Definitions (from World Report on Disability)

***Accessibility:*** Accessibility describes the degree to which an environment, service, or product allows access by as many people as possible, in particular people with disabilities.

***Accessibility standards:*** A standard is a level of quality accepted as the norm. The principle of accessibility may be mandated in law or treaty, and then specified in detail according to international or national regulations, standards, or codes, which may be compulsory or voluntary.

***Assistive devices; also assistive technology:*** Any device designed, made or adapted to help a person perform a particular task. Products may be specially produced or generally available for people with a disability.

***Disability:*** In the ICF, an umbrella term for impairments, activity limitations, and participation restrictions, denoting the negative aspects of the interaction between an individual (with a health condition) and that individual’s contextual factors (environ- mental and personal factors).

***Disability discrimination:*** Any distinction, exclusion, or restriction on the basis of disability that has the purpose or effect of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment, or exercise on an equal basis with others, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms: includes denial of reasonable accommodation.

***Health:*** A state of well-being, achieved through the interaction of an individual’s physical, mental, emotional, and social states.

***Health system[[1]](#footnote-1):*** An organization of people, institutions and resources that delivers health care services to meet the health needs of target population.

***Inclusive society:*** One that freely accommodates any person with a disability without restrictions or limitations.

***Organization of Persons with Disabilities:*** Organizations or assemblies established to promote the human rights of disabled people, where most the members as well as the governing body are persons with disabilities.

***Reasonable accommodation:*** Necessary and appropriate modification and adjustment not imposing a disproportionate or undue burden, where needed in a particular case, to ensure that persons with disabilities enjoy or exercise, on an equal basis with others, all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

***Rehabilitation:*** A set of measures that assists individuals who experience or are likely to experience disability to achieve and maintain optimal functioning in interaction with their environment.

***Social protection:*** Programmes to reduce deprivation arising from conditions such as poverty, unemployment, old age, and disability.

***Universal design:*** The design of products, environments, programmes, and services to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design.

1. Definition not from World Report on Disability [↑](#footnote-ref-1)