

## **PGA inputs on “The role of partnerships in the implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda”**

### **What are the key lessons learned of the implementation of MDG 8 and what incentives can be created to reinforce its implementation?**

International Disability Alliance (IDA) and International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) welcome the thematic discussion on “the role of partnerships in the implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda” and believe that partnership is the key to successfully implement the post-2015 development agenda. IDA and IDDC emphasize that a new global partnership must be put in place to support the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. This must be based on effective accountability and strengthened inclusive partnerships of governments, civil society and the private sector.

Persons with disabilities were not included in the adoption and implementation of the previous MDG framework despite the existence of 1 billion persons with disabilities worldwide who comprise 15 per cent of the world's population. Consequently, representatives of organizations of persons with disabilities (DPOs) were left out of the planning, developing, implementation and monitoring of the original MDGs. Subsequently and simultaneously, persons with disabilities still encounter barriers to participation in society, including lack of access to development programmes and funds, education, employment, health care, communication and transportation services, among others.

In order to avoid the same mistake, IDA and IDDC recommend that the new partnership be based on the principles of inclusivity, mutual respect, and mutual benefits for all partners. The partnership must bring together global communities concerned with economic, social and environmental progress, including people living in poverty, women, young people, persons with disabilities, Indigenous peoples and local communities, marginalised groups, multilateral institutions, local and national governments, businesses, civil society and private philanthropists, scientists and other academics.

### **While not a substitute to existing cooperation mechanisms, how can multi-stakeholder partnerships be an important complement to achieving internationally agreed development goals, including in the context of the post 2015 development agenda?**

In particular, IDA and IDDC would like to emphasize the inclusion of persons with disabilities and their representative organisations to be part of the new global partnership in light of Article 32 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD). Article 32, International cooperation, of the UN CRPD, recognises the “importance of international cooperation and its promotion, in support of national

efforts for the realization of the purpose and objectives of the present Convention, and will undertake appropriate and effective measures in this regard, between and among States and, as appropriate, in partnership with relevant international and regional organizations and civil society, in particular organizations of persons with disabilities.” The article enshrines the concept of inclusive development in which persons with disabilities are to be included in all phases of development programmes, including planning, design, implementation, and evaluation stages. Such programmes have to embrace a rights-based approach and therefore accessible for and inclusive of persons with disabilities. Furthermore, no development programmes should create new or additional barriers for participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in society. For example, new schools and curricula should be designed to be accessible for all, including children with disabilities.

History has taught us that some of our greatest inventions and innovations toward the advancement of development have been by persons who live and experience disability who in seeking solutions to overcome challenges in daily life end up designing ways to improve the quality of life for millions around the world and in doing so make a huge contribution to sustainable development.

Incentives may include recognition of innovations that are linked to the positive input of persons with disabilities towards accelerating the achievement of development goals within the midpoint review of SDGs. A group of eminent persons with disabilities who are recognised champions of disability may advise the selection as part of the panel. This will give a positive message that persons with disabilities want to be part of the solution through examples in history, and going forward want to be agents of change and beneficiaries of development.

### **How can Civil Society and other Multi-Stakeholders incentivize engagement for the implementation of sustainable development, in particular from the private sector?**

Sustainable development cannot be achieved *without* the inclusion of persons with disabilities. The voices and representation of organisations of persons with disabilities should be included in all phases of sustainable development.

History has taught us that some of the most innovative ideas and inventions that sustain humankind have come from persons with disabilities. This new platform must create an environment of creative solutions, such as Universal Design among the private and business sectors. Furthermore, it must be sustainable and includes the inputs of persons with disabilities in the concept, design, implementation and evaluation and recognition through an award system that goes beyond profit-driven motives.

### **Which models or mechanisms can help ensure effective monitoring and accountability of the means of implementation of the post-2015 development agenda?**

The new partnership should be constructed as a platform for multi-stakeholder policy dialogues to impact national implementation of the post-2015. IDA and IDDC recommend the creation of multi-stakeholder forums composed of governments, civil society and the

private sector. These forums would serve as an advisory and monitoring body to: (1) concentrate on gaps in implementation and (2) provide technical expertise for implementation of the new goals, in particular for marginalised groups, such as persons with disabilities.