

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES DECEMBER 3, 2017

THEME 2017: TRANSFORMATION TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT SOCIETY FOR ALL

The annual observance of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities was proclaimed in 1992, by the United Nations General Assembly. The observance of the Day aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. It also seeks to increase awareness of gains to be derived from the integration of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) was adopted in 2006. Trinidad and Tobago signed the Convention in 2007 and ratified it in 2015.

Trinidad and Tobago upon the ratification of the Convention must then adopt local laws, local strategies, local programs to give effect to the international Convention because the Convention does not become automatically part of the local law.

Building on many decades of UN's work in the field of disability plus the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, we now have the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which can further advance the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities within Trinidad and Tobago. The 2030 Agenda pledges to "leave no one behind", a challenge to be taken on by our society.

National Centre for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD) continues to work with and for persons with disabilities in Trinidad and Tobago **as we seek to transform towards a sustainable and resilient society for all. A society which leaves no one behind.**