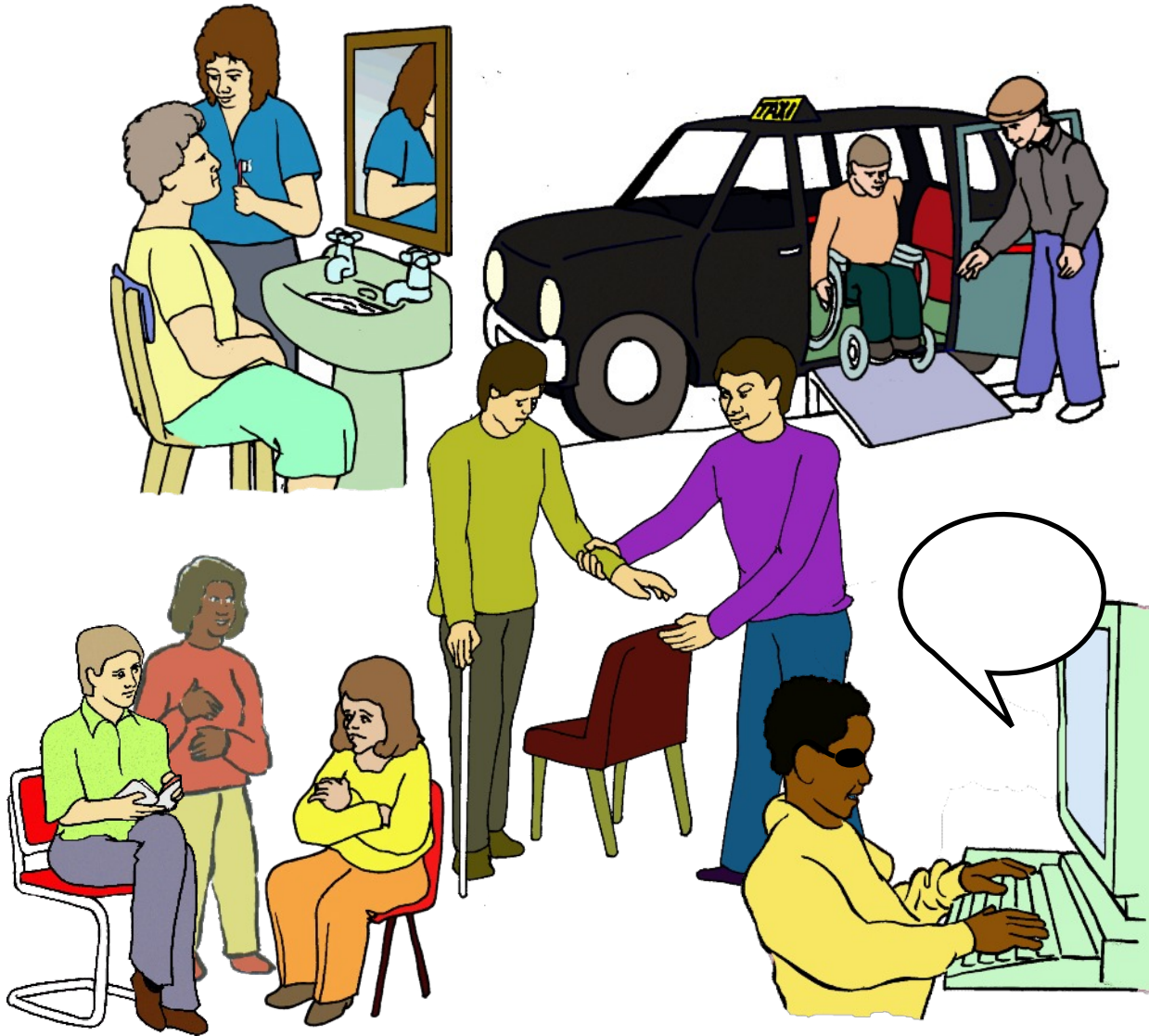




The rights of people with disabilities.



Support services for people with disabilities.



