Dear Member

The High-level meeting of the General Assembly on disability and development will be held at UN Headquarters in New York on 23 September, the day prior to the commencement of the General Debate of the 68th session of the General Assembly. The theme of the High Level Meeting will be: “The way forward: A disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond.”

Robinah Alambuya, Board member of WNUSP and Chairperson of PANUSP has been invited by the President of the UN General Assembly to address this High Level Meeting. At the Meeting, Governments are expected to adopt an Outcome Document created to support the aims of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities.

The Outcome Document is the result of extensive negotiations by Member States and input from organizations of persons with disabilities and other relevant stakeholders. Preparation has been ongoing since 2012, comprising of informal, online, and regional consultations. The agreed text of the Outcome Document is attached as an annex to this newsletter.

With Robinah at the events surrounding this important event next week are WNUSP international representative, Tina Minkowitz and Co-Chair of WNUSP, Salam Gomez.

An Advocacy Paper (attached) has been prepared by the Technical Resource Group of WNUSP, for the discussions at this United Nations event where the main points are:

The WNUSP advocates that the legal barriers to full enjoyment of all human rights be removed, as a first step towards effective participation and full inclusion within the Development process. Specifically:

(1) repeal of any legal provisions that authorize detention or compulsory treatment in mental health settings;

(2) repeal of any legal provisions that authorize guardianship or substituted decision-making, a position that is congruent with provisions 12 and 14 of the CRPD. And finally,

(3) In compliance with Article 19 of the CRPD, ensure the right of choice to live in the community and being able to access a variety of support and recovery services necessary for full inclusion within the Development process and living a life of autonomy and dignity.

http://wgwnusp2013.wordpress.com/2013/09/20/wnusp-team-and-united-nations-september-high-level-meeting/

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Kind Regards

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