



**International Leadership Forum
for Women with Disabilities
PROGRAM**



**June 15-20, 1997
Bethesda, Maryland
USA**

RBA *KIM KWON, UGG*



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Forum Executive Committee

Judith E. Heumann, Forum Co-Chair
 Susan Daniels, Forum Co-Chair
 Kathy Martinez, Forum Director
 Rosangela Berman-Bieler, Event Coordinator
 Ilene Zeitzer, U.S. Social Security Administration
 Margaret McLeod, Department of Education
 Katherine D. Seelman
 National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR)
 Paul Ackerman, NIDRR
 Susan Sygall, MIUSA
 Barbara Duncan, RI

Cover art by Linda Sörnäs, Sweden

The International Leadership Forum for Women with Disabilities

Honorary Chair:

U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

Co-Chairs:

Judith E. Heumann, Assistant Secretary,
Special Education and Rehabilitative
Services, Department of Education

Susan Daniels, Associate Commissioner
for Disability, Social Security
Administration

The Forum has been designed as a follow-up to the 1995 United Nations 4th World Conference on Women and associated NGO Forum, which outlined several areas for action concerning girls and women with disabilities.

Forum International Sponsors:

United Nations
International Labor Office
Rehabilitation International
Disabled Peoples' International

Forum Organized by:

World Institute on Disability
Rehabilitation International
Mobility International USA

U.S. Government and Private Sponsors: Listed on pages 4, 5, and 6

Government Sponsors

U.S. Agency for International Development

- Office of Women in Development

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

- Administration on Developmental Disabilities
- U.S. Public Health Service's Office on Women's Health
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - » Office on Disability and Health
- National Institutes of Health
 - » National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
 - » Office of Research on Women's Health
- Health Resources and Services Administration
 - » Maternal and Child Health Bureau
 - Division of Services for Children with Special Health Care Needs

U.S. Social Security Administration

- Office of Disability
- Office of Systems

U.S. Department of Defense

- Computer/Electronic Accommodations Program

U.S. Office of Personnel Management

United States Information Agency

- Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

U.S. Department of the Interior

- Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians

U.S. Department of Justice

- Violence Against Women Office

U.S. Department of State

- Deputy Assistant Secretary for EEO and Civil Rights

U.S. Department of Transportation

- Office of the Secretary
- Office of Intermodalism
- Federal Highway Administration
- Federal Transit Administration

U.S. Small Business Administration

- Office of Women's Business Ownership

U.S. Department of Education

- Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services
 - » National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research
 - » Office of Special Education Programs
 - » Rehabilitation Services Administration
- Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Office of Post-Secondary Education

U.S. Department of Labor**U.S. Department of Agriculture****Environmental Protection Agency****National Council on Disability****National Science Foundation****President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities**

Non-Profit Organizations and individuals which have contributed to the Forum or contributed to increasing participation from developing countries:

Academy for Educational Development
 African-American Institute
 Munira Khalid Al-Mutawa, Kuwait
 American Health Care Center
 Caritas Nederland
 Center on Human Policy
 Dole Foundation
 Rosemary Dybwad Fund
 ELA Foundation
 Handicap International
 IAM CARES
 Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation (ICCO)
 Milbank Memorial Fund
 Ms. Foundation
 NCR Corporation
 National Industries for the Blind
 NYNEX/Bell Atlantic
 Oxfam, U.K.
 Paralyzed Veterans of America
 Soros Foundation
 Spinsters Ink
 Symbol Technologies, Inc.
 U.S. + Cuba Medical Project
 United States Council for International Rehabilitation
 Very Special Arts
 World Bank
 World Learning

U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, Honorary Chair



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 15, 1997

Dear Friends:

As honorary chair, I am pleased to have this opportunity to send greetings to each of you attending the International Leadership Forum for Women with Disabilities.

If there is one message that echoes forth from the United Nations Fourth Conference on Women, it is that human rights are women's rights, and women's rights are human rights. I am grateful for your efforts to implement the Platform for Action that was adopted in Beijing. As you come together at conferences like this, you recognize that the benefits of educating women go far beyond the classroom and the schoolhouse. They go to stronger families, better health, nutrition, wages and levels of political participation. As I have travelled around the world, I have seen first-hand that investing in girls and women helps to transform communities which in turn can transform societies.

While no single social investment is a panacea for women or for developing countries, I do believe that as long as discrimination and inequities persist in a broad-scale way against women, a stable, prosperous world will be far from reality. This especially holds true for women with disabilities. I am thankful for your commitment to providing a voice for those with disabilities. It is my hope that your efforts will inspire communities across the country and the world to follow your example.

Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable and successful conference.

Sincerely yours,

Hillary Rodham Clinton
Hillary Rodham Clinton



INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP FORUM FOR WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES

Dear Forum Participant:

Welcome to the International Leadership Forum for Women with Disabilities. We are all very excited about the Forum, the **FIRST** of its kind. To all of you visiting Washington, D.C. for the first time, and to those of you who have been here before, we welcome you to the nation's capital and applaud you for making the effort and commitment to being here for this unprecedented event.

It was the leadership demonstrated in Beijing during the U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women that led us to this occasion. At this Forum we can continue the dialogue about how systems and societies can be created that will make leaders out of the girls and women with disabilities, across the world.

The format of this conference was designed to address areas that would enhance the capacity of girls and women with disabilities to assume their rightful places in their families and communities. The support for the conference came from the collaboration of over 20 U.S. government agencies working closely with non-governmental organizations.

As women with disabilities, we know firsthand what opportunities need to exist so that girls and women can become leaders. And we also know that these opportunities must exist in the earliest years. Therefore, we know that in order to make leaders of all girls and women, including those with disabilities, they should have access to a high quality education. We hope that during the five days of this Forum we will come together to learn how to provide these opportunities to girls and women with disabilities. We also hope you utilize this Forum to continue to develop your own capacity for leadership.

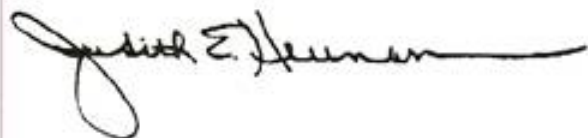
We know too that, apart from the intrinsic value to the individual of a good education, it should also be a natural segue to a good job at fair wages. However, even in countries that have managed to achieve the first part of the formula, the second part is often still elusive if the person in question happens to be a woman and, all the more so if that person is a woman with a disability. Therefore, we women with disabilities have to gain not only the education, but also the necessary skills and creativity to negotiate in labor environments that are often skeptical, indifferent or even openly hostile.

