Country Profile on Disability
Republic of Zambia

August 2026

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

International Development Center of Japan, Inc.
Koei Research & Consulting Inc.

HM
JR
26-073

This study was commissioned by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (hereinafter referred to as "JICA") and conducted by the International Development Center of Japan, Inc. and Koei Research & Consulting Inc. This report is based on an analysis of literature and online surveys conducted in Japan from December 2025 to August 2026, as well as online questionnaires completed by relevant organizations of the target country.

Country Profile on Disability
Republic of Zambia
Table of Contents

1. Basic Indicators 1
1-1. Basic Indicators 1
1-2. Definition of Disability and Indicators on Disability 2
2. Administration and Policy on Disability 6
2-1. Administration on Disability 6
2-2. Disability-Related Laws and Policy Documents 9
2-3. Measures on Disability 13
3. International Treaties and International Cooperation 28
3-1. Status of Implementation Following Ratification of the CRPD 28
3-2. Status of Implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty 28
3-3. Initiatives on Disability Issues within SDG-Related Policies 28
3-4. Ratification of and Initiatives regarding Other International Treaties Related to Disabilities and Development 29
3-5. International Cooperation on Disability 29
4. Disability-related Organizations and Activities 33
4-1. Organizations of Persons with Disabilities 33
4-2. Disability Support Organizations 33
5. Barriers and Needs Faced by Persons with Disabilities 35
5-1. Barriers to and Needs regarding Healthcare Services 35
5-2. Barriers to and Needs regarding Education 35
5-3. Barriers to and Needs regarding Employment 36
5-4. Barriers to and Needs regarding Transportation 36
5-5. Barriers to and Needs regarding Information Access 37
5-6. Barriers and Needs regarding Gender 37
6. References 39

List of Figures

Figure 1 Percentage of Functional Limitation (ages 5 and above) (2022) 3
Figure 2 Percentage of Cause of Disability (Ages 18 and above) (2015) 4
Figure 3 Percentage of Persons with Disability by Gender (Ages 5 and above) (2022) 4
Figure 4 Percentage of Persons with Disabilities by Residential Area (Ages 5 and above) (2022) 5

List of Abbreviations

CBID	Community-based Inclusive Development
CBR	Community-based Rehabilitation
CDF	Constituency Development Fund
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
DMIS	Disability Management Information System
DMMU	Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit
EU	European Union
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
ICF	International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ILO	International Labour Organization
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
NEFOBZA	New Foundation of the Blind in Zambia
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHIMA	National Health Insurance Management Authority
NHIS	National Health Insurance Scheme
OPD	Organization of Persons with Disabilities
PPASCN	Parents Partnership Association for Children with Special Needs
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TEVET	Technical Education, Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training
TEVETA	Technical Education, Vocational Training, and Entrepreneurship
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WHO	World Health Organization
ZAFOD	Zambia Federation of Disability Organizations
ZAPD	Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities
ZNAD	Zambia National Association of the Deaf

1. Basic Indicators

1-1. Basic Indicators[1]

Gross Domestic Product[2] per capita	USD 1,187.10	2024
Government Expenditures by Sector		
Healthcare (% of GDP)	5.25%	2022
Education (% of GDP)	4.0%	2023
Social protection (% of GDP)[3]	2.9%	2021
Population		
Total population	21,314,956	2024
Male (% of total population)	49.50%	
Female (% of total population)	50.50%	
Urban population (% of total population)	45.47%	
Rural population (% of total population)	54.53%	
Life expectancy at birth (total)	66.3 years	2023
Male	63.9 years	
Female	68.6 years	
Health		
Prevalence of undernourishment (% of population)	37.2%	2023
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	30.9	2023
Education		
Education System[4]		
Primary education	7 years	
Compulsory education	9 years	
Literacy rate (% of ages 15 and above)	82.0%	2023
Adult male	87.2%	
Adult female	77.1%	

[1] Based on the World Bank (https://data.worldbank.org/indicator (Accessed: 8 January 2026)).
[2] Hereinafter referred to as "GDP."
[3] Excluding healthcare. Based on ILO (2024) World Social Protection Report, https://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/2024-09/WSPR_2024_EN_WEB_1.pdf (Accessed: 17 January 2026))
[4] The Zambian education system consists of primary school (7 years) and secondary school (2 years + 3 years). Compulsory education spans 9 years, from age 6 to 15. This information is based on the website of the Zambian Ministry of Education (https://www.edu.gov.zm/ (Accessed: 19 January 2026)

School enrollment		
Primary (% gross) (total)	115.5%	2024
Male	112.7%	
Female	118.3%	
Secondary (% gross) (total)[5]	56.7%	2024
Male	54.4%	
Female	59.0%	
Tertiary (% gross) (total)[6]	3.9%	2012
Male	4.5%	
Female	3.4%	

Employment

Unemployment (total)	5.9%	2024
Male (% of male labour force)	5.7%	
Female (% of female labour force)	6.2%	

1-2. Definition of Disability and Indicators on Disability

1-2-1. Definition of Disability

In the Republic of Zambia (hereinafter referred to as "Zambia"), Article 266 of the Constitution[7] and the amended Persons with Disabilities Act of 2012[8] define a person with a disability as "means a permanent physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairment that alone, or in combination with social or environmental barriers, hinders the ability of a person to fully or effectively participate in society on an equal basis with others."

1-2-2. Statistics on Disability

In Zambia, the Census of Population and Housing[9] has been conducted approximately every 10 years since 1969 (1st in 1969, 2nd in 1980, 3rd in 1990, 4th in 2000, 5th in 2010, and 6th in 2022). Questions regarding disability have been included since the first census. In

[5] Ages 14 to 16
[6] Ages 16 to 19
[7] https://www.parliament.gov.zm/sites/default/files/documents/amendment_act/Constitution%20of%20Zambia%20%20(Amendment),%202016-Act%20No.%202_0.pdf (Accessed: 26 March 2026)
[8] https://www.parliament.gov.zm/sites/default/files/documents/acts/The%20Persons%20with%20disabilities%20act%2C%202012.PDF (Accessed: 19 March 2026)
[9] https://www.zamstats.gov.zm/census-and-statistics/ (Accessed: 26 March 2026)

addition to the census, the National Disability Survey[10] has been conducted since 2015. The second National Disability Survey is scheduled for 2025, with results expected in 2026 or 2027.

The 2015 National Disability Survey utilized the Washington Group Short Set on Functioning and the initial version of the Children's Functioning Module[11], with questions designed based on the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF). It was also used in the 2022 Census.

Since 2018, with support from the International Labour Organization (hereinafter referred to as "ILO"), the Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities (hereinafter referred to as "ZAPD") has been leading the development of the Disability Management Information System (DMIS)[12] to aggregate data on persons with disabilities.

Number of Persons with disabilities (ages 5 and older)[13]		11.5% of the total population	2022
	Male	10.5% of the total population	
	Women	12.4% of the total population	

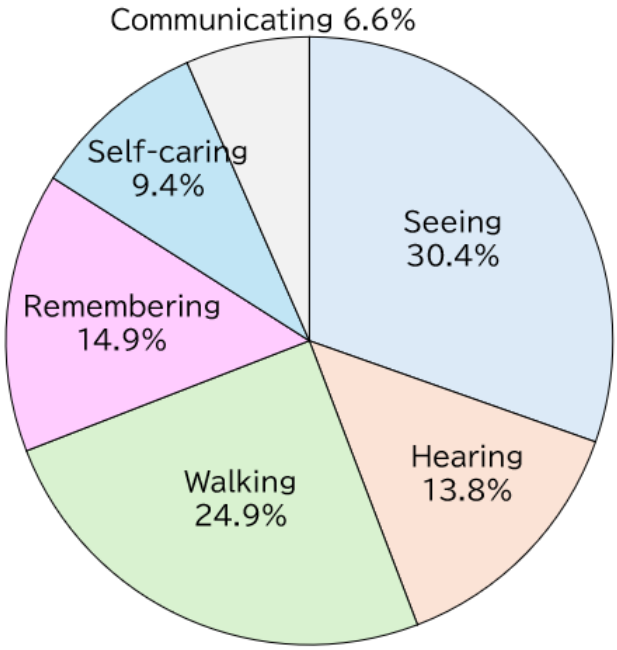


Figure 1 Percentage of Functional Limitation (ages 5 and above) (2022)

The highest proportion is "Seeing" at 30.4%, followed by "Walking" at 24.9%."Remembering" accounts for 14.9% and "Hearing" for 13.8%, with these areas following with moderate proportions. "Self-caring" stands at 9.4% and "Communicating" at 6.6%, remaining at relatively low levels.

Source: Prepared by the study team based on the Zambia Census (2022)

[10] https://www.zamstats.gov.zm/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Zambia-Disability-Survey-2015.pdf (Accessed: 26 March 2026)

[11] A functional impairment assessment tool developed by the Washington Group and the United Nations Children's Fund (hereinafter referred to as "UNICEF") for children (ages 2–17).

[12] https://zapd.org.zm/planning-programmes/ (Accessed: 26 March 2026)

[13] Zambia Census (2022).

