



**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY URGING THE UNITED
NATIONS SYSTEM TO INCLUDE DISABILITY ISSUES IN THE POST 2015
MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs)**

THAT THIS ASSEMBLY;

RECALLING THAT the United Nations Agencies, Governments and Civil Society agreed on and adopted the Millennium Development Goals through establishment of a unifying set of eight key developmental objectives for the global community;

RECALLING THAT the objective of these key development issues was to foster collaborative action to reduce poverty, improve health and address educational and environmental concerns around the World's most pressing problems, but specifically to address the needs of the World's poorest citizens and the world's most marginalized populations;

CONCERNED THAT despite this initiative, there is a striking gap in the current MDGs to the effect that the estimated 1 billion people world wide who live with one or more physical, sensory (blindness/deafness), intellectual or mental health impairment are not mentioned in any of the 8 Goals, the attendant 21 targets, the 60 indicators nor in the Millennium Declaration;

NOTING THAT the absence of disability issues in the MDGs is of a particular concern because of the growing consensus by disability advocates/experts/researchers that the most pressing issue faced globally by PWDs is not their specific disability, rather their lack of equitable access to resources such as education, employment, health care and the social and legal support systems, resulting in PWDs having disproportionately high rate of poverty;

AWARE of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) which came into force in 2008 and the Resolution of the UN General Assembly adopted at its sixty fifth (65th) session “Realization of MDGs for Persons With Disabilities for 2015 and beyond”.

NOW, THEREFORE THIS ASSEMBLY DO HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS; TO:

1. Urge the UN agencies, Governments and Civil Society to ensure that the key issues of PWDs as identified by advocates/experts/researchers in the EAC on disability issues be adopted as one of the key development goals in the post 2015 Millennium Development Goals (Matrix attached).
2. Urge the UN, Governments and Civil Society to establish a formal “Resource Framework on Disability Issues” that will make collaboration with the UN system, countries and relevant stakeholders to foster strategic thinking and planning on the MDGs and disability issues.
3. Urge the UN to establish a permanent agency within the UN Framework to deal with issues of persons with disabilities.
4. Call upon the Secretary General and the Council of Ministers to urgently bring this matter to the attention of the Summit of the EAC Heads of State.
5. Urge the Summit of the EAC Heads of State to vigorously pursue this matter so that it is put on the agenda of the next UN General Assembly.
6. Urge all governments in the world to take specific measures for mainstreaming disability at global, regional and national levels for short term, medium term and long term results.

Moved by: Hon. Dr. James Ndahiro

Submitted by: Mrs. Elizabeth Linn