Girls and women with disabilities have to empower themselves to believe that they have the right and the ability to participate fully in the mainstream just as non-disabled men think of such participation as their natural right. As women with disabilities, we must also draw upon our enhanced networking skills in order to form alliances and identify solutions to our problems. We must continue to work together with other people with disabilities as well as non-disabled people to remove the barriers to our full participation in society.

In short, we hope that when you leave us in a week's time, you will be going home with additional knowledge and enhanced skills, a network of new colleagues, and a renewed commitment to improving the lives of girls and women with disabilities in your own communities as well as globally.

Finally, we hope that this Forum will be fun and memorable for you and that it will inspire many more events like this one around the world! We wish all of you a successful Forum. We will continue to work with you in the coming years to ensure equal rights for all girls and women.

Sincerely,



Judith E. Heumann
Assistant Secretary
Office of Special Education and
Rehabilitative Services



Susan M. Daniels
Associate Commissioner for Disability
U.S. Social Security Administration



Dear Friends:

As this Forum Program goes to press, there are nearly 400 participants registered from 80 countries and the Organizing Committee looks forward to welcoming each and every one of you—from Albania to Zimbabwe—to what we hope will be a landmark event in your life.

Story of the Forum

Some of us met for the first time to press the disability agenda forward in Beijing and Hairou at the UN 4th World Conference on Women and associated NGO Forum and have been exchanging letters, faxes and e-mail since 1995 in an effort to maintain the momentum. We knew we achieved some progress there in our efforts to have the needs of women with disabilities recognized by governments and the international agencies, but also saw there was so much more to do.



In early 1996 staff of the World Institute on Disability, Rehabilitation International and Mobility International USA began outreach efforts to determine if there would be support to organize an international event to provide leadership training, networking and the exchange of practical information on disabled women's issues. The U.S. National Institute for Disability and Rehabilitation Research responded immediately by letting us use our collaborative grant (the International Disability Exchanges & Studies—IDEAS 2000 project) to search for partners. Soon other offices of the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Social Security Administration came on board as founding sponsors, followed shortly by the International Labor Organization, RI, Disabled Peoples' International and the United Nations. Significantly, America's First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton readily agreed to act as Honorary Chair.

The Circle Widens...

Under the leadership of our Co-Chairs, Judy Heumann and Susan Daniels, the Department of Education and the Social Security Administration held a series of meetings to engage the participation of other government departments and you will see their impressive results listed on pages 4 and 5. The ILO Vocational Rehabilitation Unit in Geneva worked with us to enrich the program and identify fellowship recipients who could contribute practical experience. UN staff in New York and U.S. AID and USIA staff in Washington have all been generous in their advice, support and subsidy of fellowships. Forum staff has also worked hard to find additional support from the private sector and those contributors are recognized on page 6.

The Response

Almost as soon as the first Forum announcement was mailed and posted on electronic bulletin boards, we began to receive your enthusiastic response. A typical day brought us phone calls from Brazil and Senegal, letters from Uganda and Indonesia, faxes from Yugoslavia and Kuwait, e-mail from Australia and Russia. You made numerous program suggestions (most of which were incorporated) and registered early (almost unheard of!).

And now we are all here together. We hope the program and the venue will be up to your expectations, but know you will draw the most energy, ideas and inspiration for the next steps from each other. On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I am honored to warmly welcome you to the Forum.

Kathy Martinez, Forum Director

The Internet Cafe and Resource Rooms

(Open Daily 10.00-19.00 — Located on the Meeting Room level)

What they are and how to use them

The **Internet Cafe** (Chesapeake Suites) is provided to you as a contribution by the International Labor Office and NCR Corporation, a world leader in automated teller machines, high-performance stationary bar code scanners, scalable data warehousing and open, high-availability, transaction processing. The **ILO** is providing training on how to find and make use of disability information and resources on the Internet, through the services of Carl Raskin of Canada, manager of GLADNET. Mr. Raskin will be available throughout the week to lead classes in English or French on how to use the Internet and GLADNET, the ILO's international network & database on all aspects of employment of people with disabilities.

Note: all participants interested in Internet/GLADNET classes must sign up in advance for classes in either English or French. Participants using Spanish or ASL or other languages must arrange to bring an interpreter with them.

NCR Corporation is providing advanced information technologies, as well as the expertise of selected associates within Business Services Division (BSD) and Worldwide Professional Services (WPS) group to Forum attendees. Multilingual NCR technology experts will be volunteering their time to assist Forum participants in developing Internet skills and planning for the implementation of information infrastructures that cross language, literacy, disability, remote-location and low-technology barriers. NCR Corporation's technology team is headed by Steve Jacobs, Senior Technology Consultant, NCR Executive Office.

(As both Raskin and Jacobs are speaking in Friday's Internet workshop, participants should plan to utilize The Internet Cafe prior to Friday afternoon.)

The **Resource Room** (Executive Board Room) is the Forum Publications & Video Viewing area. A variety of publications concerning women with disabilities will be available free (first come, first served) or for purchase on site or purchase through ordering. Participants are also welcome to place their publications or information sheets about publications or other resources on the literature tables.

A Video Viewing Corner will also be available so that participants can show their videos to each other or view a selection of videos concerning disabled women's issues. The multi-system unit will have the capacity to play VHS videos in either NTSC or PAL formats.

As several authors of publications and video producers will be participating in the Forum, staff will make every effort to arrange "Meet the Author" or "Meet the Producer" opportunities in the Resource Room if you give us advance notice in the Forum Secretariat.

Sunday, June 15, 1997

10.00-17.00: Registration at Hyatt

Making Connections: following registration, each participant will meet with a representative of the Forum to create an individual plan for the week, including workshops, speakout sessions, cultural program, and meetings with other colleagues on topics of mutual interest.

18.00-20.00: Welcoming Reception

Open to all participants. During the reception the Forum Sponsors will be honored.

This reception has been made possible by the generosity of Munira Khalid Al-Muttawa, Secretary General of Kuwait Society for the Handicapped and RI National Secretary, and Margaret A. Staton, founder of the ELA Foundation.

The conference organizing firm for the Forum, working since June 1996, has been:

Third Millenium Events

Founded in 1986 in Brazil by Rosangela Berman-Bieler, Third Millenium has organized international and domestic conferences and events for up to 3000 participants. Third Millenium also produces commissioned documentaries and develops public education projects through the mass media.



Berman-Bieler has specialized in events concerning social issues, with a special focus on disability. Many of the events have been complex, requiring communications, presentations and products in three or four languages. Additionally, most of the events have been tailored to the diverse communication and physical requirements of participants with a variety of disabilities.