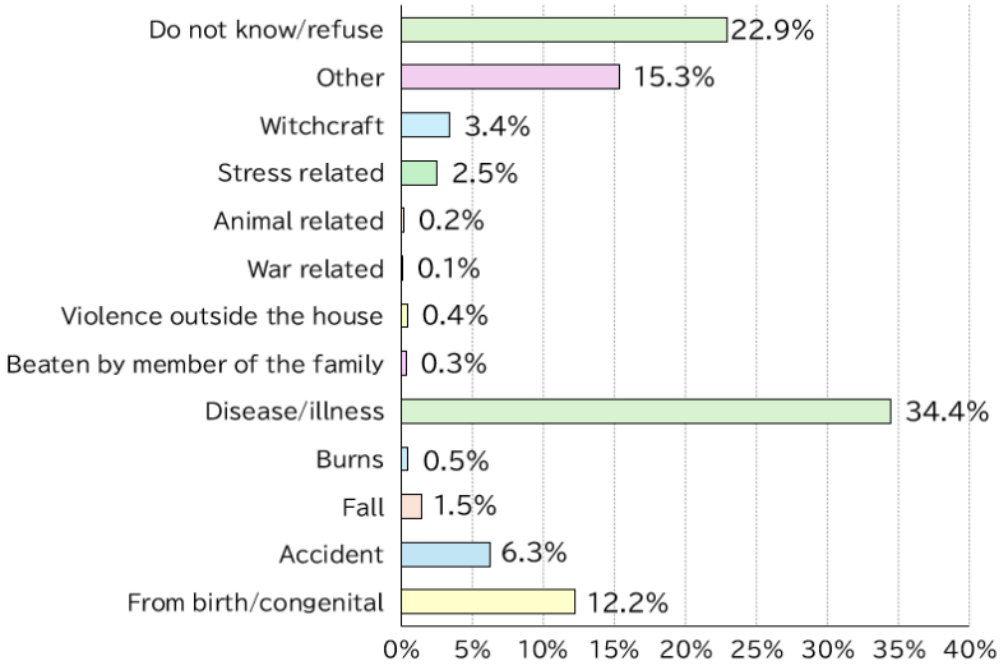


Figure 2 Percentage of Cause of Disability (Ages 18 and above) (2015)

The highest proportion is due to Disease/illness at 34.4%. This is followed by "Do not know/refuse" at 22.9%, "other" at 15.3%, and "From birth/congenital" at 12.2%. Additionally, "accidents" accounted for 6.3%, "Witchcraft" for 3.4%, "Stress-related" for 2.5%, and "fall" for 1.5%."Burns" accounted for 0.5%, "violence outside the house" for 0.4%, "Beaten by member of the family" for 0.3%, "animal-related" for 0.2%, and "war-related" for 0.1%, all of which remained at low levels.

Source: Prepared by the study team based on the Zambia National Disability Survey (2015)[14]

According to the results of the 2022 Census, the age distribution of persons with disabilities in Zambia is 33.2% aged 5–17 and 66.8% aged 18 and older. The breakdown by gender is shown below.

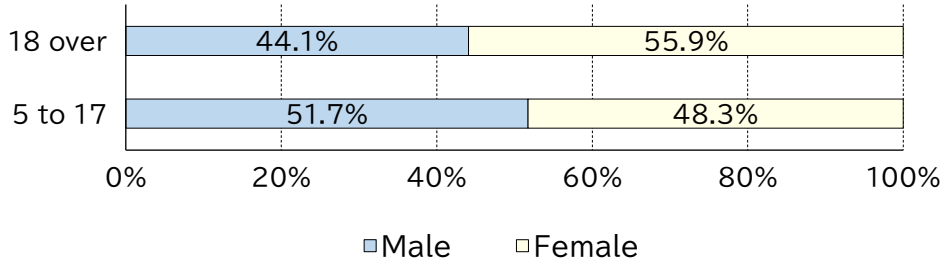


Figure 3 Percentage of Persons with Disability by Gender (Ages 5 and above) (2022)

Among those aged 5–17, 51.7% are male, and 48.3% are female, with males slightly more prevalent. In contrast, among those aged 18 and older, 44.1% are male, and 55.9% are female, with the proportion of females exceeding that of males.

Source: Prepared by the study team based on the Zambia Census (2022)

[14] Since the 2022 Census did not include questions regarding the causes of disability, data from the 2015 National Disability Survey was cited.

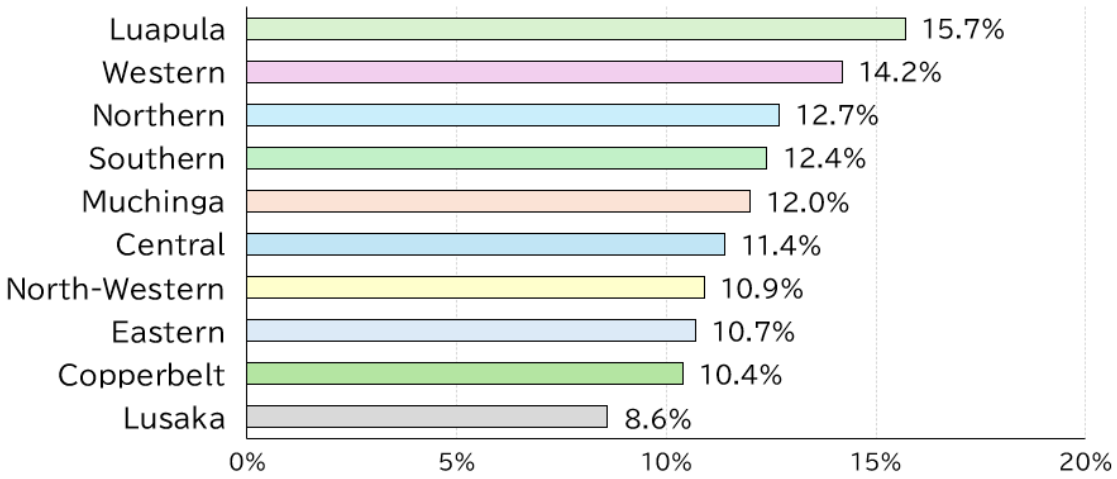


Figure 4 Percentage of Persons with Disabilities by Residential Area (Ages 5 and above)[15] (2022)

The highest proportion is in Luapula Province, accounting for 15.7%, followed by Western Province at 14.2%. Northern Province (12.7%), Southern Province (12.4%), and Mchinga Province (12.0%) also have relatively high rates. Meanwhile, Central Province stands at 11.4%, North-Western Province at 10.9%, Eastern Province at 10.7%, and Copperbelt Province at 10.4%, placing them in the middle range. The lowest rate is in Lusaka Province at 8.6%.

Source: Prepared by the study team based on the Zambia Census (2022)

[15] Zambia consists of 10 provinces, which are further divided into a total of 117 districts. The names "Central Province," "Eastern Province," "Northern Province," "North Western Province," "Southern Province," and "Western Province" refer to the provinces themselves and do not denote specific regions.

2. Administration and Policy on Disability

2-1. Administration on Disability[16]

Disability issues require a cross-sectoral approach. For this purpose, the 1996 Law on Persons with Disabilities mandated the establishment of ZAPD. Its functions and authority were established in 2012, ZAPD operates under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services and coordinates various disability-related agencies. Even after the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (hereinafter referred to as "CRPD"), ZAPD continues to serve as the central agency, striving to cooperate and collaborate with national and international organizations, formulate disability policies, clarify issues facing persons with disabilities, and assess the actual conditions of persons with disabilities. In addition, as part of a cross-sectoral approach, disability focal points have been appointed in all ministries and government agencies to implement and monitor disability-related policies.

<Central Government>

Entities responsible for disability issues[17]

	Name	Overview
1	Ministry of Community Development and Social Services https://www.mcdss.gov.zm/	Oversees all social welfare programs and is the ministry responsible for ZAPD. Implements various social protection programs, including cash transfers. From 2014 to 2016, it was organized as the Ministry of Community Development and Maternal and Child Health, and since 2016, it has once again been known as the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services.
2	Zambian Agency for Persons with Disabilities (ZAPD) https://zapd.org.zm/	Established under the Persons with Disabilities Act of 1996. Coordinates and regulates the provision of inclusive social services through inter-ministerial cooperation and coordination, policy formulation, planning, and implementation of services for persons with disabilities, practical work related to the protection and promotion of their rights, oversight, regulatory intervention, building cooperative relationships with relevant agencies, awareness-raising activities, monitoring, and raising operational funds through the management of farms and production facilities.

[16] This information is based on the report submitted by the Government of Zambia to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2017 (hereinafter referred to as the "State Party's Report").

[17] In addition to the State Party's Report, the websites of various ministries and agencies were consulted (Accessed: March–April 2026).

		It consists of representatives from relevant government ministries, organizations of persons with disabilities (hereinafter referred to as "OPDs"), support organizations, and coordinators stationed at branch offices in each of the 10 provinces. The Board of Directors includes persons with disabilities.
3	Ministry of Labour and Social Security https://www.mlss.gov.zm/	Responsible for drafting and reviewing policies and legislation related to employment, labor, and social security (including pensions), as well as raising public awareness of social security rights and conducting monitoring.
4	Ministry of Health https://www.moh.gov.zm/	It is responsible for formulating and revising policies and legislation related to health services, the licensing and staffing of rehabilitation facilities, and the training and registration of rehabilitation professionals.
5	Ministry of Education https://www.edu.gov.zm/	The Bureau of Teacher Education and Special Services oversees inclusive education and special education. It develops implementation guidelines for inclusive education and conducts teacher training and capacity-building programs. It compiles and publishes annual education statistics on its website[18].
6	Technical Education, Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training Authority (hereinafter referred to as "TEVETA") https://www.teveta.org.zm/	Established vocational training and entrepreneurship development, it also leads education on employing persons with disabilities. Educational institutions nationwide that provide Technical Education, Vocational, and Entrepreneurship Training (hereinafter referred to as "TEVET") are registered with TEVETA[19]. It operates under the Ministry of Science and Technology and collaborates with the Higher Education Authority. It contributes to poverty reduction and increases access to TEVET, fostering a skilled workforce. It promotes the participation of women and persons with disabilities in TEVET, fosters the development of entrepreneurial skills to create jobs, supports the transition of informal-sector operators into formal micro- and small-business owners, and develops appropriate certification systems and quality-assurance methods.

[18] https://www.edu.gov.zm/?page_id=541 Education statistics from 2009 to 2025 are available on the Ministry of Education's website (Accessed: 26 March 2026). The data summarizes the number of students with special educational needs attending public primary and secondary schools by gender, grade level, and province.

