



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
**MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL
WELFARE**

**CONTENTS OF THE NATIONAL
POLICY ON DISABILITY**

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BACKGROUND

- The National Policy on Disability was approved by Cabinet in 2013.
- The Policy is being disseminated in order to inform stakeholders of the policy and of governments intentions aimed at protecting and promoting the rights and interest of persons with disabilities.
- Furthermore, government would like to ensure support and participation of everyone in the implementation of this policy to ensure wellbeing for persons with disabilities.

INTRODUCTION

- The formulation of the NPD was necessitated by the need to have a specific framework for addressing disability issues in Zambia.
- The policy has an implementation plan and is divided into 7 sections.
- Section one covers the introduction, while the rest of the sections cover the situation analysis, vision, rationale, guiding principles, objectives, strategies and the last component outlines the implementation framework.

SITUATION ANALYSIS

Legislation pertaining to persons with disabilities dates back to the pre-independence period:-

- In 1961, the Blind Persons Ordinance was enacted, under the Northern Rhodesia Government.
- After Independence, came the enactment of the Handicapped Persons Act of 1968, which facilitated the establishment of the Zambia Council for the Handicapped.
- In 1996, the Zambian Government enacted the Persons with Disabilities Act No. 33, which repealed the Handicapped Persons Act.

SITUATION ANALYSIS

- In 2012, the Persons with Disabilities Act. No 6 of 2012 was enacted, which repealed the Persons with Disabilities Act. 33 of 1996.
- This new act was put in place to ensure that it mainstreamed the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

SITUATION ANALYSIS

Causes of Disability:-

○ Direct Causes

- ✓ Direct causes include accidents, congenital factors, and diseases like polio, measles, meningitis and stroke. Other factors are psychological trauma and violence, especially against women and children.

○ Pre-disposing factors

- ✓ Poverty;
- ✓ Nutritional deficiencies;
- ✓ Abuse and mis-application of conventional & traditional medicines;
- ✓ Other factors include diabetes, high blood pressure and STIs including HIV and AIDS.

AREAS BEING ADDRESSED

The policy seeks to address the following areas;

- Prevalence of Disability in Zambia;
- Disability and Poverty;
- Disability and unemployment;
- Disability as a Human Rights and Development Issue;
- Disability and Economic Development;
- Disability, Information and Education;
- Prevention and Rehabilitation;
- Disability and Accessibility;
- Disability and HIV/AIDS

HOUSING, TRANSPORT AND LIVING ENVIRONMENTS



March 2016

PROVINCIAL DISSEMINATION MEETINGS

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VISION

The vision of the policy is “Persons with disabilities enjoying equal opportunities that are fundamental for living and development by 2030”.

RATIONALE

- Government recognises that PWDs ought to have the same rights, opportunities, choices and needs as people without disabilities. Efforts aimed at improving the lives and welfare of PWDs remain fragmented, uncoordinated and ineffective.
- Therefore, as part of the process of equalising opportunities, Government had to put into operation a policy to guide Government and stakeholders on disability and development in the country.

RATIONALE

- The policy will assist in enhancing mainstreaming of disability issues in national development.
- The policy will also pave way for legal reforms & domestication of International Conventions that will enhance realisation of rights of PWDs and create an enabling environment that takes into consideration their needs.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Partnership;
- Co-ordination;
- Full and Effective Participation and Inclusion in society;
- Accountability and Transparency;
- Respect for Inherent Dignity and Individual Autonomy;
- Equity and Non-discrimination;
- Traditional Values; and
- Accessibility.

POLICY OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

- In order to achieve government's vision of ensuring that persons with disabilities live decent and productive lives without any barriers, policy objectives and measures have been developed.
- The Policy objectives and strategies are in line with the United Nations Conventions on the Rights for Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) framework.

POLICY OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

- **FOCUS AREAS:-**
 - ✓ PREVENTION OF DISABILITY;
 - ✓ HABILITATION AND REHABILITATION;
 - ✓ HUMAN RIGHTS;
 - ✓ EQUITY OF OPPORTUNITIES;
 - ✓ NETWORKING AND PARTNERSHIP;
 - ✓ EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING;
 - ✓ ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH CARE/ SERVICES;
 - ✓ ADEQUATE STANDARD OF LIVING AND SOCIAL PROTECTION;
 - ✓ DISABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY.

IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

- This section outlines the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders.
- Participation and partnership with stakeholders is necessary for the successful implementation of this policy.

INSTITUTIONAL & LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- Stakeholders roles and responsibilities in implementing the policy are made clearer.
- The policy also provides for review of existing legislation with a view to establish comprehensive legal framework.

RESOURCE MOBILISATION

As outlined in the policy, the implementation plan will require resource mobilisation through various means such as government budgetary provisions, partnerships with Cooperating Partners, private sector and Disability Persons Service Organisations.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- The monitoring and evaluation function will be undertaken at all levels to enhance accountability and effectiveness.
- Skill development in disability related programme planning, monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in order to effectively equip officers charged with the responsibility to monitor and evaluate the implementation of this policy.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION....

- Establish an integrated monitoring and evaluation system to track implementation of the plan will be required as provided by the policy;
- Periodic review and evaluation to assess performance and improve programming is also key.

END OF PRESENTATION

**Thank you for
listening!!**