EasyRead version of:
**Report of the Special Rapporteur
on the rights of persons with disabilities.**



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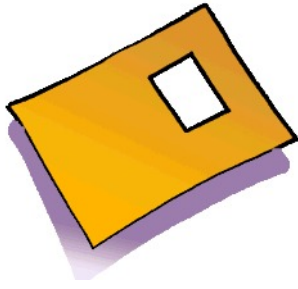
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Sometimes we need to use new or difficult words.

These words are in **bold** and there is a list of what they mean at the end of this report.

1. About this report



Every year the **Special Rapporteur** writes reports for the **United Nations** about **human rights** and people with disabilities.



The **United Nations** is a group of countries that work together to make the world a safer place for everyone.



The **Special Rapporteur** is Catalina Devadas-Aguilar. She helps countries understand how to make sure people with disabilities can get their **human rights**.

MARCH 2016						
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This is an EasyRead version of the **Special Rapporteur's** report about:

- what she has done since March 2016



- what **support** people with disabilities need for getting their **human rights**



- how to make sure that people with disabilities have the **support** they need.



With her report the **Special Rapporteur** wants to make sure that all countries follow the **United Nations Disability Convention**.



She explains how countries can give people with disabilities the support that they want and need for getting their **human rights**. **Human rights** are important for living a good life.



2. What the Special Rapporteur did

MARCH 2016

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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Since March 2016 the **Special Rapporteur**:



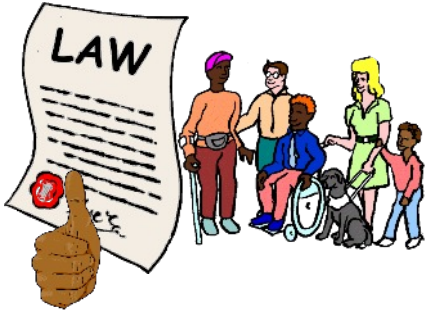
- visited Zambia to find out what life is like for people with disabilities living there



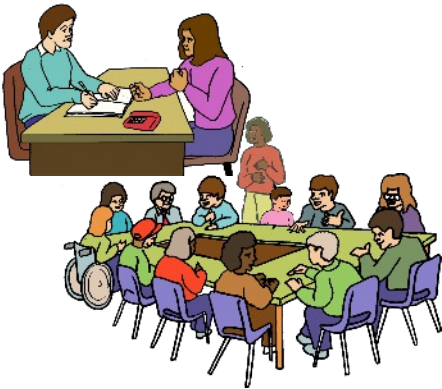
- talked about rights and people with disabilities at conferences and meetings in different countries



- wrote letters and reports about what are the problems and best solutions for people with disabilities. There are EasyRead versions of some reports



- helped people understand that it is important that all laws and policies work for people with disabilities.



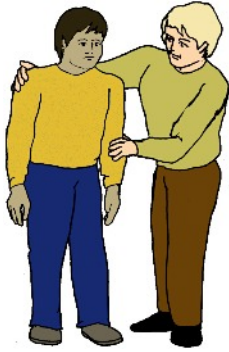
The **Special Rapporteur** spoke to governments, organisations and people with disabilities' groups and visited different countries to learn about the support that people with disabilities should have and the services that exist.



This report is about what she found out about people with disabilities being supported in their communities.



3. Why it is important to support people with disabilities



All people are very different from each other but everyone needs **support** some times. **Support** is a normal part of everyone's life.



When we talk about **support** we mean help:

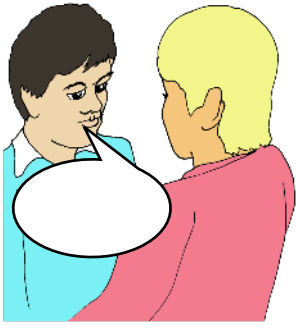
- to do every day things



- to be involved in the community



- to make decisions



- to say what we think



- to be safe.



Good support helps people with disabilities to be **independent** and get their **human rights**.

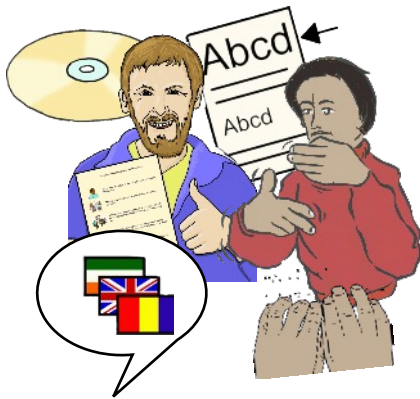


This might be support from your family or friends.