[19] https://www.teveta.org.zm/ (Accessed: 26 March 2026)

7	Ministry of Technology and Science https://www.mots.gov.zm/	Operates TEVETA training institutions as statutory bodies. Provides scholarships for children from socially vulnerable groups.
8	Department of Communications, Ministry of Technology and Science https://www.mots.gov.zm/?page_id=189	Operates the Information and Communications Technology Agency as a statutory body. It is responsible for ensuring accessibility for persons with disabilities in the field of information and communications technology, formulating policies and reviewing laws, and developing codes of conduct and consumer protection guidelines regarding the provision of information and communications technology products and services.
9	Ministry of Transport and Logistics https://www.motl.gov.zm/	Renamed in 2021. Responsible for ensuring accessibility in public transportation, raising awareness of regulations, and reviewing them.

Status of Coordination Mechanism

Committee Name	Disability Rights Independent Monitoring Team (DRIMT)
Committee Members	Twenty-four organizations, including the OPD, support groups, and family associations, participated in the preparation of the CRPD parallel report
Role and Implementation Status	This is an NGO-led and NGO-driven independent monitoring mechanism for the CRPD, with the Disability Rights Watch serving as the secretariat

Committee Name	Zambian Human Rights Commission
Commission Members	Members are appointed by the President, subject to ratification by the National Assembly. Personnel for each department are appointed by the members.
Role and Status	Established as an independent body in accordance with the 1996 Human Rights Act and the 2016 constitutional amendments. Member of the Network of National Human Rights Institutions in Africa. ・Investigating and reporting on the observance of rights and freedoms ・Ensuring appropriate remedies in cases of violations of rights and freedoms ・Conducting awareness-raising activities to promote the human rights of persons with disabilities ・Disseminating information regarding the CRPD and the Persons with Disabilities Act

<Local Government Administration>

ZAPD has branch offices in all 10 provinces, with a director assigned to each branch. The Ministry of Community Development and Social Services has operational agencies in each province, county, and district that carry out disability-related work.

2-2. Disability-Related Laws and Policy Documents[20]

The Constitution of Zambia was enacted in 1991 and amended in 1996 and 2016[21]. The 2016 amended Constitution stipulates that all citizens, including persons with disabilities, are equal before the law and are entitled to equal protection and the equal benefit of the law, and prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability. The Persons with Disabilities Act was significantly amended in 2012 to align with the CRPD, treating disability as a human rights issue and guaranteeing the right of persons with disabilities to be treated with dignity.

Title	Persons with Disabilities Act[22]
Year of enactment	1996, amended in 2012
Overview	In 1996, the Act established the ZAPD, defined its role, and defined disability. In 2012, following the ratification of the CRPD, the ZAPD was established, and the following amendments were made. Regarding the rights of persons with disabilities, the Disability Act takes precedence over any other law. ・References to the independence of persons with disabilities, including respect for their inherent dignity and freedom of choice ・A shift in the definition of disability from the medical model to the social model ・Efforts toward equal opportunity and an inclusive society ・Definitions of terms such as discrimination based on disability, derogatory terms, reasonable accommodation, universal design, and accessibility ・Provisions regarding the prohibition of discrimination and the obligation to provide reasonable accommodations ・Establishment of universal design standards for the construction of public schools

Although the Persons with Disabilities Act does not currently define albinism, the government plans to include a definition in future amendments. Definitions of disability vary

[20] Based on the State Party's Report (2017)

[21] https://www.parliament.gov.zm/sites/default/files/documents/amendment_act/Constitution%20of%20Zambia%20%20(Amendment),%202016-Act%20No.%202_0.pdf (Accessed: 19 March 2026)

[22] https://www.parliament.gov.zm/sites/default/files/documents/acts/The%20Persons%20with%20disabilities%20act%2C%202012.PDF (Accessed: 19 March 2026)

by law. The Zambian government recognizes that existing laws, as listed below, use derogatory terms such as "unsound mind," "mentally retarded," and "idiot" to refer to persons with mental or intellectual disabilities, and is taking steps to amend these laws as a matter of urgency.

- Mental Health Act (2019), amended to align with the CRPD
- Penal Code
- Criminal Procedure Code
- Prisons Act
- Citizens of Zambia Act
- Electoral Commission Act

Title	Education Act[23]
Year of enactment	2011
Overview	This Act guarantees the right to basic education and mandates that school-age children attend school. It stipulates that this right cannot be impeded for any reason and that education must be provided in an inclusive environment that takes into account special needs and individual diversity.

Title	Children's Code Act 2022[24]
Year of enactment	2022
Overview	A comprehensive law aimed at protecting children's rights. It defines anyone under the age of 18 as a "child," prohibits corporal punishment, child marriage, and female genital mutilation (FGM), and stipulates protections against sexual abuse, the strengthening of children's rights in judicial proceedings, and the mandatory implementation of child protection procedures, marking a major reform.

Title	Employment Act 2015, Employment Code Act 2019[25]
Year of enactment	2015, 2019
Overview	Prohibits employers from engaging in direct or indirect discrimination, harassment, and other forms of discrimination based on disability.

Disability Policies

Title	Zambia Vision 2030
Year of enactment	2006–2030

[23] https://www.edu.gov.zm/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Education-Act-2011.pdf (Accessed: 19 March 2026)

[24] https://www.parliament.gov.zm/sites/default/files/documents/acts/ACT%20No.%2012%20OF%202022%2CThe%20Children%27s%20Code%20FINAL.pdf (Accessed: 19 March 2026)

[25] https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/zam224519.pdf (Accessed: 19 March 2026)

Overview	This is a long-term roadmap for achieving middle-income status, and five-year national development plans are formulated in line with this vision. Since 2016, the National Performance Framework has been used to establish nine long-term outcomes and indicators. Under the fifth outcome, "A Society of Equality and Guaranteed Rights," the goal is to achieve a level of protection for the rights of persons with disabilities comparable to that achieved by middle-income countries.

Title	7th National Development Plan
Year of enactment	2017–2021
Overview	As a strategy to address urgent, cross-cutting issues, the plan includes provisions for the elderly and persons with disabilities. It highlights the importance of enabling the elderly and persons with disabilities to participate in the labor market as productive members of society, as well as ensuring access to infrastructure and social security (health care, education, vocational training, and entrepreneurial opportunities). A specific target is set to increase the employment rate of persons with disabilities from 45.5% in 2005 to 55% by 2021.

Title	8th National Development Plan[26]
Year of enactment	2022–2026
Overview	The theme is "Socio-economic Transformation for Improved Living Standards." It aims to lay the foundation for realizing "Vision 2030" through economic recovery, stabilization, and steady growth. ・Strategy 6.7.2-2: To improve the welfare and livelihoods of the poor and socially vulnerable, provide support to ensure accessibility and promote social participation for persons with disabilities, such as by developing disability-friendly infrastructure across all sectors. In addition, expand support for acquiring practical literacy skills. ・Strategy 8.4.4-4: In strengthening democratic and political governance, promote an equitable environment for the political participation and inclusion of marginalized groups—such as women, youth, and persons with disabilities—who have limited opportunities for social participation, through electoral system reform. Similarly, promote the participation of marginalized groups in the public sector by hiring and appointing them to decision-making positions, using affirmative action.

Title	National Policy on Persons with Disabilities
Year of enactment	2012[27], 2025[28]

[26] https://www.cabinet.gov.zm/newsite/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/8NDP-2022-2026.pdf (Accessed: 27 March 2026)
[27] https://www.mcdss.gov.zm/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/National-Disability-Policy.pdf (Accessed: 27 March 2026)
[28] https://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/2025-06/national_policy_on_persons_with_disabilities.pdf (Accessed: 27 March 2026)

Overview	The policy, revised in 2025, incorporated climate change and disaster management measures that include persons with disabilities, issues identified as challenges in the 2012 policy. In line with the human rights of persons with disabilities, the policy aims to create a supportive environment across all sectors so that persons with disabilities can effectively participate in and contribute to national development on an equal footing with others. In 2025, with support from the ILO, the National Disability Mainstreaming Guidelines were formulated to implement the policy and promote disability mainstreaming [29], and they state a commitment to protecting and promoting the rights of persons with disabilities through a multifaceted approach.

Title	National Social Protection Policy
Year of enactment	2014[30], 2025[31]
Overview	The National Social Protection Policy, formulated in 2014, established five pillars (protection, livelihood, social assistance, social security, and disability) as its basic guidelines. It implemented an inclusive social assistance program to ensure the living standards of persons with disabilities, as well as a Social Cash Transfer program targeting socially vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities. The 2025 policy builds upon the previous policy and introduces a life-cycle approach to social protection. It implements programs designed to address the needs of pregnant women and infants, children and adolescents, young adults, adults, the elderly, and individuals before, during, and after employment.

Title	National Policy on Education: "Educating our Future Policy"[32] Ministry of Education Strategic Plan 2022–2026[33]
Year of enactment	1996, 2022
Overview	The 1996 policy aimed to improve access to education and enhance educational quality at all levels, regardless of gender, social class, or disability[34]. The 2022–2026 Plan sets the goal of promoting equity and inclusion. It aims to establish appropriate infrastructure and facilities for students with special needs and disabilities at all levels of education.

[29] https://www.undp.org/zambia/publications/national-disability-mainstreaming-guidelines (Accessed: 27 March 2026)
[30] https://www.mcdss.gov.zm/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/National-Social-Protection-Policy.pdf (Accessed: 27 March 2026)
[31] https://www.unicef.org/zambia/media/6671/file/NATIONAL-SOCIAL-PROTECTION-POLICY-2025.pdf.pdf (Accessed: 27 March 2026)
[32] https://lataz.org.zm/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Educating-OUr-Future-National-Policy-on-Education-Zambia.pdf (Accessed: 27 March 2026)
[33] https://www.edu.gov.zm/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/MOE-STARTEGIC-PLAN.pdf (Accessed: 27 March 2026)
[34] Following the enactment of the Persons with Disabilities Act in 1996 and its amendment in 2012, it was stipulated that education policies for students requiring special education would be revised in accordance with the CRPD; however, as of the submission of the State Party's Report (2019) and the Concluding Observations (2024), no amendments to education policies have been made.