Examples of recent events organized by Third Millenium are: Def-Rio'92, an international disability conference planned as a concluding event of the UN Decade of Disabled Persons; Def-Rio 95, an international series of meetings attended by 3000 participants, including the 2nd Ibero-American Symposium on Independent Living and an Ibero-American Conference of Women with Disabilities; and

several international conferences on the mass media and disability, community based rehabilitation, and disability and the environment.

In the USA, the contact address is: Third Millenium Events, 711 Brent Road, Rockville, MD 20850 USA. Tel: 301 838 3031; Fax 301 838 3029; e-mail RBBieler@aol.com

Program at a Glance

	Monday, 6/16	Tuesday, 6/17	Wednesday, 6/18	Thursday, 6/19	Friday, 6/20
	Theme: <i>Aspects of Leadership</i>	Theme: <i>Education & Development Assistance</i>	Theme: <i>Health & Family Issues</i>	Theme: <i>Employment Strategies</i>	Theme: <i>Communication & Technology</i>
09.00	Opening Ceremony	Keynote Speakers	Keynote Speakers	Keynote Speakers	Keynote Speakers
09.30	Keynote Speakers				
10.00	Keynote Address				
10.30		Tea Break	Tea Break	Tea Break	Tea Break
11.00	Tea Break	A/V: "Visions and Voices from Beijing"	A/V: Disability and Motherhood	A/V: Employment issues	A/V: High & Low Technology Videos
11.30	Keynote Address	Plenary: Beijing Follow-up	Workshop leaders panel	Workshop leaders panel	Workshop leaders panel
12.00					
12.30	Lunch and Speakouts for European Region/ Middle East	Lunch and Speakouts for Asia/Pacific Region	Lunch and Speakouts for Latin American Region	Lunch and Speakouts for African Region	Lunch and Speakouts for North American/ Caribbean Region
13.00					
13.30					
14.00	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
14.30	Workshops:	Workshops:	Workshops:	Workshops:	Workshops:
15.00	A: Organizational Development	A: Mentoring	A: Reproductive Issues	A: Income Generating Models	A: Universal Design
15.30	B: UN Conventions	B: Devpt. Assistance	B: Parenting & Family Issues	B: Employment on Macro Level	B: Accessing the Internet
16.00	C: Proposal Writing	C: Research/Disability Studies	C: Violence	C: Training/Job Counseling	C: Small Budget Media Projects
16.30	D: Independent Living	D: Educating Disabled Women & Girls	D: Sexuality	D: Business Planning/ Fundraising	D: Appropriate Technologies & CBR
17.00	E: Systems Change	E: Access to Higher Ed.	E: Health & Wellness	E: Access to Job Market	E: Disability Culture & the Arts
17.30	F: Community Organizing	F: Literacy	F: Health Services & Clinics	F: Transportation	F: Working with the Media
18.00					
18.30	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
19.00	Special Sessions	Special Sessions	Special Sessions:	Special Sessions:	
19.30	•Research Focus Group I	•African Caucus Meeting	•Research Focus Group III	•Asia/Pacific Caucus	
20.00	•ODA Implementation	•Research Focus Group II	•"Ask the Doctor" I	•Whirlwind Women	
	•Integration Through Recreation	•Disabled Women in Sports	•"Ask the Doctor" II	•Latin American Caucus	
	•DPI Women's Caucus	•Adoption Issues	•"Ask the Doctor" III	•Agricultural Methods	
		•Writing Projects		•Research Focus IV	
				•North American/ European Caucus	
	Evening (18.00): Visit to disability technology superstore	Evening: Talent Night	Evening: Disability Videos	Evening: Farewell Party	Disability Videos
	Selected disability videos				
					Closing Ceremony

Monday, June 16, 1997

Theme: *Aspects of Leadership*

Opening Ceremony

Welcoming Remarks

9.00-9.40

Kathy Martinez, Forum Director, International Division, World Institute on Disability, USA. A well known advocate for disabled women's issues, she has conducted training programs to help disability organizations develop in Central America, Europe and Africa. Her Hispanic and American Indian background has contributed to her leadership in multicultural projects.

Judith E. Heumann, Forum Co-Chair, Assistant Secretary for Special Education & Rehabilitative Services, U.S. Department of Education. A representative of the U.S. government to the Beijing Women's Conference, Heumann authored the background paper for the 1990 UN Experts Meeting on Women with Disabilities. She is her department's representative on the President's Interagency Council on Women.

Susan Daniels, Forum Co-Chair, Associate Commissioner for Disability, U.S. Social Security Administration. Dr. Daniels has been active in disabled women's issues since the 1970's when her counseling practice focused on sexuality and related issues for people with disabilities. As Commissioner one of her focuses has been to assure that disabled women receive their equal share of opportunities to participate in the labor force.

John Callahan, Acting Commissioner, U.S. Social Security Administration is responsible for the actions of approximately 67,000 employees who, among other responsibilities, serve the needs of 24 million visitors each year to the SSA's 1,300 field offices.

Keynote Speakers

9.40-10.15

Madeleine Albright, U.S. Secretary of State and Chair, President's Interagency Council on Women. She previously served as the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. In that capacity she delivered her Beijing Women's Conference speech from the "disability tent", earning the admiration of the hundreds of disabled women participants.

Donna Shalala, U.S. Secretary for Health & Human Services. As Secretary, Shalala is the country's leading spokesperson on health-related issues and personally committed her Agency as one of the main sponsors of the Forum. Her department includes several disability focused divisions including the Administration on Developmental Disabilities.

Recognition

10.15-10.25

Kathy Martinez: Recognition of International Organizers & Forum Sponsors

Keynote Address

10.25-10.55

Maria Rantho, Member of Parliament, South Africa. Rantho is one of the leaders who rose from the grassroots apartheid struggles in South Africa to fight for the recognition of human rights of disabled people in the new Constitution, one of the world's first to outlaw discrimination based on disability.

Session Close

10.55-11.00

Kathy Martinez

11.00-11.30

Tea Break

Keynote Address

11.30-12.30

Laura Liswood, USA, founder, Women's Leadership Project, presents and discusses her videotaped interviews with female Heads of State. She has interviewed 15 current and former women Presidents and Prime Ministers including the Presidents of Nicaragua, Iceland, Ireland and the Philippines; and Prime Ministers of Norway, Turkey, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, the U.K. and Dominica for this book and video project.

