



Executive Training: Role of ICT in development of inclusive society for persons with disabilities Statement of situation

ITU Regional Initiative 3 on ensuring accessible telecommunication/ICT, in particular for persons with disabilities

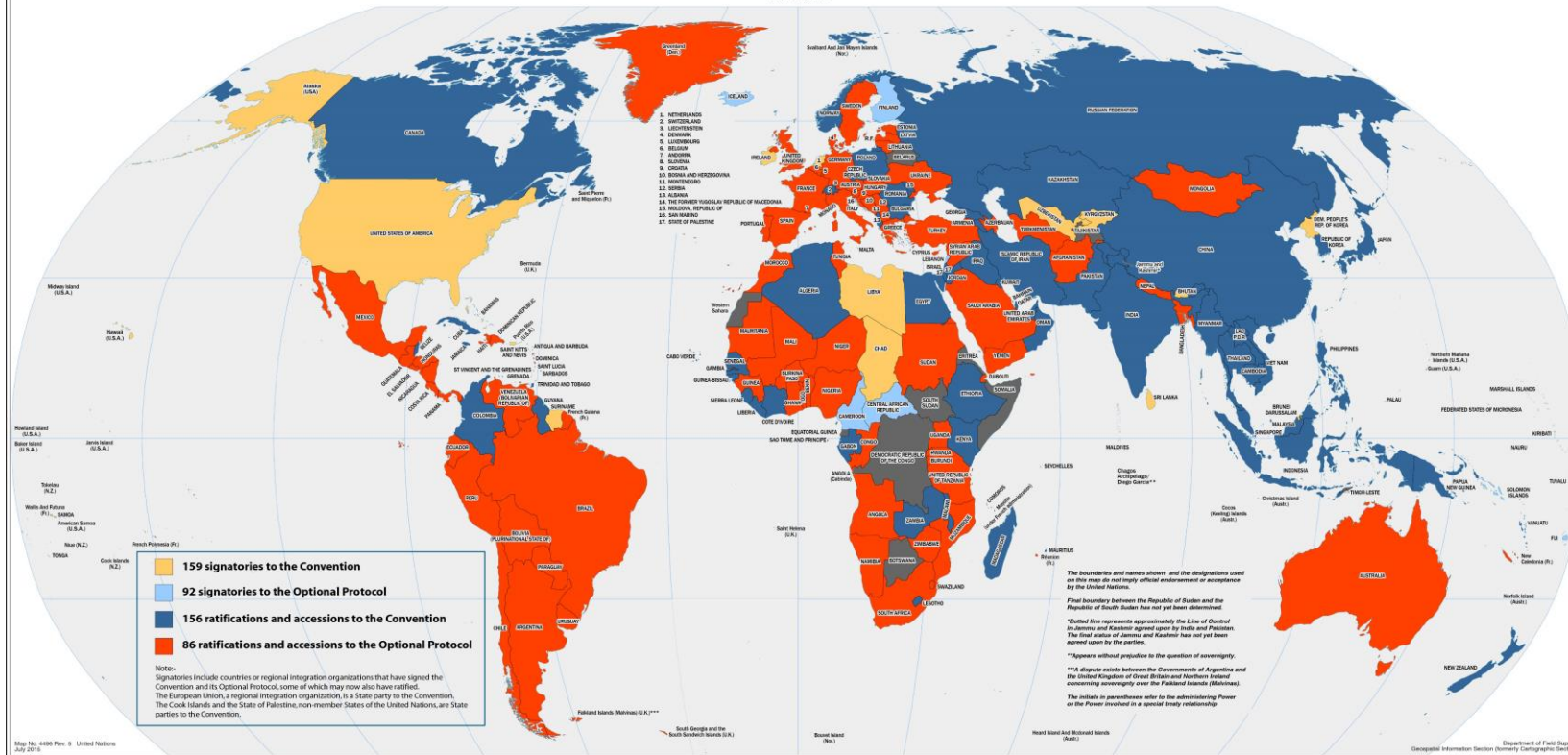
**1 billion people
live with some form of disability**



CRPD and Optional Protocol Signatures and Ratifications

Not Signed
 Signed Convention
 Signed Convention & Protocol
 Ratified Convention
 Ratified Convention & Protocol

As of 1 July 2015



160 signatories; 158 ratifications

Source:

 <http://www.un.org/disabilities/>

CRPD

Article 9 – ICT Accessibility

- To enable persons with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life, States Parties shall take appropriate measures to **ensure to persons with disabilities access, on an equal basis with others . . . to information and communications, including information and communications technologies and systems . . .**
- These measures, which shall include the identification and **elimination of obstacles and barriers to accessibility**, shall apply to Information, communications and other services, including electronic services and emergency services.

Accessibility provides a better life for everyone

Accessibility features

Help:

- aging populations
- the illiterate

Facilitate:

- social inclusion
- education
- jobs
- e-government services
- emergency service

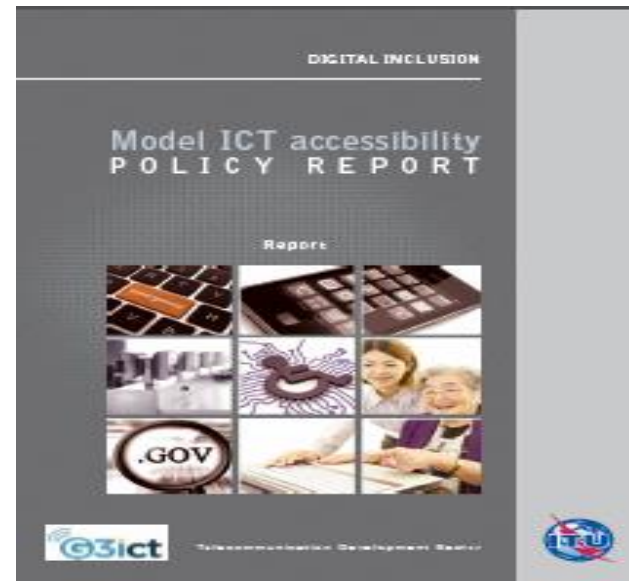
Regional challenges and opportunities in ensuring accessible ICTs

- **Most of developing countries in Europe have a low level of implementation of accessible ICTs (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, FRY Macedonia and Montenegro).**
- **Legal and regulatory framework is often in places, but they are not implemented.**
- **Lack of binding provisions and lack of coordination between the interested parties represent a key challenge.**
- **PWD tend to oppose the use of ICTs because they are not accessible.**
- **Lack of access to Internet prevents PWD to broaden their knowledge.**
- **A low percentage of PWD use social networks due to lack of accessible web sites and mobile communications.**
- **Accessible TV/video programming reaches up to 1% of available programme content.**

Regional challenges and opportunities in ensuring accessible ICTs

- Ensuring political will to implement legislation framework present the most frequent challenge.
- Devising policies and technical requirements for ensuring accessible ICT/TV/video programming (including IPTV and HBB) for PWD is lacking.
- Fostering binding regulatory provisions and measures in ensuring accessible ICTs and monitoring its implementation would improve the current status.
- Strengthening regional cooperation would lead exchange of knowledge, resources thus alleviating financial burdens.
- Mobilisation and strengthening PWD associations, in particular in advocacy, would enable them to voice their requirements more effectively.
- NGOs should be a leading force in raising awareness and education on available policies and technological trends and services.

ITU-G3ICT Model ICT accessibility Policy Report



[http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Digital Inclusion/Pages/Reports.aspx](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Digital%20Inclusion/Pages/Reports.aspx)



Thank you!

More information:

www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Digital-Inclusion/

www.itu.int/accessibility