Title	National Higher Education Policy 2019[35] National Technical Education and Entrepreneurship Training Policy
Year of enactment	2019, 2020
Overview	The 2019 and 2020 policies were developed by the Ministry of Higher Education (at the time) to improve equity in the education and training of learners with physical, hearing, speech, visual, or mental disabilities who require special support. The policies also focused on promoting gender equality.

Title	Disaster Management Regulation 2019[36]
Year of enactment	2010, 2019
Overview	The National Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU)[37] was established under the Office of the Vice President. In line with disaster management policies aligned with the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005), the Disaster Management Act[38], which includes vulnerable populations, was enacted in 2010. Pursuant to that law, the relevant regulations were enacted in 2019.

2-3. Measures on Disability[39]

1) Healthcare

The National Policy on Persons with Disabilities (2012) recognizes the need to improve access to high-quality health services for persons with disabilities and stipulates that healthcare services, including those in sexual and reproductive health and public health, be provided at no cost or at an affordable price. It also stipulates the provision of services for early screening of disabilities and appropriate intervention, as well as the minimization and prevention of functional impairment. State Party's Report states that measures will be taken to strengthen accessibility to health services through interventions addressing the vulnerability to HIV/AIDS infection and the needs of persons with disabilities, as well as through awareness-raising activities on sexual and reproductive health.

In 2019, the Mental Health Act was enacted in accordance with the CRPD[40]. To promote and protect the rights of persons with mental illness, mental disorders, or mental impairments

[35] https://hea.org.zm/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/NATIONAL-HIGHER-EDUCATION-POLICY.pdf (Accessed: 27 March 2026)

[36] https://media.zambialii.org/media/legislation/41945/source_file/b51f466b7cfc9b66/zm-act-si-2019-6-publication-document.pdf (Accessed: 27 March 2026)

[37] https://www.ovp.gov.zm/?page_id=6756 (Accessed: 27 March 2026)

[38] https://www.parliament.gov.zm/sites/default/files/documents/acts/Disaster%20Management%20Act%202010.PDF (Accessed: 26 March 2026)

[39] Based on the State Party's Report (2017), Parallel Reports (2020, 2024), strategy documents and progress reports from relevant ministries and agencies, and reports from partner donors

[40] https://www.parliament.gov.zm/sites/default/files/documents/acts/The%20Mental%20Health%20Act%20No.%206%20of%20%202019.pdf (Accessed: 26 March 2026)

or disabilities, the Act established the National Mental Health Council, defined its functions, and set forth provisions regarding mental health services in correctional facilities. It also stipulates that derogatory terms must not be used based on mental disability[41].

Furthermore, the State Party's Report guarantees the right of persons with disabilities to live independently in the community and states that community-based rehabilitation should be accessible to all.

Health Status

Although life expectancy is increasing in Zambia, infectious diseases such as cholera, malaria, and HIV/AIDS, as well as malnutrition, particularly among infants and young children, remain major challenges. Although mortality rates have improved significantly, HIV/AIDS remained the leading cause of death in both 2013 and 2023[42]. The second leading cause of death in 2023 was pneumonia and other lower respiratory tract infections (third in 2013), and the third was neonatal diseases (second in 2013); mortality rates for both have improved. Although maternal mortality rates, under-five mortality rates, and infant mortality rates have also improved, they remain at high levels, and further efforts are needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (hereinafter referred to as "SDGs"). The causes of the increase in mortality rates are traffic accidents and ischemic heart disease, and there is a possibility that non-communicable diseases and conditions will increase.

Availability of Medical Services

Zambia has a high poverty rate and often must address multiple infectious diseases simultaneously. The healthcare system is overburdened, making it difficult to prioritize the continuity of routine services for maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health. According to a parallel report (2020) by the Zambia Federation of Disability Organizations (hereinafter referred to as "ZAFOD") and Disability Rights Watch, while Article 27 of the Persons with Disabilities Act guarantees the right of all persons with disabilities to free or affordable, high-quality, standard health care services, including sexual and reproductive health, women with disabilities face serious challenges, particularly in accessing sexual and reproductive health services. Additionally, the mental health infrastructure is dilapidated and in a state of disrepair nationwide.

[41] With the enactment of this Act, the Mental Health Act of 1949, which classified mental disorders using derogatory terms, was repealed. However, Article 4 of the Act establishes a provision that makes mental capacity a prerequisite for legal capacity, thereby creating the concept of a "legally disqualified person." Legal practitioners have expressed critical views, noting that this could lead to the deprivation of legal capacity. https://www.commonwealthlawyers.com/africa/a-legally-disqualified-person-the-mischief-created-by-zambias-parliament-in-the-2019-mental-health-act-by-felicity-kayumba-kalunga/ (Accessed: 27 March 2026)

[42] https://www.healthdata.org/research-analysis/health-by-location/profiles/zambia (Accessed: 31 March 2026)

Rehabilitation is provided at national rehabilitation centers and tertiary care facilities under ZAPD's jurisdiction. The Persons with Disabilities Act and the National Policy on Persons with Disabilities stipulate that the social participation of persons with disabilities should be promoted by providing ongoing training to rehabilitation professionals and staff at rehabilitation centers to enhance their knowledge and skills. However, the parallel report states that many of the ZAPD's rehabilitation centers are dilapidated and do not provide multidisciplinary professional services. It also points out that funding is donor-driven and that the government lacks initiative.

Access to Healthcare Services

According to a parallel report[43], while healthcare is accessible free of charge or at affordable rates, there has been little progress in changing healthcare professionals' attitudes regarding how to support persons with disabilities, and that dignity is not being upheld in the provision of health services. The report emphasizes that prejudice and discriminatory attitudes towards persons with disabilities hinder their access to information, testing, and treatment for HIV/AIDS, and that an urgent shift in awareness is necessary. It also calls for measures to accommodate persons with visual and hearing impairments, such as providing health information in Braille and staffing health facilities with personnel capable of interpreting in sign language.

The parallel report also highlights that rehabilitation centers in the regions under ZAPD's jurisdiction are not adequately staffed with professionals, and many are not functioning. While Article 27 of the Persons with Disabilities Act stipulates the decentralization of medical and rehabilitation services, the report notes that when community facilities are not operational, services are provided only at higher-level medical institutions. In rural areas, many persons with disabilities are currently unable to access rehabilitation due to transportation costs.

Assistive devices

To enhance the functional performance and safety of persons with disabilities, assistive devices tailored to specific disabilities, such as canes, crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, tricycle wheelchairs, sunglasses, and prosthetics, are provided free of charge through ZAPD. However, according to the State Party's Report, there are no suppliers in Zambia with reliable assistive device technology, forcing the country to rely on products manufactured by foreign companies both within and outside Africa. Article 44-2 of the Persons with Disabilities Act

[43] ZAFOD and Disability Rights Watch (2020), and the Human Rights Commission (2020)

provides tax exemptions for assistive devices, such as wheelchairs, and vehicle modifications. However, according to the parallel report (2024)[44] by ZAFOD and other organizations, budget allocations to organizations like ZAPD that procure assistive devices have not increased. As a result, the majority of persons with disabilities, particularly those living in rural areas, are unable to access essential assistive devices. While import duties on assistive devices such as clutches are exempt, these devices remain too expensive for the vast majority of persons with disabilities and thus have not led to improved access.

Health Insurance

In Zambia, the National Health Insurance Act, No. 2[45] was enacted in 2018, and the National Health Insurance Scheme (hereinafter referred to as "NHIS") was launched in 2020. The introduction of the health insurance system aims to promote universal health coverage and protect the poor and socially vulnerable from catastrophic health expenditure. The operation of the health insurance system is governed by the National Health Insurance Act and administered by the National Health Insurance Management Authority (hereinafter referred to as "NHIMA"), established in 2019. According to NHIMA's report on the operational status and current situation, the NHIS covers employees in the public and formal private sectors, the elderly, socially vulnerable groups, and workers in the informal sector, who together account for approximately 35% of the population. The government has launched a large-scale registration campaign for subscribers in the informal sector[46]. Article 16(a) of the National Health Insurance Act No. 2 stipulates an exemption from health insurance premium payments to ensure that persons with mental and physical disabilities have access to high-quality healthcare services.

In response to this situation, the Concluding Observations adopted by the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2024 point out that access to health care for persons with disabilities is insufficient, particularly for women and girls with disabilities and those with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities. The Committee recommends the following measures:

- Ensure access to sexual and reproductive health services, including HIV/AIDS awareness campaigns.

[44] ZAFOD, the Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Disability Rights Watch, and Able Zambia Foundation Africa (2024)

[45] https://www.parliament.gov.zm/sites/default/files/documents/acts/The%20National%20Health%20Insurance%20Actl%2C%20No.2%20of%202018%20Sig.pdf (Accessed: 31 March 2026)

[46] https://p4h.world/en/news/the-national-health-insurance-management-authority-provides-an-update-on-the-performance-and-status-of-the-zambia-national-health-insurance-scheme/ (Accessed: 31 March 2026)

- Ensure decision-making support so that women with disabilities can access health services based on their own autonomy.
- Develop community-based mental health services and allocate sufficient resources.
- Provide appropriate medical support, including sunscreen and sunglasses, to persons with albinism.
- Conduct training for healthcare professionals on the rights of persons with disabilities, as well as on reasonable accommodation and accessibility.
- Ensure accessibility to medical facilities, equipment, and information (Braille, sign language, easy-to-read versions, etc.).