12.30-14.00

Lunch and Speakouts for European Region and Middle East



Monday, June 16, 1997 — Afternoon and Evening

14.30-17.30 — Workshops

WORKSHOP A <i>Organizational Development</i> The steps to building an organization and making it effective Co-Chairs: José Gregori (Brazil) Hema Sitaran (India) Presenters: • Lina Chowdury (Bangladesh) • Elisa Pelkonen (Finland) • Dorothy Musakanya (Zimbabwe) • Gertrude Fefoame (Ghana)	WORKSHOP B <i>UN Conventions: Practical Applications</i> Examples of how to apply international agreements on a local level Co-Chairs: Susan Parker (USA) Kicki Nordstrom (Sweden) Presenters: • Ratna Ibrahim (Indonesia) • Akiko Ito (UN) • Anneli Joneken (Sweden) • Lucy Hernandez Wong (USA) • Angela King (UN)	WORKSHOP C <i>Proposal Writing</i> Ways to make your ideas more attractive to funders Co-Chairs: Venus Ilagan (Philippines) Joan Leon (USA) Presenters: • Suzanne Reier (USA) • Cindy Lewis (USA) • Eileen Girón (El Salvador) • Yutta Fricke (Canada) • Kadimala Fatuma Achan (Uganda)
WORKSHOP D <i>Independent Living</i> Models of services developed by disabled people for disabled people Co-Chairs: Marca Bristo (USA) Carmen Reyes (Cambodia) Presenters: • Naomi Ruth Esiaba (Kenya) • Anne-Marie Hughey (USA) • Masako Okuhira (Japan) • Katia Moura (Brazil) • Gordana Rajkov (Yugoslavia)	WORKSHOP E <i>Organizing for Systems Change</i> Strategies for effecting policy, legislation and service delivery Co-Chairs: Susan Sygall (USA) Phindi Mavuso (S. Africa) Presenters: • Pat Wright (USA) • Susan Chitimbe (Malawi) • Jane Campbell (UK) • Petrona Sandoval (Nicaragua) • Charlotte McClain (S. Africa) • Alejandra Poveda (Costa Rica)	WORKSHOP F <i>Community Organizing</i> Designing and implementing grass-roots strategies Co-Chairs: Farida Gulamo (Mozambique) Celia Leão (Brazil) Presenters: • Justine Kiwanuka (Canada) • Foluke Idowu (Nigeria) • Devva Kasnitz (USA)

17.45-19.30 — Special Sessions

Research Focus Group I Special Forum focus group Chair: Suzanne Reier (USA) Reier and Tanis Doe are coordinating all Forum research initiatives	Implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act Chair: Diedre Davis (USA) • Liz Savage (USA) • Arlene Mayerson (USA) • Juliana Recio (USA)	Integration Through Recreation Examples and models Chair: Susan Sygall (USA) • Susie Grimes (USA) • Irma Rolander (Mexico)
Disabled Peoples' International Women's Caucus		

18.00-22.00 — Evening: Visit to disability technology superstore/selected disability videos



Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Theme: Education & Development Assistance

9.00-10.30

Co-Chairs:

Judith Winston, Under Secretary of Education (Acting), General Counsel, U.S. Department of Education. Winston has worked as a lawyer on a variety of civil rights, race, and gender equity issues, and was deputy director for public policy at the Women's Legal Defense Fund in Washington.

Josephine Sinyo, Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE), Kenya. An attorney, Sinyo is a member of the Task Force to review the laws on women, children and persons with disabilities, with emphasis on domesticating the international Conventions.

Keynotes:

Richard Riley, Secretary, U.S. Department of Education. Secretary Riley has devoted substantial time during the last two years to working with Congress on the re-authorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which passed in May 1997. This is the keystone legislation which provides free and appropriate educational services to all children and youth with disabilities.

Judith E. Heumann, Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Education

Brigitta Andersson, SHIA, Sweden. Andersson administers SHIA, an organization which for 15 years has been focused on providing financial and other support to organizations of disabled people in Africa and Asia. SHIA is a model for how foreign aid or development assistance can assist disabled people.

Marca Bristo, Chair, National Council on Disability, USA. NCD is the U.S. government agency charged with the leading role in developing disability policy and keeping the President and Congress apprised of progress and problems in this sphere. Bristo is a leader in the development of independent living programs and a specialist in disabled women's issues.

Yukiko Nakanishi, Japan. Nakanishi is the founder and President of the Asia Disability Institute, Japan and a member of the Advisory Panel on the Implementation of the Agenda for Action for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons. Formerly, she served as a Programme Specialist for the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

10.30-11.00 Tea Break

11.00-11.15 Audio visual highlights: "Visions and Voices from Beijing"

11.15-12.30 **Plenary: National Follow-up to the Beijing Platform for Action****Co-Chairs:**

Lucy Hernandez Wong, Executive Director, Disabled Peoples' International. One of the core leaders of the disability caucus of the Beijing Women's Conference, she has substantial international experience in disabled women's issues.

Kicki Nordström (Sweden), Vice President, World Blind Union. Nordström has been the central organizer of WBU's extensive activities for blind women and represented WBU at the Beijing Women's Conference.

Presenters: Anneli Joneken (Sweden), Fatima Mansuri (Pakistan), Alejandra Poveda (Costa Rica), Juliet Mupurua (Namibia), Marja Pihkala (Finland), Li Dongmei (China), Liu Jiarong (China)

12.30-14.00 Lunch and Speakouts for Asia/Pacific Region



Tuesday, June 17, 1997 — Afternoon and Evening

14.30-17.30 — Workshops

WORKSHOP A <i>Mentoring & Peer Education</i> Providing disabled girls and women with role models and support Co-Chairs: Salma Maqbool (Pakistan) Yolan Koster-Dreese (Netherlands) Presenters: • Harilyn Rousso (USA) • Lizzie Mamvura (Zimbabwe) • Marcia Segura (Peru) • Zohra Rajah (Mauritius) • Monica Bartley (Jamaica) • Agnes Noonan (USA)	WORKSHOP B <i>Development Assistance Models</i> Bilateral and regional financial support for disability projects in developing countries Co-Chairs: Yukiko Nakanishi (Japan) Maria Rantho (South Africa) Presenters: • Susan Sygall (USA) • Barbro Carlson (Sweden) • Sebe Matsebula (Swaziland) • Tamara Zolotseva (Russia) • Francine Arsenault (Canada)	WORKSHOP C <i>Research & Disability Studies</i> This Workshop will discuss aspects of the participatory action research to be conducted during the Forum Co-chairs: Katherine D. Seelman (USA) Jeanette Harvey (USA) Presenters: • Tanis Doe (Canada) • Adrienne Asch (USA) • Lynita Conradie (Namibia)
WORKSHOP D <i>Strategies for Educating Disabled Girls & Women</i> Discussion to develop a common agenda on how to maximize the number of disabled girls entering and completing school Co-Chairs: Judith E. Heumann (USA) Tanya Almeida (Brazil) Presenters: • Beatriz Mitchell (USA) • Angelica Agudo (El Salvador) • Eudalie Wickham (Barbados) • Nguyen Hong Ha (Vietnam) • Catherine Boldt (Canada) • Josephine Sinyo (Kenya) • Rhonda Weiss (USA)	WORKSHOP E <i>Access to Higher Education</i> Increasing opportunities in college & other post secondary programs Co-Chairs: Maureen McLaughlin (USA) Presenters: • Devva Kasnitz (USA) • Norman Coombs (USA) • Rhona Hartman (USA)	WORKSHOP F <i>Literacy Projects</i> Initiatives including and by women with disabilities Co-Chairs: Carol Rasco (USA)* Patricia McNeil (USA)* Presenters: • Claudia Santiago Gonzalez (Mexico) * Presenting also

