



REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA

THIRD COMMITTEE

GENERAL DEBATE

**TENTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF STATES
PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.**

NEW YORK 13 -15 JUNE 2017.

FULL STATEMENT

Mr. President,

1. At the outset, we wish to congratulate you for your election as the President of this Conference and for your statement.
2. We welcome the Secretary-General, for the opening remarks also the Chairperson of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and thank all of them for the long-standing commitment to the defense of the rights of the persons with disabilities.
3. We equally welcome the civil society representative.
4. The Angolan Delegation welcomes this year annual session devoted especially to the analysis of “The Second Decade of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Inclusion and Full

Participation of Persons with Disabilities and Their Representative Organizations in the Implementation of the Convention”.

5. Angola has ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocols in 2013, and has been a full member of the Convention since May 2014
6. In line with the Convention, the Angolan Government has adopted a legal framework which began in 1970s and comprises projects and programs for the inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities in a normal daily life targeting disability in a cross-cutting and multisectoral manner.
7. The definitive results of the general population and housing census indicate that in 2014, the prevalence of disabilities among the Angolan population was 2.5%, i.e. 656,258 persons with disabilities, of

whom 365,858 (56%) are males and 290,400 (44%) are female.

8. We would like to emphasize that, in the field of implementation of the programs and projects developed by the Angolan Government, the issue of disabilities is addressed in a cross-cutting and multisectoral manner. Thus, there are programs for the prevention of disabilities, physical rehabilitation, vocational training and rehabilitation and social inclusion, and these are developed by several Ministerial Departments, namely: the Ministries of Health; Youths and Sports; Education; Higher Education; Public Administration; Labor And Social Security; Social Assistance and Reintegration; Families and the Promotion of Women; as well as governmental institutions such as the National Inter-Ministerial Commission on Demining and Humanitarian Assistance (CNIDAH), and various civil society partners.

9. Recently, three important legal instruments have been approved, namely, Presidential Decree 207/14 of August 15, which approved the Intervention Strategy for Social Inclusion of Children with Disabilities; Presidential Decree 12/16 of January 15, on allotted vacancies and procedures for the hiring of persons with disabilities—4% in civil service and 2% in the private sector; as well as Law 10/16, of July 27, which establishes accessibility for persons with disabilities or limited mobility so as to allow them access to all community systems and services, thereby creating conditions for the effective exercise of full citizenship.

10. It is worth noting here that this past May, the Government approved Angola's Initial Report on the Implementation of the Covenant on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, a document that will be reviewed shortly in Geneva.

11. The implementation of the provisions of the Constitution, along with other legal instruments, has

allowed for the reduction of obstacles and constraints faced by people with disabilities on a daily basis regarding access to public buildings, education and teaching, social protection and employment.

12. **We highlight vocational training and rehabilitation**, which enables formal and informal employment, and which is one of the priority activities in the context of the social inclusion of disabled persons. Hence, the primary focus has been to strengthen vocational training and qualification programs, making them accessible to people with disabilities, thus ensuring a good level of technical preparation so that they are fit for specific jobs, thereby facilitating their integration or direct inclusion in the labor market.

13. Within the scope of these actions, it was possible to train 1,740 (one thousand seven hundred and forty) persons with disabilities in the period from 2010 to September 2016.

14. There are 596 Vocational Training Centers in the country 269 of which are Private Centers and 318 are Public Centers.

15. **In the field of Physical Rehabilitation,** there are 11 (eleven) Orthopedic Centers in operation, of which three (3) are in the northern region and serve about 215 (two hundred and fifteen) people per day; two (2) centers in the southern region serving about 60 (sixty) people per day; 4 (four) in the south-central region serving 148 (one hundred and forty-eight) people per day; 1 (one) center in the eastern region serving 23 (twenty-three) persons per day; and 1 (one) center in the northernmost region serving 40 (forty) people per day.

16. **In the field of special education,** there are 28,467 (twenty-eight thousand, four hundred and sixty-seven) children enrolled in the system, 20 (twenty) Special Needs Schools, 775 (seven hundred and seventy-five) Inclusive Schools, 1,895 (one thousand eight hundred and ninety five) Inclusive Rooms, 28 (twenty-eight) Resource

Rooms, 1,555 (one thousand, five-hundred and fifty-five) Teachers who teach in the Special Needs Schools, and 479 (four hundred and seventy-nine) Teachers who teach in Inclusive Schools.

17. **Regarding accessibility**, we highlight the gradual elimination of architectural barriers in several public buildings, with access ramps being placed at the main entrance, especially in old buildings. All refurbished and expanded airports were equipped with ramps, elevators and escalators.

18. **In the area of partnerships**, the joint work with the Angolan Federation of Associations of Persons with Disabilities (FAPED), which brings together 27 organizations, has been of crucial importance in assisting the Government in the assessment of needs by suggesting adequate solutions or offering complementary services to those provided by the public agencies of the State.apparatus.

19. For a more rational use of State resources and in order to avoid duplication of actions in favor of the same beneficiaries, the Government created

conditions for allocating funds from the General State Budget to Organizations representing persons with disabilities and dispensing services as Public Utilities, thereby reaching an increasing number of people with disabilities with complementary actions within these partnerships.

20. It should be noted that the oversight and evaluation of programs and projects for the benefit of persons with disabilities are carried out through monthly, quarterly and annual follow-up, verification and reporting visits.

Mr. President,

21. To conclude, we reaffirm the Angolan Government commitment to continue implementing the Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities in order to assure that no one is left behind.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.