2) Education

Status of Legislative Framework

Article 22(2)(a) of the Act on Persons with Disabilities states that "persons with disabilities are not excluded from the general education system on the basis of disability" and that "children with disabilities are not excluded from free and compulsory primary education, or from secondary education, higher education or vocational training, on the basis of disability, and Article 22(2)(b) states that "persons with disabilities can access an inclusive, quality and free primary education, secondary education and higher education on an equal basis with others in the communities in which they live." The Act further identifies as violations of these rights situations such as parents not sending children with disabilities to school or schools refusing admission on the grounds of disability. According to the State Party's Report, since 2014, the Zambian government has sought to improve access, including through facility expansion, in its early childhood education policy to promote the education of children with disabilities. It also conducts awareness-raising activities through parent-teacher associations regarding the right of children with disabilities to receive education in their own communities. In addition, public universities admit students with disabilities through affirmative action measures and promote the training of teachers with disabilities.

School Enrollment

According to statistics from the Ministry of Education[47], the number of children with special educational needs in primary schools reached 115,506 in 2025, an increase from 108,710 in 2021. The commentary in the statistical report attributes this increase to improved capabilities in identifying children with disabilities and an expansion of the scope of support. Regarding early childhood education, reporting began in 2024, with 11,615 children in 2024

[47] Ministry of Education (2025) Education Statistics Bulletin 2025 (https://www.edu.gov.zm/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/2025-ESB-.pdf (Accessed: 31 March 2026))

and 11,639 in 2025. In secondary education, the number of students requiring special education dropped sharply from 31,523 in 2023 to 10,969 in 2024 but rose to 21,552 in 2025. This fluctuation is believed to be due to reporting issues and reclassifications, highlighting the importance of continuous monitoring and accurate reporting.

Inclusive Education

The Education Act (2011) stipulates the promotion of inclusive education for learners requiring special education. It states that appropriate measures must be implemented at all levels of educational institutions to ensure equal access and opportunities for participation for children who require special support. To this end, the Minister of Education, in cooperation with the Minister of Health, is tasked with establishing a decentralized system to identify, diagnose, and evaluate students who require special education for admission to educational institutions. When making admission decisions, the rights and wishes of the individual or their guardian must be considered. The Act stipulates that students requiring special education must be included in regular educational institutions to the greatest extent possible, thereby mandating the promotion of inclusive education.

As part of the transition to inclusive education, the Zambian government has conducted numerous training programs for teachers, including instruction in Braille and sign language, and in 2019, it developed a teacher-training manual[48]. The government has integrated Braille and sign language into the curriculum from primary through higher education, striving to ensure accessibility for students with visual and hearing impairments. In 2023, the government formulated the 2023 Zambia Education Curriculum Framework[49], which revises the curriculum for all levels of education, including early childhood and lifelong education, thereby promoting both inclusive education and special education. The Ministry of Higher Education provides scholarships for higher education to socially vulnerable students, with 10% of these scholarships reserved for students with disabilities. Affirmative action measures are applied regarding the employment of teachers with disabilities in public schools and the admission of students with disabilities to public universities.

The Parallel Report[50] recognizes the government's efforts implementing legal reforms and policies on inclusive education; however, it points out that teachers' understanding of inclusive education is low and quality education is not being provided; that students with visual impairments cannot receive adequate education due to a lack of facilities and learning materials for students with visual and hearing impairments, as well as a lack of

[48] https://nad.nhf.no/nads-development-work/resources/inclusive-education-resources/zambia-ie-training-manual/ (Accessed: 31 March 2026)
[49] https://www.giakonda.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/2025-New-Curriculum.pdf (Accessed: 31 March 2026)
[50] Disability Rights Watch (2020) and Human Rights Commission (2020)

communication skills among teachers; and that accessibility to school buildings is not ensured. It also points out that deep-rooted prejudice and discrimination toward disabilities among teachers and students constitute a major barrier, and calls for strengthened awareness-raising efforts.

Special Schools

The Education Act (2011) stipulates that appropriate measures must be implemented at all levels of educational institutions to ensure equal access and opportunities for participation for students who require special support. It states that students who require highly specialized special education may transfer from regular schools to special education institutions, or from special education institutions to inclusive education institutions, if the need is recognized. The law stipulates that special education must be provided equally in government educational institutions as well as in private and community educational facilities. According to statistics from the Ministry of Education[51], primary schools are distributed as follows: 27% government facilities, 15% private facilities, and 60% community schools, indicating that community educational facilities play a significant role.

In response to this situation, the Concluding Observations point out the exclusion of children with disabilities from regular education, the continuation of segregated education, and the insufficient progress in the transition to inclusive education and recommend the following measures.

- Implement inclusive education policies and proceed with the transition from special schools to mainstream education within a specified timeframe.
- Review the segregated placement of students with albinism and ensure reasonable accommodations in mainstream education.
- Correct discriminatory attitudes among teachers, families, and the local community, and eliminate factors that hinder school attendance.
- Ensure the physical accessibility of school facilities and introduce universal design.
- Establish a system to provide reasonable accommodations and individualized support.
- Expand training for teachers on inclusive education, sign language, Braille, and other relevant topics.
- Provide assistive devices and accessible educational materials (including Information and Communication Technology, hereinafter "ICT").

[51] Ministry of Education (2025), Education Statistics Bulletin 2025 (https://www.edu.gov.zm/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/2025-ESB-.pdf (Accessed: 31 March 2026)

- Strengthen the collection and monitoring of data disaggregated by disability type and gender.

3) Gender

Status of Legislative Framework

The Government of Zambia has ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (hereinafter referred to as "CEDAW") and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, as well as the Southern African Development Community Protocol on Gender and Development. The constitution, domestic laws, and policies prohibit discrimination against women and girls and guarantee their equal participation in society. In particular, the government recognizes that women with disabilities face multiple forms of discrimination and is taking measures to ensure their equal participation in society[52]. The Anti-Gender-Based Violence Act, enacted in 2011[53], outlines measures to address gender-based violence. As a new initiative, one-stop centers have been established in local communities to provide free counseling, referrals, legal support, rehabilitation, and medical services to women and girls who have experienced gender-based violence. A system to immediately initiate court proceedings in cases of gender-based violence has also been introduced on a trial basis in some courts. The 2023 National Women's Policy[54] is a comprehensive framework formulated to address persistent gender inequalities. It aims to realize a just and equitable society and incorporates key areas such as education, health, participation in economic activities, political representation, and social protection.

Status of Women with Disabilities

The Parallel Report[55] notes that women with disabilities have very limited access to household support projects and other social support services, with only a small fraction benefiting from them, and calls for an expansion of the target population and other additional measures. It also points out that they remain victims of widespread stigma and discrimination regarding access to health services, particularly sexual and reproductive health services. Following the change of government in 2021, Zambia dissolved the Ministry of Gender. Since then, no steps have been taken to establish the constitutionally mandated Commission on Gender Equality and Equity. The outcomes of programs such as girls'

[52] The Ministry of Gender, the Ministry of Regional Development and Social Affairs, and the Ministry of Education were implementing projects such as the "Girls' Education and Women's Empowerment and Livelihood Project"
[53] https://www.zambialaws.com/Zambia_Acts_yearPdf/Zambia2011Pdf/ACT-2011-1.pdf (Accessed: 31 March 2026)
[54] https://www.gender.gov.zm/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Cabinet-Office-Gender-Policy.pdf
[55] Disability Rights Watch (2020, 2024) and Human Rights Commission (2020)

education, women's empowerment, and livelihood improvement do not indicate the extent to which women and girls with disabilities are included as beneficiaries. For example, while the Higher Education Loan and Scholarship Board has established a policy to provide full scholarships to all applicants with disabilities and has set criteria prioritizing girls with disabilities, no results have been reported. Similarly, although the Constituency Development Fund (hereinafter referred to as "CDF") has been expanded, making additional support for boarding fees and skills development, and clear support for children with disabilities has been mandated, it has been noted that data disaggregated by disability type for women and girls is not available from CDF support measures.

Regarding the current situation in which the participation of women with disabilities in decision-making bodies is limited, the report cites examples such as the fact that only three women with disabilities were appointed to public commissions following the change of government in 2021, and that only two women with disabilities (both hearing impaired) had graduated from the University of Zambia by 2021, and calls for the consideration of affirmative action measures.

The Concluding Observations point out the social exclusion of women and girls with disabilities, the lack of data, and the insufficient inclusion of their perspectives in policy, and make the following recommendations:

- Conduct a survey about women with disabilities.
- Ensure access to education, employment, and social services.
- Include women with disabilities in policies targeting women.
- Promote participation in economic activities and decision-making.
- Conduct awareness-raising campaigns to eliminate discrimination and stigma.
- Ensure access to health services (particularly sexual and reproductive health).

4) Vocational Training and Employment

Status of Legislative Framework

The Persons with Disabilities Act stipulates that persons with disabilities shall not be discriminated against based on disability in any aspect of employment, thereby guaranteeing equal rights. According to the State Party's Report, the ILO-supported Decent Work Program has secured more and better-structured employment opportunities for target groups, including persons with disabilities. Tax refund measures are applied to employers of persons with disabilities. Employment of persons with disabilities is most advanced in government agencies; in particular, at the Ministry of Education, many employees who acquired disabilities due to work-related accidents have successfully returned to work. While the Persons with

Disabilities Act recommends an employment quota system, it does not specify any figures and lacks legal enforceability. A 5% quota has been under consideration but has not yet been implemented. According to the State Party's Report, deep-rooted prejudice against persons with disabilities among employers remains a barrier to employment, as the perception that hiring them leads to economic losses has not been dispelled. The State Party's Report states that while many job listings are posted in newspapers and on the internet, the fact that they are not published in media accessible to persons with disabilities is another cause of the low employment rate for this group.

