



United Nations

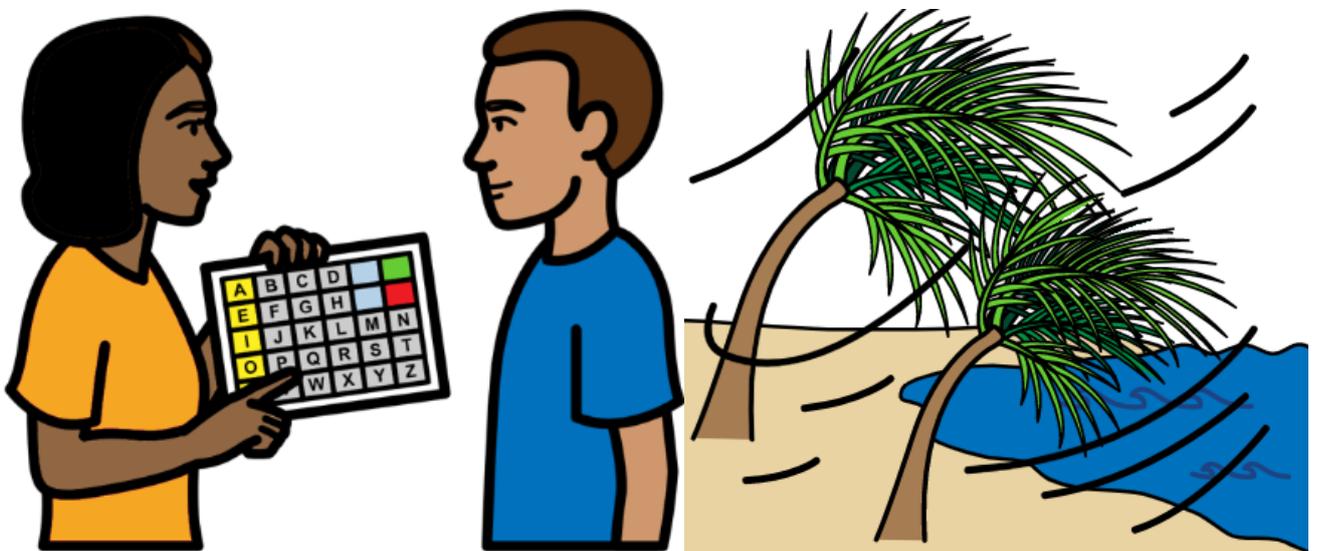
Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



Easy to read

Our meeting about the rights of people with disabilities to be safe if there are big problems in the world.

And making sure there is more information that is easy for people with disabilities to understand.



About this document



We are part of the United Nations.

The United Nations is a place where 193 countries meet and work together.

They are working to make the world better, fairer and safer.



This document is about a meeting we had about the rights of people with disabilities.

Everyone has rights. Like the right to be safe and have enough food to eat.



The meeting was about the rights of people with disabilities to be safe when there are big problems in the world.

Like war, floods or not enough to eat.



The meeting was also about how to get more information that is easy for people with disabilities to understand.



The meeting was from 2 to 4 May 2023. It was on the internet.



People who know a lot about the rights of people with disabilities were at the meeting.

That includes:

- People with disabilities.
- Experts from the United Nations and other organizations.



This document is about the main things that people said at the meeting.

The United Nations will use information from the meeting to write a report about what countries should do next.

The main things that people talked about at the meeting

Making sure that people with disabilities are safe



There is a document about the rights of all people with disabilities in the world.

It is called the **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**.



It says that people with disabilities have the right to be safe when there are big problems in the world.

Like war, floods, bad storms and earthquakes.



There is also a document about how to keep everyone safer from big problems that might happen in the world.

Like big weather problems and big health problems.



The document is called the **Sendai Framework**.



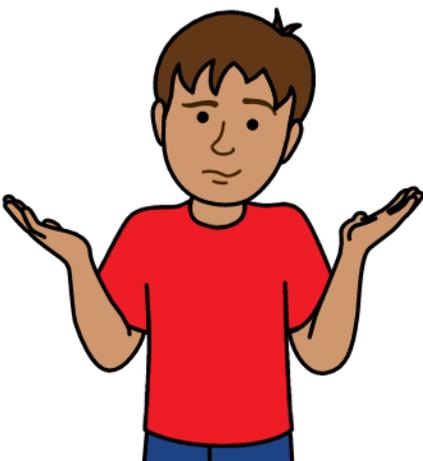
Countries agreed in the document that floods or other problems can be worse for people with disabilities.