It can also be from services that help with things like:

- getting up, washing, dressing and eating



- understanding the information and communicating



- getting a home and taking care of the housework



- making decisions and choices for themselves



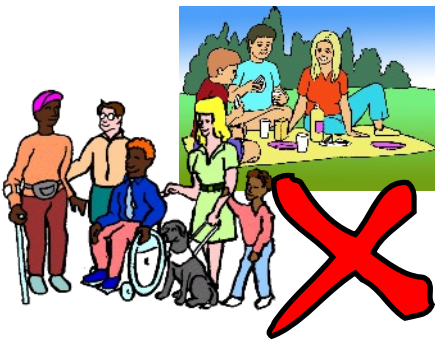
- getting involved in the community using the same services as other people. For example, schools, colleges, housing or transport.



There are one billion people with disabilities in the world or 15 in every 100 of all the people alive today.



The **Special Rapporteur** is worried that only a few people with disabilities have support. Most people with disabilities are not getting the **support** services that they need.



Without **support** it becomes hard for people with disabilities to do the things that other people do.



Without **support** people with disabilities go through difficulties and can be put in danger. They find it difficult to take part in the community.



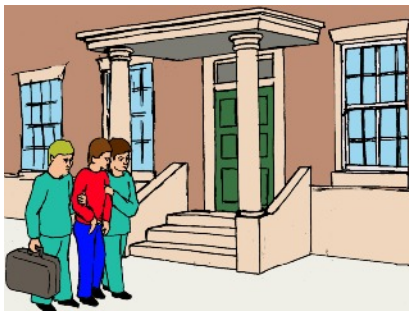
Families are the first source of **support** for everyone. This is why it is so important that families get **support** as well.



In the past, it was thought that people with disabilities needed medical treatment as if they are ill. People with disabilities were not allowed to take control over their lives.



Many people who run services still think the best way to **support** people with disabilities is in big institutions like hospitals.



This means they are forced to live away from their families and communities.



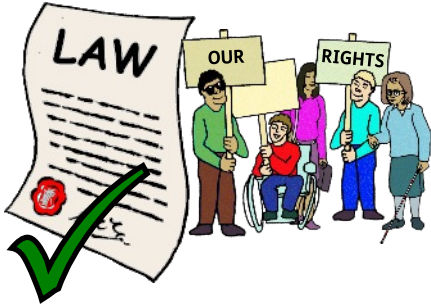
Things must change and countries need plans and policies to make sure people with disabilities get the respect they should have.



The **Special Rapporteur** said countries need laws that give people with disabilities their **human rights**.



4. Your rights to have support



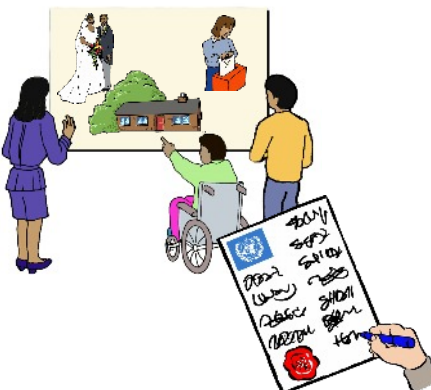
Being supported is a **human right** and there are **international laws** about this. Many countries have agreed to follow these laws.



The **United Nations Disability Convention** is the main law that they should follow.



When countries sign the **United Nations Disability Convention** they say they will make sure people with disabilities have a choice of different **support** services.



The **United Nations Disability Convention** says all people with disabilities should be involved in decisions about their lives.



This includes deciding what **support** they need to:

- do the same things that other people do



- be involved in their communities



- stay safe



- have information about **support** or equipment that can help them be more independent.



The **United Nations Disability Convention** says all countries must have their own laws to give people **support** to make decisions and have a big say in their lives.

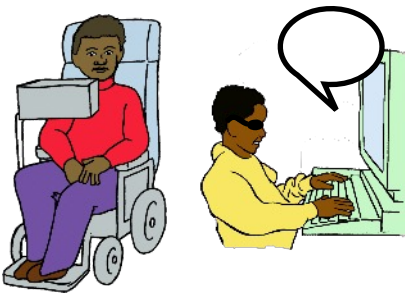


It is harder for some people with disabilities to get the right type of **support**.

