

## **International Day of Persons with Disabilities observed peacefully**



ISLAMABAD - The United Nations (UN) International Day of Persons with Disabilities is being celebrated today across the globe including Pakistan to increase the understanding of the issues related to disabilities by drawing attention towards the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. According to a statement of United Nations Educational, Scientific

and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) issued here on Monday, people with disabilities made up an estimated 15 percent of the world's population. Almost one-fifth of the estimated global totals of persons living with disabilities, which was between 110-190 million, encountered significant difficulties.

Furthermore, a quarter of the global population was directly affected by disability as care-givers or family members. The UN "Decade of Disabled Persons" was held from 1983 to 1992 to enable governments and organisations to implement measures to improve the life of disabled persons all over the world. On October 14, 1992, the UN General Assembly proclaimed December 3 as the "International Day of Disabled Persons", and this day was first observed on December 3, 1992.

On December 18, 2007, the assembly changed the observance's name from the "International Day of Disabled Persons" to the "International Day of Persons with Disabilities". The new name was first used in 2008. The goal of full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in society and development was established by the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1982.