

The Secretariat **of the**
African Decade
of Persons with Disabilities



**Occupational Therapy
and The African Decade
of people with
Disabilities
Towards the Future
and Beyond 2010**

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OTARG conference
Malawi, 2 – 10 – 2009

The Secretariat **of the** **African Decade** of Persons with Disabilities

- The African Decade of Persons with Disabilities
- Our role
- Mission
- The Board & Staff
- Decade Steering Committees
- The programme
- Promoting the ratification of the UN Convention



The African Decade of Persons with Disabilities

- The African Decade of Disabled Persons (1999-2009) is the result of a recommendation made by the Labour and Social Affairs Commission of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) during its 22nd Session in April 1999 in Windhoek, Namibia, and adopted by the 35th Session of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in Algiers, Algeria in July 1999. Formally declared and adopted by the 36th Session of the OAU Heads of State and Government in Lome, Togo in July 2000.

The African Decade of Persons with Disabilities

- The ADPwD was proclaimed by the AU for the period 1999 – 2009.
- The aims of the Decade were stipulated in a Plan of Action by the Pan-African Conference on the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities, in 2002.
- In 2003 the African Regional Consultative Conference agreed to establish an NGO to promote and facilitate the implementation of the Decade.
- The Secretariat of the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities was launched in Cape Town, South Africa, in 2004.

The extension of the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities

- It took some time until governments started reacting to the Decade
- Issues of the CPOA not addressed yet
- Request was made by SADPD, with CDPOs and Disabled members of parliament from across Africa to extend the Decade
- The Decision to extend the Decade from 2010 – 2019 was taken at the 1st session of the AU conference on ministers in charge of social development in Windhoek, Namibia, 27 – 31 October 2008

- **Plan of Action for the African Decade of People with Disabilities was adopted by the 25th session of the Labour and Social Affairs Commission of the AU held in 2002;**
- **Member States were urged to allocate sufficient funds to all relevant ministries dealing with people with disabilities to ensure effective implementation of disability programmes and to establish National Coordinating Committees (NCC) to coordinate all disability issues and include people with disabilities in their national programmes;**

Goal of the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities

The goal of the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities is the full participation, equality and empowerment of people with disabilities in Africa. the Decade Plan of Action should be implemented by foremost by Government line ministries and departments Supported by DPOs, the OAU/AU and its specialized agencies and Regional bodies, International orgs such as UN and its agencies Non-governmental organizations, religious organizations, other civil society organizations and individuals committed to the full participation, equality and empowerment of people with disabilities in the African Continent.

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Objectives of the CPOA

Objective 1

To formulate and implement national policies, programmes and legislation to promote the full and equal participation of persons with disabilities.

Objective 2

To promote the **participation** of persons with disabilities in the process of economic and social development.

Objective 3

To promote the self-representation of people with disabilities in all public decision-making structures.

Objective 4

To enhance support services for disabled persons

Objective 5

To promote **special measures** for children, youth, women and elderly persons with disabilities.

Objective 6

To ensure and improve **access to rehabilitation**, education, training, employment, sports, the cultural and physical environment.

Objectives of the CPOA

Objective 7

To **prevent causes** of disability.

Objective 8

To promote and protect disability rights as human rights

Objective 9

To support the development of and strengthen Disabled Persons' Organizations.

Objective 10

To mobilize resources.

Objective 11

To provide mechanisms for coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the activities of the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities.

Objective 12

To advocate and raise disability awareness in general, and awareness of the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities in particular.

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Our mission as SADPD

To empower governments, national councils/steering committees, DPOs and development organisations to work in partnership to *include* **disability** and **persons with disabilities** into policies and programs in all sectors of society in Africa

This is done through knowledge sharing, raising awareness, capacity building, advocacy and lobbying, coordination, monitoring and reporting etc.

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SADPD

The *Secretariat of the African Decade of persons with Disabilities* was registered in September 2003, as a non for profit NGO in South Africa and started operating in 2004.

