

SIDE EVENT

11TH OF JUNE 15:00 – 16:15, CONFERENCE ROOM 4

Organised by: Belgium / Supported by: the European Union
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United Nations Headquarters, New York
www.un.org/disabilities
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United Nations

Mobilising State parties, employers and worker organisations for Article 27 of the UNCRPD - the right to work for persons with disabilities

Article 27 of the UNCRPD recognises the right of persons with disabilities to work, on an equal basis with others. Participation in employment is an important way to ensure economic autonomy and social inclusion. Yet in many State parties the employment gap between persons with disabilities and those without remains stubbornly high. Many barriers remain that hinder the access to employment.

This side-event focuses on the role that State parties, employers and worker organisations can play through disability inclusive policy measures and social dialogue. Cooperation and exchanges of good practices are important to take steps forward, not only between State parties but also between organisations and companies (peer-to-peer). Speakers are invited to share their vision and expectations on measures that will promote the recruitment, retention and career opportunities for persons with disabilities and to share good practices of involving persons with disabilities and representative organisations.

Speakers line-up

Moderator:

- **Katarina Ivankovic-Knezevic**, Director for Social Rights and Inclusion, European Commission.

Keynotes:

- **Helena Dalli**, Commissioner for Equality, European Commission.
- **Dr. the Honourable Norman Dunn**, Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Jamaica
- **Video message – Karine Lalieux**, Minister in charge of Persons with Disabilities, Belgium
Video message in French with English subtitles

Panel interventions:

- **Güler Koca**, Disability Inclusion and Gender Equality Specialist, International Labour Organization (ILO).
- **Shitaye Astawes**, International Disability Alliance (IDA).
- **Javier Güemes Pedraza**, International Director, ONCE.
- **Alex Campbell**, Director Washington office, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC).

Q&A