They also agreed that people with disabilities should take part in decisions about how to make the world safer.



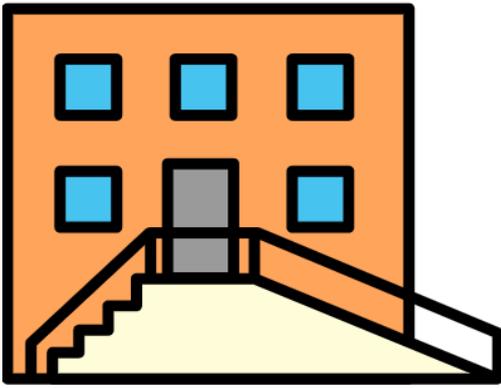
That is happening more now.

But the United Nations spoke to many people with disabilities and the people who support them.



They found that many people with disabilities are still being left out.

For example, many people are not getting the information they need to keep safe.



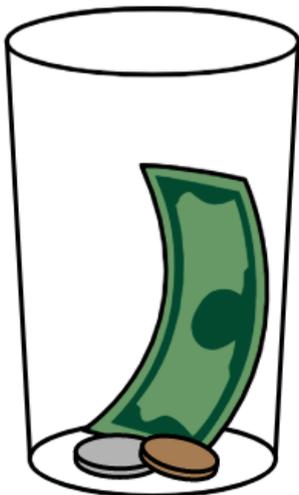
People with disabilities said that some things are important.

For example, making sure that things are easy for people with disabilities to use.

Like transport, buildings and equipment.



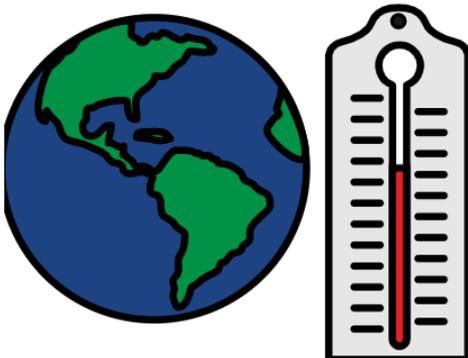
People with disabilities said they also need support to get ready for problems that might happen in the world.



Many people with disabilities are poor.

And they are often left out of the community.

That makes it harder for them to deal with big problems that might happen.



For example, there are more storms, floods and other weather problems now because of climate change.

Climate change is about the earth getting warmer and the problems that is causing.



But people with disabilities are still left out of many climate change plans.

That means many people with disabilities do not get the support they need with climate change problems.



Some work has been done to make sure that people with disabilities get the right support if big problems happen.

Like floods, too much heat and not enough food.



For example, there are some rules about making sure that people with disabilities get their rights when war and other problems happen.

The rules are on this website:
tinyurl.com/IASC-guidelines-easy-read

Our plan to make sure that we include people with disabilities in all our work



We Listen. We Belong. We Decide.
UNFPA Disability Inclusion Strategy 2022 to 2025

The United Nations also made a plan about how to include people with disabilities in its work.

The plan is on this website:
tinyurl.com/UNDIS-easy-to-read



Countries have worked to get better information about people with disabilities and what they need.



But there should be more information about different people with disabilities.

Like women with disabilities and older people with disabilities.



Organizations should do more to include people with disabilities in work that happens in different countries.

That includes work to keep countries peaceful and safe.



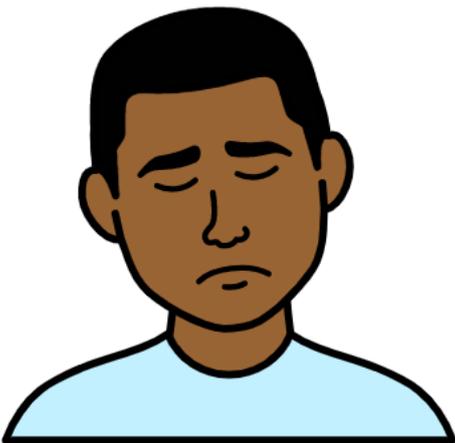
People with disabilities are often left out of making decisions to keep countries safe.