Employment Situation

According to the 2021 Labor Force Survey, the unemployment rate for persons with disabilities was 16.8%, higher than the 12.5% rate for the general population. The unemployment rate for women was higher in both the general population and among persons with disabilities, at 18.3% and 14.1%, respectively. In the 2024 Labor Force Survey, approximately 3% of the population not included in the labor force in the long term cited disability as the reason, with men accounting for 52.0% and 48.0% women[56].

Vocational Training

Vocational training to promote employment is conducted at TEVETA-designated training schools. The National Policy on Persons with Disabilities guarantees equal access to TEVET for persons with disabilities. According to the State Party's Report, a TEVET scholarship system has been introduced to increase the number of young people receiving skills training and boost their motivation. It states that quotas of 30% and 10% have been secured for women and persons with disabilities, respectively. Additionally, a 10% scholarship quota has been secured for learners with disabilities.

However, the Parallel Report[57] calls for the urgent legal implementation of measures to ensure the entry of persons with disabilities into the labor market and to establish a quota system for them. This is based on findings from the 2015 National Survey on Persons with Disabilities, which showed that a significantly larger number of persons with disabilities work in the informal sector than in the public sector. The report points out that there are many institutional and physical barriers to access for persons with disabilities, particularly in TEVET and higher education. As a result, vocational training opportunities for persons with disabilities are limited, and they are unable to enter the labor market on an equal footing.

[56] Ministry of Labour and Social Security (2022, 2024) 2021, 2024 Labor Force Survey Report
[57] Disability Rights Watch (2020, 2024) and Human Rights Commission (2020)

The Concluding Observations point out the lack of employment opportunities and discrimination against persons with disabilities, the lack of reasonable accommodation, and inadequate implementation of the system, and make the following recommendations.

- Expand opportunities for vocational training and skills development.
- Rectify discrimination in employment.
- Ensure the provision of reasonable accommodation in the workplace.
- Expand employment opportunities in diverse industrial sectors.
- Establish mechanisms to ensure the implementation of the employment quota system.
- Promote the use of employment promotion incentives.

5) Social Security, Social Services for Persons with Disabilities

Status of Legislative Framework

The Disability Act stipulates that social protection measures must be established to ensure an appropriate standard of living for persons with disabilities and to guarantee their independent living. As part of the national social protection policy, cash benefits are provided to low-income households. Persons with severe disabilities are eligible for these benefits, and households with a member with a disability receive twice the amount paid to households without such a member. This program began as a pilot project in five regions in 2003, was gradually expanded nationwide, and has covered all regions since 2014.

Service Provision

According to the Voluntary National Review on the SDGs, in 2019, 632,327 low-income households (19.5% of the total population) received social cash benefits, and approximately 11% of these were households with a person with a disability. However, the State Party's Report notes that many persons with disabilities cannot afford to meet basic needs such as housing, food, clean water, and education, and continue to face significant hardships; consequently, efforts are underway to increase the number of beneficiaries of social protection programs. In addition to cash transfers, the National Trust Fund for Persons with Disabilities provides loans to improve the lives of persons with disabilities. ZAPD implements a grant program targeting individuals and groups with disabilities to improve their standard of living. This program provides support for land preparation and free agricultural supplies to enable persons with disabilities to engage in farming. At the same time, persons with disabilities engaged in agriculture can receive subsidies for agricultural supplies through the Ministry of Agriculture's "Farmer Fertilizer Support Program." For youth, the Ministry of Youth, Sports, and Child Development provides loans to support income-generating activities, including for young persons with disabilities.

The Parallel Report raises concerns about the eligibility screening process for social cash benefits, noting that assessments are based solely on a medical model that relies on medical certificates and gives no consideration to social factors. According to the report, while the ILO intervened and a pilot version of revised screening criteria was developed, it has not yet been implemented. The report notes that the National Trust Fund for Persons with Disabilities faces a severe funding shortfall, resulting in limited functionality of its loan programs[58].

Based on this situation, the Concluding Observations highlight the severity of poverty among persons with disabilities, the insufficient coverage of the social protection system, and the lack of comprehensiveness and resources within the system. The recommendations in the Concluding Observations are as follows:

- Establish a comprehensive social protection system.
- Design the system to accommodate the diversity of disabilities.
- Expand the coverage of cash benefit programs.
- Improve access to basic services such as water and sanitation.
- Strengthen resource allocation to relevant agencies.
- Expand support for independent living.

6) Transportation and Urban Development (including accessible urban planning)

Status of Legislative Framework

The Act on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities stipulates that public and private transportation providers must reserve seats for persons with disabilities and that discounted fares for persons with disabilities must be applied to transportation costs. However, the Parallel Report[59] points out that these provisions are not widely known among either transportation operators or users and are often not complied with. In particular, the report notes that persons with disabilities who use wheelchairs are frequently denied boarding because they require a significant space on public transportation.

Accessibility Improvements

The State Party's Report acknowledges that, urban roads generally lack sidewalks designed with persons with disabilities in mind, and that significant efforts are required to improve this situation. The Persons with Disabilities Act mandates the installation of audible signals for persons with visual impairments, the lowering of curbs for wheelchair users, the construction of ramps, the installation of tactile paving at pedestrian crossings and train platforms, and the placement of warning signals and signage in appropriate locations. The government has

[58]Disability Rights Watch (2020, 2024) and Human Rights Commission (2020)
[59] *Ibid.*

begun constructing roads that include wheelchair-accessible sidewalks, tactile paving, and warning signals. In addition, shopping malls and hotels currently under construction are being designed to ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities. Additionally, the airport in the capital city of Lusaka is being built to ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities. In the regional city of Livingstone, markets and bus terminals are equipped with facilities accessible to persons with disabilities.

The Concluding Observations point out the lack of accessibility in the physical environment and transportation, as well as delays in the implementation of relevant policies, and make the following recommendations:

- Develop a national strategy to identify and remove accessibility barriers.
- Ensure the participation of persons with disabilities in the formulation and implementation of standards.
- Implement plans to improve existing infrastructure.
- Introduce accessibility requirements in public procurement.
- Establish sanctions to ensure compliance with laws and regulations.

7) Information accessibility

According to the State Party's Report, measures are being phased in to ensure the freedom of expression and opinion, as well as access to information, for persons with disabilities. Article 49 of the Act on Persons with Disabilities stipulates that "all television stations shall provide a sign language inset or subtitles in all newscasts and educational programs, and in all programs covering events of national significance." In this regard, public television stations have hired sign language interpreters to ensure that their news programs are interpreted for the hearing impaired. The National Policy on Disability, to achieve the goal of access to information, ensures the provision of Braille and large print in public facilities, appropriate support and assistance to enable persons with disabilities to access information, and access to new ICT systems, including the Internet. The Information and Communications Technology Act incorporate Article 9 of the CRPD, which recognizes the right of persons with disabilities to access information. In 2023, ZAPD formulated the Communication Strategy 2023-2026[60] and is working to improve information accessibility for persons with disabilities through ICT.

The Concluding Observations point out the lack of legal recognition of sign language and the inadequacy of accessible information provision and ICT environments, and make the following recommendations:

- Recognize sign language as an official language.

- Make public information and media accessible.
- Ensure the accessibility of ICT and websites.
- Introduce subtitles, sign language, and audio description in television broadcasts.
- Train sign language interpreters and other personnel.

8) Disaster Risk Management

The Persons with Disabilities Act requires the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services to take measures to protect and ensure the safety of persons with disabilities in dangerous situations such as armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies, and natural disasters. In 2010, the Zambian government enacted the Disaster Management Act to serve as a guideline for disaster risk management, emergency response, and recovery. This Act provides for the establishment of the DMMU[61], provincial disaster management committees, district and sub-district disaster management committees, and the National Disaster Relief Fund. The DMMU is responsible for providing relief food and temporary shelter to persons with disabilities during natural disasters such as floods.

The 2024 National Disaster Risk Management Policy[62] identifies reducing inequalities in disaster risk management as one of its policy objectives and positions the mainstreaming of gender and disability perspectives in pre- and post-disaster programs as a policy measure, considering the social vulnerability of disaster-affected persons, including refugees and migrants.

In the Concluding Observations, concerns were raised regarding the lack of specific, comprehensive guidelines for disasters and humanitarian emergencies, insufficient budget allocation, and barriers to ensuring reasonable accommodation and access to information, shelters, and early warning systems. Additionally, concerns were expressed that the DMMU, the implementing authority, does not take persons with disabilities into account, and that the establishment of a coordination committee does not stipulate the participation of persons with disabilities through their representative organizations. The following recommendations were made:

- Develop evacuation procedures for hazardous situations, humanitarian emergencies, and disasters with the involvement of the OPDs.

[61] This unit was established in 1994 as a statutory body under the Office of the Vice President. It is the agency responsible for implementing the national disaster risk management policy.
https://www.ovp.gov.zm/?page_id=6756 (Accessed: 27 March 2026)

[62] https://www.ovp.gov.zm/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/2.-NATIONAL-DISASTER-RISK-MANAGEMENT-POLICY_2024.pdf (Accessed: 27 March 2026)

- Ensure that persons with disabilities have access to information, evacuation centers, emergency relief assistance, early warning systems, community need assessments, and assistive devices.
- Review the Disaster Management Act enacted in 2010, as well as other laws, regulations, policies, and guidelines, to stipulate specific measures for the protection of persons with disabilities in hazardous situations and humanitarian emergencies.
- Align disaster response and risk reduction policies and strategies with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- In humanitarian emergencies and crises such as pandemics, ensure that all persons with disabilities can receive necessary information in accessible formats and through appropriate devices, are fully included in emergency measures such as rescue operations, evacuation, and emergency services, and have access to health care services.