For example:



- women or girls



- children with disabilities



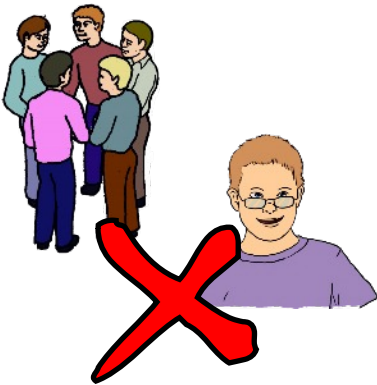
- older people



- other groups of people that often get left out. For example, people who have had to leave their own countries, small groups of people from different ethnic groups or prisoners.



They might miss out because they do not know about services. But often services do not know how to **support** them properly.



Services must get rid of discrimination and make sure all people with disabilities can get good, safe **support** in their local community.



Governments must also make sure families who care for someone with a disability get the **support** they need.



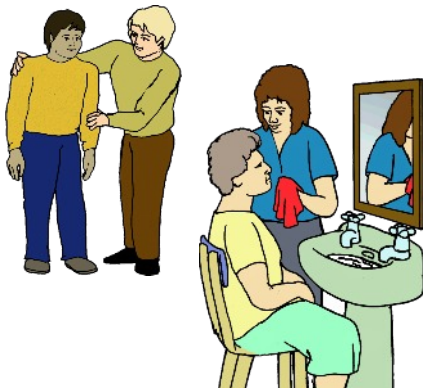
Some types of **support** can be provided free of charge while others cost a lot of money. That is why Governments need to plan enough money to make sure people with disabilities keep getting the **support** they need.



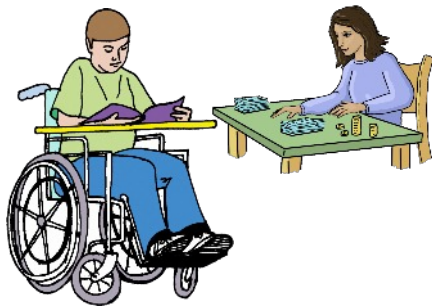
5. The most important things to think about



Countries that sign the **United Nations Disability Convention** must think about 4 things:



1. Have enough **support** services with staff who know how to **support** people with disabilities.



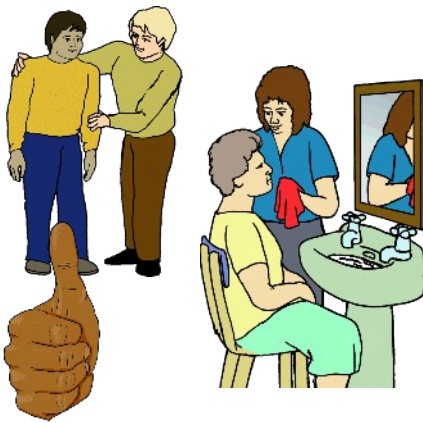
2. Make sure all people with disabilities know about **support** services and can afford to use them.



3. People should choose whether to use **support** services or not. But countries should make sure they have different types of services so people can find **support** that is right for them.



4. People with disabilities must be involved in planning and controlling their own **support**. This includes individual funding where people know how much their **support** costs and choose how the money is spent.



5. Make sure that **support** services are of good quality and safe.



Also, countries that use the 2030 Agenda should make sure that persons with disabilities get the **support** they need.



The 2030 Agenda is a plan that says what all countries should do together to:



- give people a good life



- save the planet from damage.



6. Making sure people with disabilities get the support they need



People with disabilities should have **support** to:

- make decisions



- communicate



- get around



- live in their own homes and go out into the community



- use services that other people use. For example, schools, colleges, housing or transport.

The **United Nations Disability Convention** says countries that sign it must:



- Have laws and policies to give all people with disabilities the same chance to use **support** services and assistive technology (switches or other equipment that help you communicate or use things).



- Check that those that provide **support** give good, safe **support**. Governments must also check that people get good **support** when they pay for it with individual funding.



