



SOCHUM

TOPIC B: Destigmatization of Physical Disability and Accommodation for Affected Individuals

– Glossary –

Due to the sensitive nature of SOCHUM Topic B, ALMUN has created a glossary to educate delegates on appropriate terminology for debate. Please refer to this document, and the sources within, before and during debate in order to ensure respectful and inclusive language is being used throughout the course of debate. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact SOCHUM Committee Staff.

Term: Persons with disabilities

Definition: A term which includes all persons with disabilities, including individuals with long-term mental, physical, intellectual, or sensory impairments which have the potential to inhibit full participation within society in a manner equal with others.

Appropriate Usage: The rights of *persons with disabilities* must be protected.

Term No Longer Used, Archaic: “the disabled”, “disabled people”

Source: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/enable/faqs.htm>;

<http://nda.ie/Publications/Attitudes/Appropriate-Terms-to-Use-about-Disability/>

Term: Individuals experiencing disability

Definition: A term or phrase that allows an otherwise stigmatized community a feeling of inclusiveness in society.

Appropriate Usage: As a society, there are advances that should be taken to ensure all *individuals experiencing disability* are not viewed or treated as inferior.

Term No Longer Used, Archaic: “handicapped person”

Source: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRPD/Pages/CRPDIndex.aspx>

Term: Persons who use a wheelchair

Definition: A person in a wheelchair might have difficulties being gainfully employed not because of her condition but because there are environmental barriers such as inaccessible buses or staircases in the workplace which obstruct his or her access.

Appropriate Usage: In order to accommodate all *persons who use wheelchairs*, there are many reformations to made.

Term No Longer Used, Archaic: “wheelchair-bound”, “confined to a wheelchair”

Source: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/enable/faqs.htm>

Term: Non-disabled person/individuals

Definition: A person who is not experiencing a disability.

Appropriate Usage: Non-disabled individuals are less likely to experience accessibility issues.

Term No Longer Used, Archaic: “normal person”

Source: <http://nda.ie/Publications/Attitudes/Appropriate-Terms-to-Use-about-Disability/>

**Other Term Inappropriate for Committee Use**

- Suffers from...
- Victim of...
- Afflicted by...
- Crippled
- Spastic

Source: <https://www.brown.edu/campus-life/support/accessibility-services/resources-teaching-students-disabilities/appropriate-terminology>

Resources to learn more about specific, common disabilities such as:**Cerebral Palsy, Blindness, Deafness, Acquired Brain Injury, and Epilepsy**

- <https://www.ssa.gov/disability/professionals/bluebook/AdultListings.htm>
- <https://services.anu.edu.au/human-resources/respect-inclusion/different-types-of-disabilities>

With a better understanding of the different, unique conditions people with disabilities experience we, as a committee, will be able to reach more appropriate resolutions to better accommodate individuals experiencing disability. Please note that all delegates will be asked to use appropriate language during all committee sessions.