3. International Treaties and International Cooperation

3-1. Status of Implementation Following Ratification of the CRPD[63]

In May 2008, the Government of Zambia signed the CRPD and ratified it in February 2010. It signed the Optional Protocol in September 2008 but has not yet ratified it. The Zambian government submitted the State Party's Report to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in September 2017. The Committee submitted a list of issues in September 2020 and issued its Concluding Observations in March 2024. The deadline for the next national report is 2032.

3-2. Status of Implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty

As of March 2026, the Zambian government has not ratified the Marrakesh Treaty. Article 20 of the Persons with Disabilities Act states, "services, activities, information, and documentation available and accessible to persons with disabilities in forms they can understand, such as Braille for persons with visual impairments, sign language for deaf persons, and any other appropriate forms of communication," and stipulates that an environment must be established to ensure that persons with disabilities can access necessary information.

3-3. Initiatives on Disability Issues within SDG-Related Policies

According to the UN Statistics Division's SDG Indicator Database, for indicator 1.3.1, "Proportion of the population covered by social protection systems," the proportion of persons with severe disabilities receiving such benefits as of 2022 was 20.9%[64]. This is the only indicator related to persons with disabilities.

In 2020 and 2023, the Zambian government submitted Voluntary National Reviews (hereinafter referred to as "VNR") to the United Nations High-Level Political Forum, in which national governments report on their progress toward achieving the SDGs and the status of their policies.

In the first VNR, regarding progress on Goal 1 (Poverty) and Goal 2 (Hunger), the report mentioned persons with disabilities, who are covered by various social protection systems, and outlined achievements in addressing disability-related issues. The second VNR takes a more comprehensive approach to persons with disabilities. According to the report[65], while "leaving no one behind" is an essential principle of the SDGs, numerous challenges remain in achieving it. Poverty and inequality were cited as major obstacles. As of 2015, the national

[63] https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/Treaty.aspx?CountryID=194&Lang=EN (Accessed: 19 March 2026)
[64] https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal/countryprofiles/zmb (Accessed: 19 March 2026)
[65] https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2023/VNR%202023%20Zambia%20Report_0.pdf (Accessed: 19 March 2026)

poverty rate was 54.4%, and the rate of extreme poverty (defined as a level of consumption where even a food basket sufficient to meet minimum nutritional needs cannot be afforded) was 41%. Poverty was particularly severe in rural areas, where the poverty rate was 76.6%, compared to 23.4% in urban areas. Regarding inequality, the gap between the wealthy and the poor has widened, resulting in increased levels of social exclusion. At the national level, the urban Gini coefficient worsened from 0.60 in 2006 to 0.65 in 2015, indicating growing income disparities. Women, children, and persons with disabilities are particularly vulnerable to exclusion due to a lack of access to basic services and opportunities. To promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities, the government increased funding for the ZAPD to enable it to fulfill the mandates set forth in the 2012 Persons with Disabilities Act. To strengthen dialogue and coordination on issues affecting persons with disabilities, a community-based Inclusion Development Network was established. As part of affirmative action measures for persons with disabilities, the government has set cash benefit amounts for this group at a higher level than for other beneficiary categories.

3-4. Ratification of and Initiatives regarding Other International Treaties Related to Disabilities and Development

The Government of Zambia ratified CEDAW in 1985. The most recent Concluding Observations were issued in 2011 and recommended that the provisions of the Convention be fully incorporated into Zambian domestic law. The government is considering accession to major international human rights treaties, such as the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and encourages cooperation with programs such as UN Women.

3-5. International Cooperation on Disability[66]

- The Government of Japan[67]

<Technical Cooperation Project>

- Data Collection Survey on Digitalization of Public Services in Africa Countries (2021–2022)

[66] Project names are listed exactly as they appear in the original text. However, this does not apply in cases where there is no English name or the English name is unknown.

[67] Based on the JICA Country-Specific Project List (https://www.jica.go.jp/activities/schemes/partner/kusanone/country/project/zambia.html) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Country Commitment Information (https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/data/zyoukyou.html).

<Training Programme>

- Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP) for Young Leaders: Support for Persons with Disabilities (3 participants in 2010)
- JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program: Intellectual Disability in Community Activity (2011)
- JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program Mainstreaming Persons with Disabilities in African Communities (2011)

<Grant Aid>

- The Project for the Improvement of the Living Environment in the Southern Area of Lusaka (2011)
- The Economic and Social Development Programme (2016, 2018, 2019, 2020)
- The Project for Upgrading Health Centres to District Hospitals in Copperbelt Province (2020)
- The Project for Upgrading Lusaka Health Centres to District Hospitals (Phase 2) (2017)
- Grant Aid for Poverty Reduction Strategy (2016)

<Technical Cooperation Projects>

- The Lusaka Clean City Project

< JICA Partnership Projects>

- Solwezi Academy Learning Centre to Congregation of the Immaculate Conception Zambia (2016)
- Project for Strengthening Pre-hospital Care and Trauma Rescue in Lusaka (2024)
- Project to Strengthen Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Behavior Change in Southern Province (2024)
- Project for Strengthening Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Hygiene Behavior Change in Southern Province, Zambia (2021)
- Community Development through Water and Sanitation Management in the Former Refugee Local Integration Areas in North-Western Province (2015)

<Volunteer Program>

Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (Support for Children and Persons with Disabilities, Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Prosthetics and Orthotics Policy, Vocational Training, Special Education)

• Other donors

<International Organizations>

ILO/United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)/World Health Organization (WHO)/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/UNICEF/Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

- Promoting Disability Inclusion in HIV, Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and Social Protection in Luapula Province (2018–2020)

ILO/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/United Nations Country Team (Multi-Partner Trust Fund)

- Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Zambia (2024-2026) (part of the Global Flagship Programme on Building Social Protection Floors for All)

ILO/European Union (EU)

- Supporting the Digital Transformation of Social Protection Systems Globally Towards Achieving the Goal of Universal Social Protection 2030 (2024–2027) (part of the Global Flagship Programme on Building Social Protection Floors for All)

ILO/Irish Aid Partnership

- Project to Promote the Employability and Employment of People with Disabilities through Effective Legislation (PEPDEL)[68] (2002–2011)
- Promoting Decent Work for People with Disabilities through a Disability Inclusion Support Service (INCLUDE) Project[69] (2008–2011)

ILO

- Zambia Decent Work Country Programme (2008–2011, 2013–2016, 2020–2022)

African Development Bank

- Project to Construct Accessible Water and Sanitation Facilities for People with Disabilities in Luapula and Western Provinces

UNICEF

- Supporting the relevant ministries in policy formulation and implementation regarding disability and social inclusion
- Provided financial and technical support for the National Disability Surveys conducted in 2015 and 2025

<Bilateral Aid Agencies>

German Development Bank

- Construction of accessible toilets and sanitation facilities for people with disabilities in schools in the Eastern Province

[68] PEPDEL stands for "Promoting the Employability and Employment of People with Disabilities through Effective Legislation." It is a program that provides support regarding laws and policies related to disabilities, examining disability training and employment-related laws and policies to support reforms.

[69] INCLUDE stands for "Promoting Decent Work for People with Disabilities through a Disability Inclusion Support Service." It aimed to promote disability inclusion in policies and various services (training, employment, entrepreneurship, and microfinance).

<International NGOs>

Oxfam Denmark

・Strengthening Policy Response to Inclusive and Gender-Responsive Education in Zambia (SPRInG) (2022–2023, 2024–2026)

Norwegian Association of Disabled (NAD)[70]

・Advocacy for the rights of persons with disabilities; conducting training for lead trainers on inclusive education; developing a training manual on inclusive education; developing a training manual on community-based inclusive development.

Leonard Cheshire Disability

・Has been active in Zambia since 1973. Activities span a wide range, including the promotion of disability rights, inclusive education, Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR), child empowerment, disaster risk management, and the elimination of gender-based violence.

World Vision

・Since 1981, the Zambia office has been conducting various activities, including health, nutrition, education, economic self-reliance, and water and sanitation. While no projects specifically focused on disability have been identified, the organization implements activities targeting socially vulnerable groups.

Save the Children

・Since 1983, the Zambia office has been carrying out various activities. In the field of disability, it supports the implementation of inclusive education in early childhood education and primary school grades.

The Japan Anti-Tuberculosis Association

Tuberculosis Control Project through Improved Tuberculosis Diagnostic Techniques in Lusaka District (Year 3) (2025)

Public Interest Incorporated Foundation JOICFP

・Project to Address Gender-Based Violence (GBV) through Community Empowerment (Year 2)

[70] https://nad.nhf.no/nads-development-work/where-we-work/zambia/ (Accessed: 27 March 2026)

4. Disability-related Organizations and Activities

4-1. Organizations of Persons with Disabilities

Name of Organization	Overview
Zambian Association of Persons with Disabilities (ZAFOD)	The umbrella organization for OPDs has 12 member organizations. Its primary goal is the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, and it participates in processes such as the ratification of the CRPD, the enactment of disability laws, and the formulation of national disability policies. It submitted a parallel report on the CRPD together with Disability Rights Watch.
Zambia National Association of the Deaf (ZNAD)	Promotes the rights and empowerment of persons with hearing impairments and works to popularize sign language. It is an affiliate of ZAFOD.
New Foundation of the Blind in Zambia	Conducts activities focused on promoting the rights and empowerment of persons with visual impairments. A member organization of ZAFOD.
Parents Partnership Association for Children with Special Needs	It was established in 2000 by parents of children with disabilities. It disseminates information and services to protect children who require special support and raise awareness of their rights. Its activities span a wide range of areas, including health, education, vocational training, recreation, and disability assessment. A member organization of ZAFOD.
Mental Health Users Network of Zambia	It was established in 2000 and conducts awareness-raising activities on mental health issues. It works collaboratively to identify the issues and needs of persons with disabilities and to plan, implement, and evaluate programs, providing support throughout the process.

