

## MAINSTREAMING AND EMPOWERMENT OF PWDs IN AFRICA (SWAZILAND)

Our host the world bank, our co-ordinators of this programme, protocols observed, ladies and gentlemen.

My name is Nomsa from Swaziland. I am very happy to address you today I thank those who thought it worthy to organize this very important training for leaders of the disability movement in African countries.

I am happy to hear that World Bank is giving support to the African countries.

As we all know that Swaziland is part of the African state, whose economy is artificial because of this experiences and unstable economy, issues of people with disabilities are given less attention, this has led to poor services to people with disabilities, I have heard that there are (poor) people who live on only US\$ 1 for a day. Members, I want to inform you that PWDs are the poorest of the poor, they live some times without food or they live on half a dollar this is very miserable.

People with disabilities in Swaziland have remained marginalized and less confident. Basing on the facts that people with disabilities are victims of circumstances, therefore, I kindly call for partnership between the World Bank and people with disabilities in Swaziland.

Hiv/aids has become prevalence in Swaziland and many peoples with disabilities have become victims of the circumstances they lack information regarding preventative measures.

The level of discrimination in Swaziland is characterized by poor roads. Lack of access to education. Information and communication, unaccessibility to public structures even hospitals where we expect everyone to be assisted but for people with disabilities it's a myth.

The Swaziland community looks at people with disabilities as objects, instead of human beings.

The discrimination basing on disability is high and this has failed many young PWDs to go school. Even those who have had a chance to have education have been denied jobs because of the existing barriers therefore this course is very important and has come in the right time.

I thank the organizers of this programme because we are getting exposed to different kinds of approaches in regards to advocacy.

Thank you very much for listening to me for god and my country.