17.45-19.30 — Special Sessions

<i>African Caucus Meeting</i> Chair: Lizzie Mamvura (Zimbabwe)	<i>Research Focus Group II</i> Special Forum focus group Chair: Tanis Doe (Canada)	<i>Disabled Women in Sports</i> Chair: Alicia Contreras (Mexico) • Susie Grimes (USA) • Martha Heredia Navarro (Mexico) • Rosana Bastos (Brazil)
<i>Adoption Issues</i> Chair: Debby McFadden (USA)* • Syd Jacobs (USA)	<i>Writing Projects</i> Chair: Connie Panzarino (USA)* • Diane Driedger (Canada) • Maria Luiza Camara (Brazil)	*Presenting also

20:00-23:00 — Evening: Talent Night



Wednesday, June 18, 1997

Theme: Health & Family Issues

9.00-10.30

Co-Chairs: **Vivian Pinn**, Director, Office of Research on Women's Health, National Institutes of Health, the first fulltime appointment for this position. She has long been active in efforts to improve the health and career opportunities for women and minorities and has been given several honors for her contributions in the field of medicine.

Susan Parker, Secretary General, Rehabilitation International. Previously, Parker served as Associate Commissioner for Disability, Social Security Administration, and as Commissioner, Maine Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. Since becoming Secretary General in 1994 she has advocated for the organization's stronger involvement in the worldwide anti-landmine campaign and worked with UN Specialized Agencies to elevate disability policy in their work.

Keynotes: **Mary O'Hagan**, New Zealand. O'Hagan was founding president of the World Association of Psychiatric (Service) Users, comprised of national groups of people who have used mental health systems and are working to improve them. She has had substantial experience with the New Zealand mental health system and studied systems in Europe and North America.

Lesbia Solarzano, CEPRI, Nicaragua. Founder of CEPRI, a disabled persons' organization, she is a longtime advocate for people with disabilities and has worked as a grassroots organizer in Nicaragua. Solarzano is a medical doctor.

Dr. Lyubov Trafimovna Popova, Russia. Dr. Popova, a physician with a disability, was the senior representative from Siberia to the Beijing Women's Conference. Recently her focus has been the development of Russia's first health clinic for disabled women, based in Novosibirsk.

Marsha Saxton, USA, is a member of the working group on the Ethical, Legal and Social Implications Program of the U.S. Human Genome Initiative, National Institutes of Health and Department of Energy. Saxton is the 1997 Ed Roberts Post-Doctoral Fellow, University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health.

10.30-11.00 Tea Break

11.00-11.30 Audio-visual highlights: Disability and Motherhood

11.30-12.30 Workshop leaders will introduce the theme of health and family issues

12.30-14.00 Lunch and Speakouts for Latin American Region



Wednesday, June 18, 1997 – Afternoon and Evening

14.30-17.30 – Workshops

WORKSHOP A <i>Reproductive Issues</i> Discussion of ethical and genetic issues related to bearing children Co-Chairs: Danuta Krotoski (USA) Alcida Perez (PAHO) Presenters: • Sandra Welner (USA) • Antonina Basktykina (Russia) • Junko Sakaiya (Japan) • Peninah Mutinda (Kenya) • Marsha Saxton (USA)	WORKSHOP B <i>Parenting & Family Issues</i> Problems and solutions from the perspective of women with disabilities Co-Chairs: Merle McPherson (USA) Euphrasia Mbewe (Zimbabwe) Presenters: • Judi Rogers (USA) • Diane Afes (USA) • Kim Mi Yeon (Korea) • Alexia Muningura (Namibia) • Kadimala Fatuma Achan (Uganda) • Pat Laird (USA)	WORKSHOP C <i>Violence Against Girls & Women with Disabilities</i> Reports & projects on this issue Co-Chairs: Pat Broderick (USA) Veronica Robinson (USA) • Nora Groce (USA) • Phan Thi Bich Diep (Vietnam) • Shirley Masuda (Canada) • Tanis Doe (Canada) • Bonnie Campbell (USA) • Robin Toucy Aires (USA)
WORKSHOP D <i>Sexuality</i> Education about and recognition of sexual issues of disabled women Co-Chairs: Corbett O'Toole (USA) Marca Sipski (USA) Presenters: • Elizabeth Caetano (Brazil) • Amy Jackson (USA) • Dinah Radtke (Germany) • Barbara Faye Waxman (USA) • America Larrainzar (Mexico) • Irene Feika (Canada) • Mary Duffy (Ireland)	WORKSHOP E <i>Health & Wellness: Prevention of Secondary Disabilities</i> Various aspects of prevention of secondary conditions among people who are already disabled Co-Chairs: JoAnn Thierry (USA) Gulbadan Habibi (UNICEF) Presenters: • Sushila Paudel (Nepal) • Margaret Turk (USA) • Sunny Roller (USA) • Monica Bartley (Jamaica) • Catherine Bontke (USA)	WORKSHOP F <i>Developing Health Services and Clinics for Disabled Women</i> Co-Chairs: Martha Muskie (USA) Susan Blumenthal (USA) Presenters: • Judy Panko Reis (USA) • Lyubov Trafimovna Popova (Russia) • Laura Rauscher (USA) • Belsem Zmantar-Boussetta (Tunisia)

17.45-19.30 – Special Sessions

Research Focus Group III Special Forum focus group Chair: Fiona Strahan (Australia)	"Ask the Doctor"* Chair: Danuta Krotoski (USA) • Sandra Welner (USA) • Margaret Turk (USA) • Pamela Ballard (USA)	"Ask the Doctor"* Chair: Ilene Zeitzer (USA) • T. San Agustin (Philippines) • Amy Jackson (USA) • Catherine Bontke (USA) • Lesbia Solarzano (Nicaragua)
"Ask the Doctor"* Chair: JoAnn Thierry (USA) • Julie Madorsky (USA) • L. Trafimovna Popova (Russia) • Marca Sipski (USA)	"Ask the Doctor" Informal sessions covering aspects of reproductive issues, sexuality, access to health services and prevention of secondary conditions. Each session will have specialists in these areas to answer questions from the audience.	

