

- Draft -



Side Event at the 19th Session Of The Conference Of States Parties
To The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

20 Years Since the Adoption of the CRPD Reflecting on Progress to Date and Strengthening Partnerships for Future Implementation

Tuesday, 9 June, 2026, 1:15 PM - 2:30 PM (EDT)

Conference Room 4, United Nations Headquarters

- Simultaneous interpretation in English and Japanese, International Sign interpretation, and English captioning provided

Organized by The Japan Disability Forum (JDF)

Co-organized by Japan

Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations

Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations

Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations

Permanent Mission of New Zealand to the United Nations

The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The International Disability Alliance (IDA)



Background

As the world faces a wide range of challenges—including political, economic, and social issues—the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is playing an increasingly vital and foundational role in protecting and promoting human rights for all.

This side event will examine, from multiple perspectives, the respective progress, challenges, and prospects of civil society (OPDs), States Parties, and the CRPD Committee in implementing the Convention over the past 20 years and in the years ahead. It will also explore potential avenues for future collaboration in light of these two decades.

Opening remarks:

Ms. Miyeon Kim, Chair, Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Introduction:

Mr. Nobuaki Tanaka, Chair, Committee on Disability Policy, Japan Disability Forum (JDF)

Statements from States Parties:

Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

Ms. Sally-Anne Henfry, Assistant Secretary, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations

Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations

Permanent Mission of New Zealand to the United Nations

20 Years of Progress and Key Issues under the CRPD:

Ms. Rosemary Kayess, Member and Former Chair, Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Efforts and key challenges in implementation of the CRPD:

Mr. Katsunori Fujii, Vice President, Japan Disability Forum (JDF)

Mr. Jarrod Clyne, Deputy Executive Director, International Disability Alliance (IDA)

Interactive Discussion / Q&A

Closing Remarks:

Mr. Hiroshi Tamon, Member, Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities