**Your Story Matters: Interactive Dialogues with People with Disabilities**

(UNOV/UNODC, Zero Project, and Light for the World)

| Side event at the 15th session of the Conference of States Parties to the CRPD (COSP15) | 17 June 2022

**Webinar Title:**  Your Story Matters | Interactive Dialogues with People with Disabilities

**Date:** 17 June 2022

**Time:** 8:30 – 9:45 AM EST

**Duration:** 75 minutes

**Platform:** Microsoft Teams account of the United Nations Office at Vienna.

**Description:**

The planned side event at the COSP15 is a joint activity between the UNOV/UNODC, the Zero Project and Light for the World. This event aims to facilitate personal interaction between people with disabilities and participants in order to elevate the importance and visibility of disability inclusion among United Nations personnel.

This event will place persons with disabilities front and center of the event. They will tell their personal stories in their own words in small break-out groups, which create unique encounters between the participants and the speakers. Participants will be randomly placed in the breakout rooms without any prior knowledge of the speakers, in order to create a genuine and unbiased encounter. The scope of these break-out sessions is to create a safe and more intimate space in which dialogues can be fostered and questions can be answered. This event creates an opportunity to challenge participants’ perspectives about people with disabilities by giving them the possibility to listen to two personal stories before coming back to the main forum for final reflections and considerations.

**Target audience:**

Global United Nations personnel and Member State representatives who are both experienced and new to the topic of disability inclusion and its importance.

**Speakers:**

**Udi Pollak,** Universal Design Consultant

**Moran Samuel**, Paediatric physiotherapist, and Paralympic athlete

**Srey Nak,** leading the Women with Disability group

**Samuel Wunsch**, Educational Specialist, Institute for Inclusive Education

**Robbie Francis Watene,** Disability Rights Activist, Her Abilities Winner 2000

**Erik Wakoko**, Disability inclusion Advisor at Light for the World

**Issah Khamais**, Disability Inclusion Facilitator at Light for the World in South Sudan

**Esma Gumberidze**, UNODC YouthLED Board Member

**Co-Moderators:**

[Anna Pfeiffer](https://at.linkedin.com/in/annaspfeiffer), Talent Development Team Leader, UNOV/UNODC

[Robin Tim Weis](https://zeroproject.org/about-us/the-zero-project-team/robin-tim-weis/), Manager, Public Sector, Zero Project

[Jane Waitheira](https://www.janewaithera.com/), Business Development Officer at Light for the World in Kenya

**Itinerary**

08:30Introducing the Webinar Setup

[Anna Pfeiffer](https://at.linkedin.com/in/annaspfeiffer), Talent Development Team Leader, UNOV/UNODC

08:35Participants are placed into breakout rooms with the speakers (20 minutes)

08:55 Participants are placed into the main forum for a debrief and Q&A (10

minutes)

[Robin Tim Weis](https://zeroproject.org/about-us/the-zero-project-team/robin-tim-weis/), Manager, Public Sector, Zero Project

09:05 Participants are placed into the second breakout rooms with the speakers (20

minutes)

09:25 Participants are placed into the main forum for a debrief, introducing the

speakers, and Q&A (10 minutes)

[Jane Waitheira](https://www.janewaithera.com/), Business Development Officer at Light for the World in Kenya

09:35 Closing Remarks

UNOV/UNODC representative to explain the importance and goal of the event

09:45 End of Event