21.00-23.00 – Films Related to Theme



Thursday, June 19, 19997

Theme: Employment Strategies

9.00-10.30 Co-Chairs:

Ilene Zeitzer, U.S. Social Security Administration. Serving as Special Assistant in the Office of Disability, Zeitzer has focused on international programs and research to determine effective ways for disabled people to enter or re-enter the work force. In this capacity, she has been the project director for several international comparative studies of the situation of disabled people in the labor market.

Aida Alvarez, Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration and member of the President's Cabinet. Formerly she has held positions as a government financial regulator, investment banker and journalist and is the first Hispanic person to hold a position in the President's Cabinet.

Keynotes:

Susan Daniels, U.S. Social Security Administration

Pauline Winter, Chief Executive Officer, Workbridge, New Zealand. Workbridge is a novel national approach to assisting disabled people to train for jobs or to obtain employment. Of Maori background, Winter has first-hand experience with discrimination against disadvantaged or marginalized groups.

Ruby Gonzalez Myers, Philippines. Gonzalez has built up a substantial import/export business in the Philippines utilizing the skills of workers with disabilities. Her efforts have been featured in the award-winning international film, "Business as Usual".

Evy Messell, ILO. Messell is a long established ILO expert on women in the labor force and has recently joined the ILO Vocational Rehabilitation Branch at Geneva Headquarters which initiates and supports projects in employment of disabled persons. She is the Senior Specialist on Disadvantaged Youth and Women.

10.30-11.00 Tea Break

11.00-11.30 Audio-visual highlights: employment issues

11.30-12.30 Workshop leaders will introduce the theme of employment strategies

12.30-14.00 Lunch and speakouts for African Region



Thursday, June 19, 1997 — Afternoon and Evening

14.30-17.30 — Workshops

WORKSHOP A <i>Income Generating Models</i> Description of projects which have been successful in providing employment on a small business basis Co-Chairs: Rona Moyo (Zimbabwe) Funmi Bickersteth (Nigeria) Presenters: • Linda Wilson (USA) • Eileen Girón (El Salvador) • Peninah Mutinda (Kenya) • Karen Ngai (Hong Kong) • Sookwarie Ram (Trinidad/Tobago) • Lizzie Mamvura (Zimbabwe)	WORKSHOP B <i>Employment on the Macro Level</i> Describes legislation, policies or national initiatives which are improving job possibilities Co-Chairs: Carolyn Colvin (USA) Tuula Haatainen (Finland) Presenters: • Pauline Winter (New Zealand) • Sushila Paudel (Nepal) • Tamara Zolotseva (Russia) • Teresinha Mauro Miranda (Brazil)	WORKSHOP C <i>Training & Job Counseling</i> Innovative approaches to preparing for employment Co-Chairs: Diane Svenonius (USA) Ellen Thrasher (USA) Presenters: • Dorothy Musakanya (Zimbabwe) • Lilia Pinto (Brazil) • Roseanne Ashby (USA) • Phan Thi Bich Diep (Vietnam) • Jennie D. Rundell (USA) • Ellen Golden (USA)
WORKSHOP D <i>Business Planning & Fundraising</i> Steps to implementing business plans & fundraising campaigns Co-Chairs: Margaret Staton (USA) Kathy Martinez (USA) Presenters: • María Eugenia Antuñez (Mexico) • Safia Nalulue (Uganda) • Karla Rivas (Guatemala) • Ndèye Ndagué Gueye (Senegal) • Ruby Gonzalez (Philippines)	WORKSHOP E <i>Access to the Job Market</i> Practical strategies toward gaining employment with government agencies and other large employers Co-Chairs: Angela Traiforos (USA) Heather Williams (Ireland) Presenters: • Carmen Fogaça (Brazil) • Simi Litvak (USA) • Debra Perry (USA) • Julie Huber (USA) • Judy Gilliom (USA) • Mary Strand (USA)	WORKSHOP F <i>Inclusion Through Transportation</i> Approaches to providing accessible transportation Chair: Trish Day (USA) Presenters: • Maria Paula Teperino (Brazil) • Louise Stoll (USA) • Christine Lee (Malaysia)

17.45-19.30 — Special Sessions

<i>Asia/Pacific Caucus</i> Chair: Ratna Idraswari (Indonesia)	<i>Whirlwind Women</i> Demonstration of wheelchair building by women wheelchair riders Chair: Jennifer Kern (USA)	<i>Latin American Caucus</i> Chair: Petrona Sandoval (Nicaragua)
<i>Agricultural Methods</i> Chair: Jill Long Thompson (USA) Panel Discussions: Ophelia Falls, Anne F. Thomson Reed, Denise Decker (USA)	<i>Research Focus Group IV</i>	<i>North American & European Caucus</i> Chair: Elisa Pelkonen (Finland)

20.00-23.00 — Evening: Farewell Party



Friday, June 20, 1997

Theme: Communication & Technology

9.00-10.30

Co-Chairs: **Barbara Duncan**, Director of Communications and Editor, *International Rehabilitation Review*, Rehabilitation International

Dinah Cohen, U.S. Department of Defense. Cohen is the Director of the Computer Adaptation for People with Disabilities Program, the Department of Defense's wide ranging initiative to supply adaptive, appropriate technology to all its employees who need it. She is also active in the United States Council for International Rehabilitation, working to improve worldwide application of adaptive technology.

Keynotes: **Katherine D. Seelman**, Director, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, U.S. Department of Education. She has served as an administrator, researcher and advocate in disability policy, with research experience including positions at the National Council on Disability and the Gallaudet Research Institute.

Rina Gill, UNICEF Bangladesh. Gill has worked for many years to help UNICEF improve audio-visual and print communications about women, children with disabilities, and, most recently, the girlchild. She has challenged long-established assumptions that fear is the best motivator to convince people to utilize health and prevention services.

Salma Maqbool, World Blind Union, Pakistan. Working many years for both the World Blind Union and the local Disabled Peoples' International organization, Maqbool is a specialist in media issues concerning disability. She has organized numerous workshops and training seminars to educate disabled people on how to represent themselves in the mass media.

