



**CHAIR  
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT  
GENEVA CHAPTER**



**UN Human Rights Council  
Forty-fourth Session**

**Panel discussion on promoting and protecting the rights of persons with  
disabilities in the context of climate change**

**Statement**

**delivered by Ms. Marziyya Vakilova-Mardaliyeva, First Secretary of the Permanent  
Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other International  
Organizations in Geneva  
on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement**

**Geneva, 8 July 2020**

Thank you, Mr. Vice-President,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

The NAM reaffirms that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our times, threatening not only the development prospects of developing and least developed countries and their achievement of sustainable development, but also the very existence and survival of countries and societies. Its increased adverse impacts are severely undermining their efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development.

The NAM particularly stresses that the adverse impact of climate change on the enjoyment of human rights, including the right to development should continue to receive due attention in the Human Rights Council's work. The NAM Member States encourage relevant special procedure mandate holders to continue to consider the issue of climate change and human rights within their respective mandates.

The NAM reaffirms that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change remains the central multilateral framework for cooperative action to address climate change. The NAM also stresses that the international response to climate change must fully respect the principles, provisions and ultimate objective of the Convention, in particular the principles of equity and of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

Mr. Vice-President,

While the implications of the climate change affect individuals and communities all around the world, its adverse effects are felt most acutely by those segments of the population that are already in vulnerable situations.

The persons with disabilities are among those most adversely affected by the climate change and display disproportionately higher rates of morbidity and mortality in times of emergency.

The NAM calls for urgent global action to address the climate change in accordance with the principles and provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Paris Agreement in accordance with their national capabilities and circumstances as well as the level of support they are receiving, emphasizing the importance of implementing the commitments undertaken under the Convention on mitigation, adaptation and the provision and the mobilization of finance, technology transfer and capacity-building to developing and least developed countries taking into account the specific needs and special circumstances of developing and least developed countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

In conclusion, the NAM reiterates its commitment to leave no one behind and to promote the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis for persons with disabilities.

I thank you.