



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织



UNESCO celebrates International Day of Persons with Disabilities

3 December 2012, 3 p.m. – 5.30 p.m., Room IV,
UNESCO Headquarters, 7 place de Fontenoy 75007, Paris

The adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities proclaimed on 3 December 2006 embodied a shift of paradigm from charity to social approach ensuring the rights of persons with disabilities.

On the occasion of the forthcoming International Day of Persons with Disabilities, UNESCO is organizing an event which will take place in Room IV (Fontenoy building) from 3 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. on 3 December 2012.

UNESCO is one of the UN agencies which promotes and supports the implementation of the UN Convention within its areas of mandate. The UN Convention represents a universal framework for the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities and reaffirms that all persons with all types of disabilities can enjoy all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

UNESCO recognizes that inclusive education for all, universal access to information and knowledge, and social inclusion are of vital importance to ensure that all persons, including persons with disabilities, are able to participate as creative and productive members of knowledge societies.

In this connection, UNESCO aims to:

- Promote the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities,
- Engage more fruitfully and successfully with the task of enabling an inclusive environment, where all people, irrespective of disability, can pursue education, employment without barriers, access to information and knowledge and exercise other related activities;
- Assist its Member States in facilitating social inclusion of people with disabilities through information and communication technologies (ICTs).

Agenda of the event on the occasion of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities

3 December 2012, 3 p.m. – 5.30 p.m., Room IV (Fontenoy building),
UNESCO Headquarters, 7 place de Fontenoy 75352, Paris 07 SP

Note: Interpretation will be made available in English and in French

- 3 - 3.10 p.m. Opening remarks by UNESCO:
Mr Qian Tang, Assistant Director-General for Education
Mr Jānis Kārklīņš, Assistant Director-General for Communication
and Information
- 3.10 - 3.20 p.m. UNESCO's policy on the employment of persons with disabilities
Ms Ana Luiza Thompson-Flores, Director of the Bureau of Human
Resource Management
- 3.20 - 4 p.m. UNESCO's programmatic actions aiming to promote the rights of
persons with disabilities:
- Ensuring the right to inclusive education for all:
Education Sector
 - Access to information and knowledge:
Communication and Information Sector
- 4 - 4.15 p.m. Role of civil society in advancing the rights of persons with
disabilities
- Introduction by External Relations and Information Sector
 - Contribution from NGO(s)
- 4.15 - 4.25 p.m. Implementation of inclusive education policies:
The experience of the Province of Quebec, Canada,
presented by Ms Michèle Stanton-Jean, Representative of
Quebec, Permanent Delegation of Canada to UNESCO
- 4.25 - 4.40 p.m. Promoting inclusive education through accessible technologies
presented by Mr James Thurston, Microsoft Corporation
- 4.40 - 5.00 p.m. Discussion
- 5 - 5.10 p.m. Advocating for the rights of persons with disabilities through art
- Introduction by Mr Fausto Urru to the photo exhibition entitled :
"Montre-moi qui tu es", Photos by Blind Photographers from
Italy and France,
Association Dialogue de l'Image*
 - Statement by Mr Armoogum Parsuramen,
Chairman and Founder of Global Rainbow Foundation
and introduction of the film
- 5.10 - 5.30 p.m. Documentary films screening**, 'We Care Film Festival 2012'
Introduction and screening of award winning short films by
Mr Satish Kapoor, Founder President- Brotherhood and
We Care Film Festival
- Moderator: Mr Indrajit Banerjee, Director, Knowledge Societies Division,
Communication and Information Sector

***The photo exhibition 'Montre-moi qui tu es', will be on display from 20 November to 7 December 2012 at UNESCO, Salle des Pas Perdus, Fontenoy building.**

**** Details of the documentary films**

1. **Dove's Tale/ Cerebal palsy/ Ambuja Kumar Satapathy/5 min/ India**
When the mind blooms, the heart melts, there evolves a penchant desire to beak at a mouthful of sky. Mousumi afflicted with C. P. Is no exception to the primordial desire but is sandwiched between fate and sexual rights. Supita, a close friend of Mousami vehemently rejects the role of fate in finding out a life partner to navigate the journey under earth. She is optimistic and is keen to advocating for equality of sexuality and invites a soothing and enabling mind in the inclusive domain.
2. **Saksham Lok/Physical Impairment/Ayush Nagpal/ 5 min/India**
The film is an exposition of the view that self-reliance is the best assistance a challenged individual can have. *Saksham Lok* is the land of freedom through self-reliance. The residents of *Saksham-Lok* may not be physically whole but are truly and completely self-reliant. When a *Chanchal Vihar* resident visits *Saksham Lok* for the first time, he gets a few potentially life-changing lessons.
3. **If We can walk together/Snehasis Das/1 min/ India**
We can break the barrier together if, we support and respect each other.
4. **Nine Gold Medals/multiple Disabilities/Puneet Sharma/1 min**
Several years ago, something amazing happened at the Special Olympics in Seattle, USA. The race of 100 yards dash and nine contestants, all with physical and mental disability, stood ready at the starting line. The gun fired and everyone took off. All, that is, except for one little boy who stumbled and tripped, then fell to the ground and began to cry. Hearing him the other contestants stopped running and went back to help him up and all nine children joined hands and walked together to the finish line. Nine gold medals were awarded to all of them.
5. **Virtue/Physically Impairment/Ajay Srivastav/3 min/India**
This movie is about believing in the ability that the disabled have, regardless of their physical incapability. The movie shows an auto driver who refuses to give even a rupee to a crippled beggar who comes begging at a traffic signal. However, the lady passenger gives some money to the beggar. She, then irritatingly scolds the driver for being so rude & selfish. The driver stays silent. On reaching her stop she asks the driver to get the change, as he does not have it. The driver takes out his crutches, showing that he himself is crippled. The movie ends with the associated message.
6. **I live like you/Multiple Disability/L. Amarendra Sharma/5 min**
This is story of wonderful happenings of life. Isheihanbi, a severely disabled girl who hardly speaks normally, leads extra ordinarily difficult life. With the help of her extra ordinary talent, she fulfills the necessities of her household. She even earns her living by doing embroidery work through her feet. She is a depiction of patience and hard work for the achievement of success in life.