

# Conference

## External Co-operation Info Point

Rue de la Loi 41, Ground floor

**Monday, December 3, 13.00 – 14.00**

World Disability Day

### **Decent work and Disability Economic Empowerment for people with disabilities**

Speaker: **Ms Karen Heinicke-Motsch**,  
CBM advisor in Community Based Rehabilitation

- People with disabilities make up approximately 10% of any population and 20% of the world's poorest.
- Disability is both a cause and effect of poverty, and 82% of disabled people live below the poverty line in developing countries.
- Around 386 million of the world's working age people have a disability.
- Many people with disabilities are willing and able to work but are unemployed – as many as 80% in some countries.



**"Persons with disabilities  
have equal rights to work  
and gain a living"**

*Article 27 of the UN  
Convention on the Rights of  
Persons with Disabilities, 2006*

This year's **World Disability Day** focuses on how to ensure decent work for persons with disabilities.

Persons with disabilities experience high rates of unemployment, and where they are in the workplace are paid less compared to their able-bodied peers. Even when qualified, they often lack opportunities to use their skills due to discrimination. In low income countries they face even greater barriers. Trapped by poverty and marginalized, they cope with choices and challenges which are a far cry from decent.

This conference proposes to briefly introduce:

- The EC own policies on employment/decent work and development cooperation
- The global situation in terms of disability, poverty and employment
- The strategies which are available to promote access to decent work for people with disabilities.

**Limited seats**

**Please register your attendance** [www.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/frontoffice](http://www.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/frontoffice)

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