



Commonwealth
Parliamentary
Association -
Kenya Branch



OUTCOME STATEMENT

**BY THE INAUGURAL COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARIANS
WITH DISABILITIES (CPWD) AFRICA REGION CONFERENCE ON
16TH OCTOBER, 2021**

NAIROBI, KENYA

WE the Members of Parliament from Kenya, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda gathered in Nairobi, Kenya on 15th and 16th October, 2021 for the Inaugural Commonwealth Parliamentarians with Disabilities (CPwD) Africa Region Conference;

NOTING THAT, over the last two days we have taken significant strides in discussing mainstreaming disability considerations in legislative agenda;

FURTHER NOTING THAT, Article 29 (a) of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities provides that, states shall “*Ensure that persons with disabilities can effectively and fully participate in political and public life on an equal basis with others, directly or through freely chosen representatives*”;

RECOGNIZING THAT Articles 60 and 61 of the Protocol of the African Charter on human and people’s rights of persons with disability in Africa recognize regional and international human rights instruments and African practices consistent with international norms on human and peoples’ rights as important reference points to the application and interpretation of the African Charter;

RECOGNIZING THAT, mainstreaming disability considerations is fundamental to the realization of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of

Persons with Disabilities and by extension full enjoyment of the inherent rights of Persons with Disabilities;

COGNIZANT OF THE FACT THAT, it will be important for Member Branches to report on implementation of commitments through existing mechanisms such as the Call to Action and the Commonwealth Parliamentarians with Disabilities Network (CPwD) programmes and activities including the key performance indicators;

NOW THEREFORE, the Inaugural Commonwealth Parliamentarians with Disabilities Conference-

- (i) **Resolves to** collectively work to sustain the momentum of this conference by advocating for disability focused measures that resonate with the public and respond to expansion of access to human rights and fundamental freedoms by persons with disabilities at all levels both in public and private sector;
- (ii) **Further resolves to** strengthen integrated responses to disability matters throughout the governance system, review the fulfilment of the fiscal and budgetary provisions on a country-to-country basis, and implement political, policy and good practice commitments made today;
- (iii) **Urges** individual and corporate members of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and the CPwD Network to deliver on commitments made to Persons with Disabilities;
- (iv) **Decides that** the CPwD Network Africa Region Conference is held annually;
- (v) **Calls on** all Branches to support implementation of these resolutions and mainstreaming of disability considerations in legislative agenda.
- (vi) **Urges** the CPA to set aside budget and funding for activities of the Network;
- (vii) **Further urges** CPA to fast track proposed amendment to the CPA constitution to mainstream CPwD Network as an organ of CPA to spearhead the disability matters within the CPA framework.

NAIROBI, 16th October 2021