4-2. Disability Support Organizations

Name of Organization	Overview
Disability Rights Watch	Established in 2011 following the ratification of the CRPD in 2010. Monitors the implementation of disability rights campaigns, various programs, and awareness-raising activities in accordance with the principles of the CRPD. Drafted and submitted a parallel report on the CRPD.
Zambia Association for Employment of Persons with Disabilities	Established to promote the employment and technical training of persons with disabilities. It focuses particularly on supporting the employment of persons with intellectual disabilities, who are often marginalized in society.

Under the Same Sun	A civil society organization formed to end discrimination against persons with albinism. It works to eradicate attacks and killings targeting persons with albinism through awareness-raising and educational activities. It drafted and submitted a parallel report on the CRPD.
Hidden Voice School	It is a special school established in one of the most densely populated and poorest areas of the capital city, Lusaka. It receives guidance and financial support from the Parents' Association and NGOs in Ireland, the United States, and other countries. The organization has a track record of sending participants to JICA youth training programs.

5. Barriers and Needs Faced by Persons with Disabilities[71]

5-1. Barriers to and Needs regarding Healthcare Services

In Zambia, persons with disabilities face multiple barriers to accessing healthcare services. First, there is a notable lack of medical infrastructure and resources in the field of mental health, in particular, aging facilities and a fragile service delivery system have been identified as issues. In addition, services in rural areas are extremely limited, and there are significant disparities between regions.

Women and girls with disabilities, as well as persons with intellectual and/or psychosocial disabilities, have limited opportunities to access sexual and reproductive health services and HIV/AIDS awareness programs. Persons with albinism face challenges such as an increased risk of skin cancer and low vision. Due to a lack of understanding of disabilities among midwives, nurses, dermatologists, optometrists, and other healthcare workers, as well as inadequate communication methods (such as sign language), appropriate medical care is not available. In addition, measures such as providing sunglasses and appropriate sunscreen are necessary. Regarding persons with disorders of sex development or diverse physical sex development, so-called intersex people, there have been reports of medical interventions lacking informed consent and discriminatory treatment.

Considering these issues, there is a need to strengthen training for healthcare professionals, develop accessible medical facilities, address regional disparities, and establish a rights-based healthcare system that promotes greater inclusivity.

5-2. Barriers to and Needs regarding Education

In the field of education, inclusive education is promoted in policy, but its implementation remains extremely inadequate in practice. Many schools are not physically accessible, and the learning environment does not meet the needs of children with disabilities.

Additionally, teachers lack expertise in understanding disabilities and in teaching methods, resulting in inadequate educational support. Additionally, the evaluation and diagnostic systems for children with disabilities are underdeveloped; in particular, children with intellectual disabilities or deaf blindness are often not properly identified and are prone to being excluded from education. There are reports of situations in which academic progress is hindered by the non-issuance of report cards and by restrictions on opportunities to advance to higher levels of education, making it difficult to continue education. Access to

[71] Based on the Concluding Observations and the following parallel reports.1) ZAFOD, Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Disability Rights Watch, and Able Zambia Foundation Africa (2024); 2) Africa Albinism Network and Albinism Multipurpose Organization (2024); 3) Intersex Society of Zambia (2024); 4) Mental Health Users Network of Zambia, Disability Rights Watch, International Commission of Jurists, Southern Africa Litigation Centre, and Validity Foundation (2024), 5) ZAFOD and Disability Rights Watch (2020), 6) Under the Same Sun (2020)

adult education and literacy programs is also limited. Some children are kept at home due to stigma.

The Concluding Observations point out that children with albinism are placed in schools for the blind rather than regular schools and are taught Braille. Organizations representing persons with albinism are calling for a shift away from the practice of mandating Braille use for children with albinism. Instead, they seek to improve the learning experience in mainstream educational settings by ensuring the availability of textbooks and exam questions in large print and by providing assistive devices to help read text on blackboards.

Given these circumstances, improving educational infrastructure, strengthening teacher training, establishing evaluation systems, improving data collection, and the substantive implementation of inclusive education are urgent priorities.

5-3. Barriers to and Needs regarding Employment

In the field of employment, while laws and regulations prohibit discrimination and promote employment, their effectiveness is extremely limited. Enforcement regulations to specifically promote the employment of persons with disabilities are not in place, and the system is not functioning effectively. Discrimination persists in the hiring process and in the workplace, and the provision of reasonable accommodations remains insufficient. For many persons with disabilities, employment is considered a "right that is difficult to realize," hindering their economic independence. In addition, opportunities for vocational training and skills development are limited, and support systems are particularly fragile in rural areas. For intersex persons, issues regarding legal status act as a constraint on employment opportunities.

Considering these challenges, there is a need to establish and thoroughly publicize employment-related laws and regulations, mandate reasonable accommodation, expand vocational training, and strengthen mechanisms for monitoring and redressing discrimination.

5-4. Barriers to and Needs regarding Transportation

In terms of mobility and accessibility, the lack of infrastructure in the physical environment poses a major barrier. Public spaces and buildings are not designed with persons with disabilities in mind, resulting in restricted access.

Due to inadequate funding for the ZAPD, it is unable to fulfill its mandate to provide assistive devices to persons with disabilities, particularly in rural areas. Discriminatory provisions remain in transportation-related laws and regulations; for example, there are systems in place that prevent persons with hearing impairments from obtaining driver's

licenses. In rural areas, access to basic services is difficult, and mobility for healthcare and education is also restricted. CBR has not been sufficiently implemented, hindering independent living in local communities. In addition, the lack of identification documents hinders mobility and social participation.

Considering these issues, it is necessary to develop accessible infrastructure, abolish discriminatory systems, expand community services, and strengthen mobility support.

5-5. Barriers to and Needs regarding Information Access

In the area of information access, persons with disabilities continue to face situations where they cannot obtain necessary information in appropriate formats. Data management systems in education and public administration remain underdeveloped, resulting in an insufficient understanding of the actual circumstances of persons with disabilities. The systematic provision of accessible information, such as sign language, Braille, and plain language, is not guaranteed. The parallel report (2024) by ZAFOD and others calls for legislative measures to recognize sign language as an official language, enabling the deaf community to enjoy their social, economic, and cultural rights.

Communication tools are also lacking in medical and educational settings, widening the information gap. Regarding political participation, the lack of access to election information has been noted.

To address these challenges, it is necessary to institutionalize the provision of accessible information, improve statistical data, strengthen the use of ICT, and establish communication support systems.

5-6. Barriers and Needs regarding Gender

From a gender perspective, women and girls with disabilities face intersectional discrimination. In particular, restrictions on access to sexual and reproductive rights education and health services in the healthcare sector, as well as the impact of gender-based violence, are severe. A parallel report (2024) by the Mental Health Users Network of Zambia and others calls for strengthening the knowledge and skills of police officers, lawyers, prosecutors, medical professionals, shelter staff, and others so that they can effectively address cases of gender-based violence involving women and girls with disabilities without discrimination.

Additionally, initiatives specifically targeting women with disabilities in policies and programs are insufficient, and there is a lack of data reflecting the actual situation. Their participation in decision-making processes is limited, and their access to social and economic opportunities is restricted. Additionally, women with albinism are exposed to extremely high

risks, such as becoming targets of ritual violence and exploitation. Intersex persons also face legal and social exclusion due to systems based on the gender binary.

Considering these issues, it is essential to strengthen policy design, violence prevention measures, data collection, and empowerment initiatives that account for the intersectionality of gender and disability.

6. References

Africa Albinism Network and Albinism Multipurpose Organization (2024) *Shadow Report to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for the Review of Zambia*, CRPD_CSS_ZMB_57542.

Government of Zambia (2017) *Initial report submitted by Zambia under Article 35 of the Convention, due in 2012*.

Government of Zambia (2024) *Replies of Zambia to the list of issues in relation to its initial report (CRPD/C/ZMB/RQ/1)*

Government of Zambia (2022) *Eighth National Development Plan 2022–2026*.

Government of Zambia (2020) *Sustainable Development Goals Voluntary National Review 2020*.

Government of Zambia (2018) Zambia National Disability Survey 2015.

Government of Zambia, Statistics Agency (2025) *2022 Census National Analytical Report*.

Human Rights Commission (2020) *An Independent Report Submitted by the Human Rights Commission of Zambia to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*

Intersex Society of Zambia (2024) *Submission to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*, CRPD_CSS_ZMB_57351.

Mental Health Users Network of Zambia, Disability Rights Watch, International Commission of Jurists, Southern Africa Litigation Centre, and Validity Foundation (2024) *Joint Submission to the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in View of the Committee's Examination of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*, CRPD_CSS_ZMB_57566.

Pedro Arruda, and Laura Dubois, "A Brief History of Zambia's Social Cash Transfer Programme," June 2018.

Technical Education, Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training Authority (2020) *Annual Report 2019*.

UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2024) *Concluding Observations on the initial report of Zambia*.

Under the Same Sun (2020), *The Situation of Persons with Albinism in Zambia: A Report to the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*, CRPD_ICO_ZMB_42634.

United Nations Zambia (2020) *Socio-Economic Response to COVID-19 Report: Contribution to the Government of the Republic of Zambia's COVID-19 Multi-Sectoral Contingency Plan and Recovery Efforts*.

UNPRPD/UN Zambia (2023) *Situational Analysis of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Zambia, Country Report*.

ZAFOD and Disability Rights Watch (2020) *Alternative Report on the Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Zambia*, CRPD_ICO_ZMB_42625.

ZAFOD, Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Disability Rights Watch, and Able Zambia Foundation Africa (2024) *Alternative Report on the Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Zambia (In reply to the List of Issues)*, CRPD_CSS_ZMB_5733.

Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities (2017) *Strategic Plan 2017-2021: Promoting Inclusive and Sustainable Development.*

JICA (2009) *Country-Profile on Disability: Zambia [in Japanese].*