

NEWS

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Historic Climate Action Win: Disability Caucus Secures Official Recognition



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The Disability Caucus has been officially recognised, marking a historic milestone for inclusive global climate governance. For the first time, persons with disabilities and their representative organisations have a formally acknowledged platform within the climate negotiations to ensure their voices are heard and meaningfully integrated into policies, plans and frameworks that directly affect their lives and communities. Persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected by climate impacts, yet their perspectives have long been overlooked in adaptation, mitigation, and resilience strategies.

While the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has provided opportunity over the years for the disability movement to speak and contribute to discussions, the establishment and recognition of a Disability Caucus as an Informal Group of stakeholders active within in the UNFCCC process firmly signals the long-overdue commitment to equity, accessibility and human rights at the heart of climate policy. It's a breakthrough that reflects years of sustained advocacy by disability rights organisations and allies who have insisted that climate justice must include everyone.

This announcement is not the end of the road: as a Caucus, everyone will continue working towards full Constituency status with UNFCCC, **to ensure persons with disabilities are given equal rights and opportunities available to full constituencies within the negotiation process.**

What has happened this week is a **huge victory for persons with disabilities** and a profound step forward for global climate justice and for creating a climate agenda shaped by and accountable to all.