



1 September 2009

David Morrissey

Executive Director

United States International Council on Disabilities

1710 Rhode Island Avenue NW, 5th Floor

Washington, DC 20036

Dear David

RE: E-GRANARY PROJECT

The Secretariat of the African Decade of Persons with Disability (SADPD) extends its support for the e-Granary Project. The project will assist in the dissemination and utilization of information that is useful in promoting the well being of persons with disabilities. The project will build the capacity of disabled persons' organisations.

The Secretariat's mandate is concerned with three key areas of facilitation that embrace capacity building, policy formulation and advocacy/lobbying. Although the Secretariat was initially formed to facilitate the implementation of the Decade Continental Plan of Action (CPOA), its role now includes advocacy for the ratification/ domestication of the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and implementation of different protocols of benefit to disabled people in Africa.

The role of the Secretariat can be described as being:

- Catalytic-in the sense that it facilitates planning, skills development and coordination at country level in order to achieve a critical mass of expertise/ support in the disability programming processes
- A technical agency that promotes guidance and tools for disability mainstreaming and capacity building of DPOs and governments in order to ensure effective implementation of programmes
- A network that mobilises political support at all levels in Africa
- A reservoir of information and best practice related to all aspects of disability work (including research/ gathering of evidence, formulation of sectoral disability objectives/output/indicators, and strengthening of advocacy/lobbying ability of DPOs and other civil society organisations).

Policy formulation, implementation and review/evaluation will continue to be part of the transformation process in African countries for many years. Our interests lie in ensuring that

policies and laws are implemented with adequate resources and that disabled people are part and parcel of the value chain for policy development and implementation. This includes the important role that disabled people should play in the review and evaluation of policies and laws and in enforcing/ utilising the laws that are already available.

We hope that this is in order. Please keep us updated on the outcomes of the application for funding.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AK Dube', written in a cursive style.

Kudakwashe Dube
Chief Executive Officer