Rachel Hurst, Disability Awareness in Action, UK. A founder of England's first independent living center, Hurst has been at the forefront of the international disability rights movement since the 1970s. One of her specializations has been the improvement of the image and status of disabled people through their own production of public education campaigns in all media.

Deborah Kaplan, Issue Dynamics, Inc., USA. Kaplan has been the leading disabled female advocate for the recent U.S. legislative efforts to build needs of the disabled population into federal standards and requirements for new communication and information technology. She is credited as a main force behind the momentum to create "electronic curbscuts on the information highway".

10.30-11.00 Tea Break

11.00-11.30 Audio-visual highlights: High and Low Technology Videos

11.30-12.30 Workshop leaders will introduce theme of Communication & Technology

12.30-14.00 Lunch and speakouts for North American/Caribbean Regions



Friday, June 20, 1997 — Afternoon Session

14.30-17.30 — Workshops

WORKSHOP A <i>Universal Design</i> Examples of the application of architectural and technological design for all Co-Chairs: Deborah Kaplan (USA) Judy Fein (USA) Presenters: • Betsy Bayha (USA) • Judy Brewer (USA) • Alexandra Enders (USA) • Silvana Cambiaghi (Brazil) • Jan Sing (USA)	WORKSHOP B <i>Accessing the Internet</i> Exploring disability sites and accessible pathways to the information highway Co-Chairs: Dinah Cohen (USA) Paul Ackerman (USA) Presenters: • Carl Raskin (ILO) • Steve Jacobs (USA) • Susan Brummel (USA) • Norm Coombs (USA)	WORKSHOP C <i>Small Budget Media Projects</i> Developing low cost, effective disability materials Co-Chairs: Kathy Marchael (USA) Sebe Matsebula (Swaziland) Presenters: • Rina Gill (Bangladesh) • Suzanne Levine & Patricia Chadwick (USA) • Sawart Pramoonslip (Thailand) • Florence Nayiga (Uganda) • Rachel Hurst (UK)
WORKSHOP D <i>Appropriate Technologies & CBR</i> Providing technology and CBR in developing countries and rural areas Co-Chairs: Ralf Hotchkiss (USA) Fatuma Achan (Uganda) Presenters: • Djikine H. Gakou (Mali) • Jennifer Kern (USA) • Carmen Reyes Zubiaga (Cambodia) • Ratna Ibrahim (Indonesia) • Francine Arsenaault (Canada)	WORKSHOP E <i>Disability Culture & the Arts</i> Renowned women artists with disabilities will discuss important elements of arts and culture that impact women internationally. Co-Chairs: Anne Finger (USA) Ann Cody (USA) Presenters: • Sian Vasey (UK) • Beth Caetano (Brazil) • Nancy Becker Kennedy (USA) • Riua Akinshegun (USA) • Sharifa Mirembe (Uganda) • Isabella Ferrara (USA)	WORKSHOP F <i>Working with the Media</i> Improving disability images through mass communication Co-Chairs: Barbara Duncan (USA) Salma Maqbool (Pakistan) Presenters: • Jean Parker (USA) • Tuuliki Nekundi (Namibia) • Fatima Mansuri (Pakistan) • Barbara Kolucki (USA) • Sian Vasey (UK)

17.30-17.45 — Tea Break

17.45-19.00 — Closing Ceremony

Judith E. Heumann, Forum Co-Chair

Susan Daniels, Forum Co-Chair

Kathy Martinez, Forum Director: Closing Remarks



General Information

Convention Center: The International Leadership Forum for Women with Disabilities will take place in the Convention Center of the Hyatt Regency Bethesda, which is fully accessible. The address is: One Bethesda Metro Center, Bethesda, MD 20814, USA. Phone: (301) 657-1234 Fax: (301) 657-6478.

Secretariat: The Secretariat will be situated in the foyer of the Convention Center - (Cartier-Tiffany Salon) in the Crystal Ballroom Level as follows:

- June 15th: from 10:00 to 17:00
- June 16th: from 8:00 to 18:00
- June 17th to 20th: from 9:00 to 17:00

It will handle registration, Airline Departure confirmation and act as an information center for the participants. Extra tickets to the Farewell Party can also be purchased here for US \$35.00.

Registration Fees: The Registration Fee for the Forum is US\$ 400. It includes participation in plenary sessions and workshops, printed material, bag and badge, welcome reception, Farewell Party and 5 buffet-lunches in the Hotel. Registration fees on a daily basis are US\$80 a day, including one lunch.

Note 1: Registration fees do not include transportation, lodging, breakfasts or dinners.

Note 2: Persons providing assistance to participants of the Forum are exempt from paying registration fees, as they are not considered participants in the Congress. Unfortunately, the Forum can not pay for their meals. A special adjusted registration fee for attendants has been established at \$200 covering the same benefits as for registration.

Badges: Use of the badge is obligatory in all the activities of **The International Leadership Forum for Women with Disabilities**. The badge is a personalized pass for the Participants, Organizing Committee, Attendants and/or Support Staff.

Headsets for Simultaneous Translation: Can be obtained at the Secretariat in exchange for passports, driver's licenses or credit-cards. In case of damage or loss, all replacement costs (US\$ 250) must be paid by the equipment user.

Coffee Breaks: The coffee-breaks will be served daily from 11:00 - 11:30 and 17:00 - 17:30. The service will be available in the Foyer of the Crystal Ballroom Level and in the Foyer of the Meeting Room Level (for the afternoon).

Plenary and Keynote Sessions: All the Plenary and Keynote Sessions will take place from 9:00 to 12:30, in the Crystal Ballroom Level.

Workshops & Special Sessions: The workshops (14:30-17:30) and Special Sessions (17:45 -19:30) will take place both in the Crystal Ballroom and the Meeting Room Levels. Please, consult the Message Boards at both Levels to identify the correct room for your session.

Regional Caucuses: Each Region will have a special caucus to discuss ways of networking during and after the Forum. Please, consult the program to identify your region's session. Disabled People's International Women's Committee will also be meeting on Monday 16th, from 17:45 - 19:30.

Speakout Sessions: During each lunch there will be opportunities for participants to take 5 minutes to tell their stories or share an idea with the group. Each day the experiences of a different world region will be highlighted.

Talent Show: On Tuesday evening, the Forum will offer entertainment highlighting the talents of women with disabilities. For those who wish to participate in this event, please sign up in advance with the Secretariat by Monday, June 16.

Welcome Reception: On Sunday, June 15, from 18:00 to 20:00, in the Hyatt Regency Bethesda, all the attendees are invited to a Welcome Reception honoring the sponsors of the Forum.