People with disabilities sometimes help to make decisions.

But it is usually only certain people with disabilities. Like people who find it harder to move around.



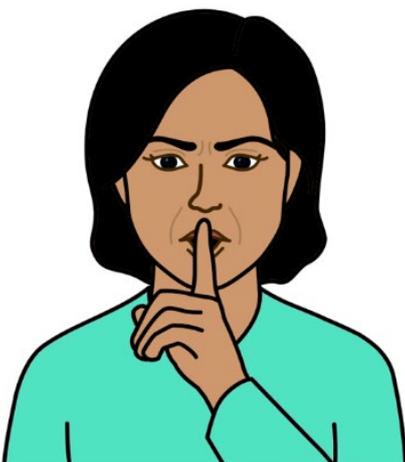
Some people with disabilities have to leave their countries because of violence or other problems.



They are often left out of plans and decisions.

And they often cannot get the support they need.

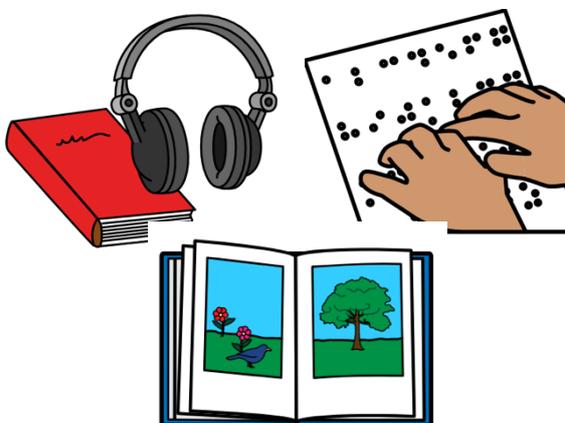
Like money from the government to buy things they need.



Many people with disabilities do not get the chance to speak up about what they need to keep safe.

All of these things need to change.

Making information easy for people with disabilities to understand



People with disabilities need information they can understand.

That helps them to take part in things and make their own decisions.

For example, decisions about how to keep safe.



Some questions for you to answer about **easy to understand information for people with disabilities**



Easy to understand information is about making information easy for people with disabilities to understand.



There can be many types of **easy to understand** information.

It could be information with easy words and pictures.



Or it could be another type of information that people with disabilities might need.

Like information just with pictures.



Or information that people can listen to.

Some information is easier for people with disabilities to understand.

For example, there is a type of information called **easy read**.

It has easy words and pictures like this document.



Easy read can support many people to understand information.

That includes people who might find it hard to read or communicate.

Like some people with intellectual disabilities.



There is some important information in easy read.

Like some laws about the rights of people with disabilities.

But a lot of information is not in easy read.



There should be more rules about making information easy for people with disabilities to understand.

That includes making sure that people get information in the language they want.

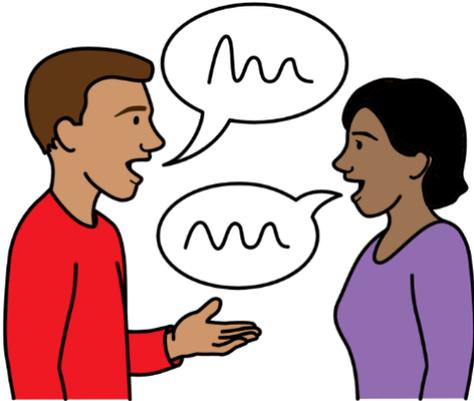


The rules will help countries and organizations to make the right information for people with disabilities.



The information should also be easy for people with disabilities to find.

For example, information on websites can be hard for people with disabilities to find.



Organisations should also check if people with disabilities are using the easy to understand information.



Organizations should include people with disabilities in their work.

They should also work with people with disabilities to make information easy to understand.



That means there will be more information that is easy for people with disabilities to understand.

And it will help people with disabilities to take part in the community and make their own choices.