs to be developed and tested cross-culturally and applies consistently
- Data needs to be standardized and internationally comparable for benchmarking and monitoring progress on disability policies
- Data needs to be disaggregated by population features such as age, sex, race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status to uncover patterns, trends and information on subgroups of persons with disabilities

The Need to Strengthen and Support Research on disability Needs
- Develop research capacity in low and middle income countries
- Develop research skills in epidemiology, disability studies, health and rehabilitation, special education, economics, sociology, public policy
- International learning and research opportunities linking universities in developing countries with those in high income and middle-income countries

To obtain an Electronic copy of the report
- Full report (PDF 325 pages)
  - Available in English, French, and Portuguese
- Easy Read Version (20 pages for younger readers)
  - Available in English, French, Portuguese
- Summary Versions
  - contains the main messages and recommendations.
  - Available in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Russian, Chinese, Portuguese
  - Available in easy-to-read, audio, and screen reader compatible formats.
  - Braille versions (English, Spanish and French) can be ordered by contacting mackenzi@who.int.
To Order a Hard Copy

- World Report on Disability 2011 Nonserial Publication
  Technical Units
- ISBN-13 9789241564182
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- Developing countries: CHF 28.00

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