It started work in 5 pilot countries in 2005

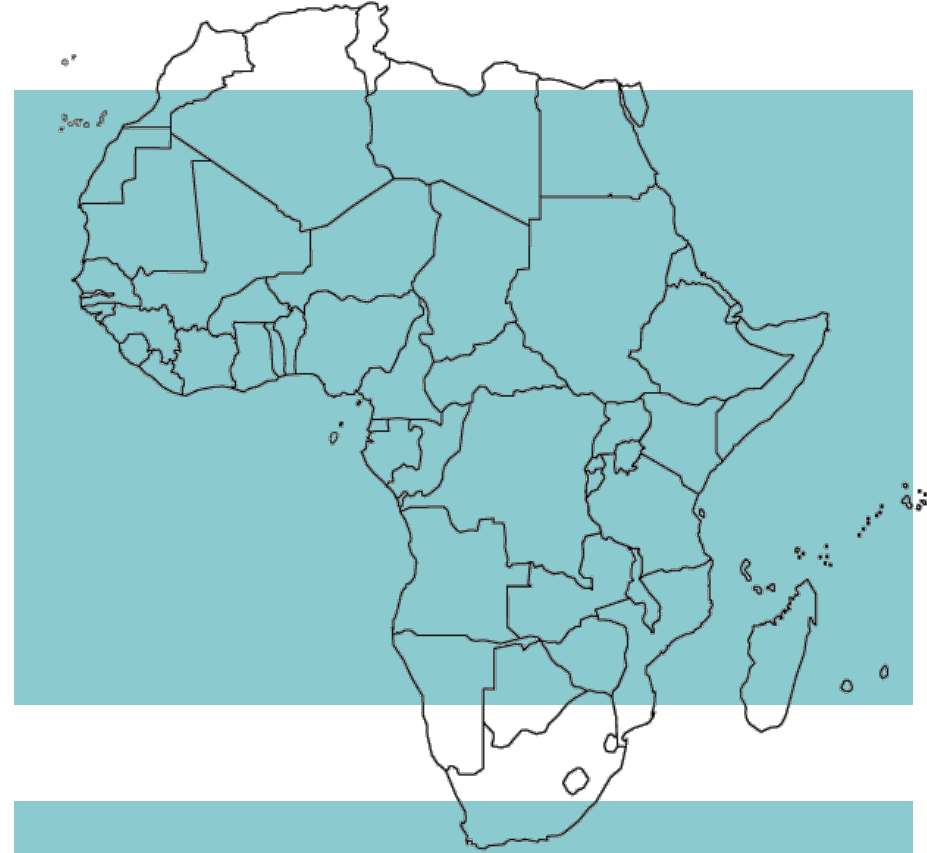
Stakeholders

AU –ARI - government

AU, its committees ARI
national governments

CDPOs

DPOs
doing A&L for PWDs



SADPD

**Building partnerships
with all stakeholders**

COUNTRIES

SADPD has its headquarters in Cape Town

It has two Regional offices in

- Senegal - Dakar
- Ethiopia – Addis Ababa



Five pilot countries:
Kenya, Ethiopia,
Ruanda, Senegal &
Mozambique now in 24
countries

Key strategic areas

1. Networking
2. Advocacy and Lobbying
3. Increase Knowledge base /Research
4. Raising awareness



Thematic areas

1. Gender
2. HIV & AIDS
3. Children & Youth
4. PRSP
5. Research
6. UNCRPD



Occupational Therapy in Africa



Occupational therapy is a profession concerned with promoting health and well being through occupation. (WFOT, 2004)

OT Objective

The main objective of occupational therapy is to enable people with disabilities to do things that will enhance their ability to participate or by working with the environment to facilitate inclusion.

Partnership

- No one can do it alone
- We need partnerships and do it together
- We can then also learn from each other and find local appropriate solutions



UNCRPD

The new convention on the rights of people with disabilities and other existing international and national policies can assist in obtaining services and a change in attitude



Together we
can!

Thank You