Farewell Party: On Thursday, June 19, also in the Hotel, participants are invited to a Farewell Party, with dancing and lots of fun.

Internet Cafe & Resource Room: See page 11 in the program

Disability Equipment Shopping: For those who want to buy disability equipment and supplies, the American Health Care Center, which is located 10 min. away from the Hyatt, will be providing a special sale evening, on Monday, from 18:00 - 22:00. All the items will have a 10% discount. The Metro station for the Superstore is White Flint (on the Red Line). Transportation from and to the Hotel will be provided to people with special needs.

Audio-visual Support to Presenters: An audio-visual support room will be available for the presenters. The Executive Board Room/ Resource Room (on meeting room level) will act as the audio-visual support room in the evenings. This is the place to check your video or slides prior to presentation.

Medical Care: The Forum will keep a physician on call during the Forum. If in need of medical assistance, ask at the Forum Secretariat.

Personal Assistance: The International Leadership Forum for Women with Disabilities does not offer personal assistance. People who need personal assistance must be accompanied by their own attendants.

Languages: The official languages of the Forum are English, French and Spanish, as well as American Sign Language. There will be simultaneous translation from and into these languages during the Forum.

Accessibility/Reasonable Accommodations: The Forum will provide accessible communication resources such as sign language interpreters, induction/hearing loop, Forum venue orientation. Also selected copy on computer disk, selected text in Braille, selected text in large print will be available. For these services, contact the Forum Secretariat.

Transportation: The Hyatt Regency Bethesda is located right at the Bethesda Metro Center on the Red Line. The entire Metro System throughout the Washington, DC area is very accessible for people with disabilities.

For participants who requested in advance, lift-equipped transportation will be provided from the airport for arrivals until noon Tuesday, June 17 to the Hyatt Bethesda and Doubletree Hotel in Rockville, MD. For departures, requests for accessible transportation from the Hyatt and Doubletree to the three local airports must be received by the Forum Secretariat no later than Wednesday noon.

Video Festival: Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights 20.00-23.00 disability videos will be shown in the Ballroom.

Forum Photography Exhibit: Suzanne Levine of WideVision Productions has organized a Forum exhibit comprised of selected photographs she took during the UN 4th World Conference on Women and associated NGO Forum.

FORUM SPONSOR: ETHEL LOUISE ARMSTRONG FOUNDATION, INC.

ELA Mission Statement

ELA was founded by Margaret A. Staton in 1994 in honor of her grandmother, Ethel Louise Armstrong. ELA seeks to improve policies and public awareness concerning people with disabilities in order that they may live productive, healthy and happy lives. Driven by Staton's firm belief in the obligation to give something back to our wonderful planet, ELA takes a holistic approach and champions the need for persons who are disabled to have access to the same freedoms, health and services enjoyed by able-bodied persons.

ELA has developed a dynamic and ambitious agenda for 1997-1998. ELA is a sponsor of this summer's International Leadership Forum for Women with Disabilities (Washington, D. C., June 15-20, 1997). By supporting this event, ELA seeks to foster additional avenues for dialogue and provide a link for persons interested in these issues to politicians and policy makers worldwide, creating the first steps toward "changing the face of disability on the face of the planet!"

ELA is also supporting this event through its Women With Disabilities website (womenwithdisabilities.org). Initially, the site provides accessible information regarding the International Leadership Forum in June. However, ELA will continue to develop and expand this site to bring a greater focus on the special political, social and economic issues to women with disabilities.

Margaret A. Staton is a philanthropist who focuses on increasing public awareness and understanding concerning persons with disabilities. Having been spinal cord disabled herself since the age of two, Margaret has invaluable first-hand knowledge and experience which she brings to her grant-making and civic involvements.

She is a Board Member of the Shepherd Center, Special Audiences, Inc. and Very Special Arts, and was involved with the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games and the Atlanta Paralympics Organizing Committee.

The Executive Committee would like to extend special appreciation to the following individuals who contributed significantly to the Forum organization:

Jeane Argoff
The family of Rosangela Berman-Bieler
Susan Brown
Patricia Huntington
Steve Jacobs
Peggy Koenig
Cindy Lewis
Martha Muskie
Susan Parker
Suzanne Reier
Marina Rubinstein
Margaret Staton
JoAnn Thierry
Lucy Hernandez Wong

Patricia Beattie
Pat Broderick
Dinah Cohen
Charmaine Iversen
John Kemp
Danuta Krotoski
Kathy Marchael
Donna Nangle
Carl Raskin
Ana Luiza Rotta Soares (Brazil)
Theresa San Agustin
Diane Svenonius
Carmen Velasquez
The family of Ilene Zeitzer



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**Special Welcome to Forum Participants
June 16, 18.00-22.00**

Forum Organizers

The Forum has been organized as a collaboration between the groups listed below. The Forum Executive Committee is listed on the inside front cover.

The World Institute on Disability (WID) is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities throughout the world. Founded in 1983 by leaders of the Independent Living Movement as a center for the study of public policy on disability and independent living, WID main focuses include research, public education, technical assistance and training concerning issues that impact the ability of people with disabilities to live independently.

WID's staff includes researchers, teachers, trainers, policy analysts, disability activists and public health specialists. Based in Oakland, California, both WID's staff and board are comprised of a majority of people with disabilities.

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Founded in 1922, **Rehabilitation International (RI)** is a worldwide network of people with disabilities, service providers and government agencies working to improve the quality of life for disabled people. Placing major emphasis on the exchange of practical experience in developing policies and programs, RI maintains four year cycles of meetings and regional events building to a World Congress.

RI, based in New York, places great value on its consultative status with the United Nations and its family of specialized agencies, including: UNICEF, ILO, WHO, UNESCO as well as the European Union, the Organization of American States, the UN Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific and others. RI has member organizations in 92 countries.

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Mobility International USA (MIUSA) is a national non-profit organization working to improve opportunities for persons with disabilities in international education, leadership development, community service and travel. Since 1981, MIUSA has offered international exchange programs which include participants with and without disabilities in the U.S. and other countries. MIUSA exchanges specialize in leadership training, community service, cross-cultural experiential learning, and advocacy for the rights of persons with disabilities. Based in Oregon, MIUSA provides training and consultation and has published resource books, training manuals and videos, and curriculum guides to increase opportunities for persons with disabilities to be involved in international activities.

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The IDEAS 2000 Project, founding sponsor of the International Leadership Forum, is a five year project funded by the U.S. National Institute for Disability and Rehabilitation Research, Department of Education, Grant #H133D40028.