

Madame President,

VIVAT International, ERI and ERAN, Kenya would like to thank the Special Rapporteur for his report and his reflection that 'Treaties, no matter how eloquently expressed, are not self-executing. They must be made real in the “small places” where people live their lives.'

Kenya has ratified, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and passed legislation that gives protection to children and persons with disability.

We call on the Special Rapporteur to follow up on the UPR recommendations accepted by Kenya in its Third Cycle and recommend that the Kenyan government undertake steps:

- To review the Special Needs Education Policy (2009) to ensure that no child is left behind
- To redress the difficulties confronted by students with disabilities and special needs
- To finalize the adoption processes of the draft bills on children, mental health, and persons with disabilities

We also recommend that the Kenyan government:

- Ensure that each sub county has a well-established and resourced Education Assessment and Resource Centre to help in identification and assessment of children with disability as early as possible.
- Develop structures for the inclusivity of children with disability into mainstream schools
- Ensure that assistive devices, like wheelchairs and prostheses used by children with special needs are tax free and easily available.

Thank you.