- Involve people with disabilities and their organisations in decisions about planning and checking **support** services. This includes children with disabilities.



- Make sure services do not discriminate against people with disabilities. Give people **support** to decide where and how they want to live.



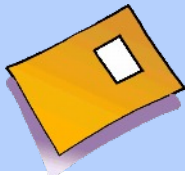
- Plan how to have enough money to make sure people with disabilities keep getting the support they need.



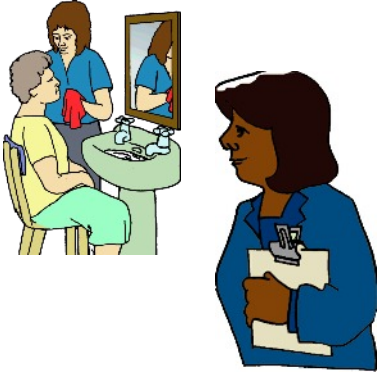
- Work with other countries and governments to think about **human rights** when they plan or pay for services for people with disabilities.



- Have a way to make sure people get the **support** they need and check that people are safe.



7. Conclusion



Countries have to make sure that people with disabilities have **support** services.



Support helps people with disabilities to get the same **human rights** as everyone else and live a good life.



It is important to ask people with disabilities how they want to be supported and what they need. They know best what works for them.



The **Special Rapporteur** is worried that not enough is being done to make sure people with disabilities are getting **support**.



If they do not have good **support** services, people with disabilities have less chance to do what they want or need to do.



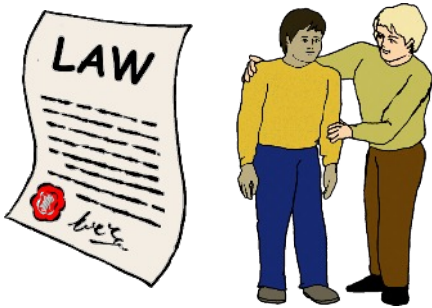
Without **support** people go through difficulties and can be put in danger.



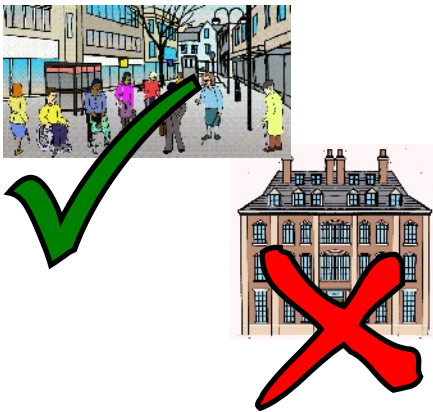
8. What happens next?



The **Special Rapporteur** says these things will help countries have good support services for people with disabilities:



- laws to make sure people with disabilities can get different types of support



- local and national plans for good support in the community. Not large hospitals away from their homes and families



- enough money to make sure services can keep supporting people



- social protection to give everyone the same chances in life



- individual funding to give people with disabilities choice and control



- services that do not discriminate



- people that check regularly if the services give good, safe support



- involving people with disabilities in decisions about support services



- enough money to spend on having more services and making them better



- work with other countries to stop discrimination and learn how to support people with disabilities.



The **Special Rapporteur** says the United Nations should think about good support for people with disabilities in everything it does.



9. What the words mean

2030 Agenda - a plan that says what all countries should do together to give people a good life and save the planet from damage. The 2030 Agenda will be the most important document for the next 15 years

Assistive technology - switches or other equipment that help you communicate or use things

Discrimination – treating someone worse than other people because of who they are or where they come from

Human Rights – basic rights and freedoms that should happen for every person in the world

Independent – not being controlled by other people or having the possibility to do things that you want

International law – a set of rules that was commonly agreed on by many countries

Rights – things that should happen for every person

Social protection - things that give everyone the same chances in life. For example, having enough food, basic healthcare, going to school or money to help pay for things

Special Rapporteur – a person working for the UN who helps countries understand what they need to do to make sure people get their rights

Support - help to be involved and do every day things

United Nations (UN) – a group of 193 different countries that work together to try to make the world a better and safer place for everyone

United Nations Disability Convention – a set of rules that countries have to follow to give people with disabilities the same **human rights** as everyone else



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