



Persons with Disability Rights (PWDs) Summary of Key Issues, Challenges and Recommendations

1. Key summary

The review of Tanzania's implementation of previous UPR recommendations relating to the rights of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and Persons with Albinism (PWAs) highlights several cross-cutting concerns. Key areas include inclusive education, accessibility of public infrastructure and services, access to assistive technology, political participation, social protection, public participation, and access to justice.

Tanzania has made some progress, including the adoption of the National Assistive Technology Strategy 2024–2027, operationalisation of Universal Health Insurance, collection of disability-disaggregated data through the 2022 Population and Housing Census, and adoption of the National Action Plan on the Rights and Welfare of Persons with Albinism 2024/25–2028/29. However, implementation remains uneven, and several previous recommendations are assessed as only partially implemented.

2. Key Challenges

1. Limited availability and affordability of assistive devices, including wheelchairs, hearing aids and other assistive technologies, which affects independent living, education, employment and participation.
2. Inaccessible public infrastructure and services, particularly schools, health facilities and other public institutions.
3. Gaps in the implementation of inclusive education policies, including shortages of specialised teachers, accessible learning materials and reasonable accommodation.
4. Limited access to justice and effective remedies for PWDs and PWAs.
5. Continued reports of violence, torture and killings targeting Persons with Albinism, including concerns regarding trafficking in body parts.
6. Inadequate investigation and prosecution of perpetrators of violations against Persons with Albinism.
7. The Persons with Disabilities legal and policy framework requires further alignment with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and contemporary human rights standards.
8. Tanzania has yet to submit its overdue State Party report under the CRPD, limiting effective international monitoring of implementation.
9. Political participation and civic engagement remain constrained, including concerns regarding accessibility and meaningful participation of PWDs in political and electoral processes.
10. Judicial and access-to-justice challenges persist, including prolonged pre-trial detention, delays in the administration of justice and the continued use of non-bailable offences.



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3. Key Recommendations

1. Tanzania should submit its overdue CRPD State Party report following meaningful and effective consultation with Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs).
2. Tanzania should fully implement the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights decision concerning the rights of Persons with Albinism.
3. Strengthen investigation, prosecution and accountability for perpetrators of violence, torture, killings and other violations against Persons with Albinism.
4. Amend the Persons with Disabilities Act and relevant national policies to ensure full alignment with the CRPD and contemporary human rights standards.
5. Ratify the African Disability Protocol and ILO Convention No. 159 concerning vocational rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities.
6. Fully implement and adequately fund the National Assistive Technology Strategy 2024–2027, with effective monitoring and measurable implementation targets.
7. Strengthen inclusive education by ensuring accessible schools, recruitment and deployment of specialised teachers, accessible learning materials, communication support and reasonable accommodation.
8. Establish measurable targets for inclusive education, including enrolment, retention, completion, teacher deployment, accessibility of schools and availability of learning materials.
9. Ensure that public infrastructure, transport, health facilities, schools and public services are accessible to PWDs in accordance with the principles of universal design and reasonable accommodation.
10. Strengthen access to justice for PWDs and PWAs by ensuring accessible legal aid, court procedures, communication support, effective remedies and protection of victims and witnesses.
11. Strengthen social protection programmes for PWDs and ensure their meaningful participation in the design, implementation and monitoring of programmes affecting their rights and welfare.
12. Guarantee the meaningful and effective participation of PWDs in political and public life, including electoral processes, political parties, public consultations and decision-making structures.

4. Overall Assessment

While Tanzania has undertaken a number of positive policy and institutional measures, significant implementation gaps remain. The overall assessment is therefore Partially Implemented.