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## International Day of Persons with Disabilities

*Celebrated Dec. 3, 2014*

The annual [International Day of Persons with Disabilities](#) has been designated as Dec. 3, 2014, by the United Nations General Assembly. December 3 of each year has held this designation since 1992.

The theme chosen by the U.N. for the day is, “Sustainable Development: The Promise of Technology.”

United Nations statisticians estimate that 15 percent of the world’s population, slightly more than 1 billion people, carry on their daily lives with a disability. The observance of the day aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. It also seeks to increase awareness of gains to be derived from the integration of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life.

One of the primary reasons the U.N. holds these special observance days is to provide a focus for issues that confront humanity. This year’s statement provides an example:

*Around the world, persons with disabilities not only face physical barriers but also social, economic and attitudinal barriers. Furthermore, disability is associated with 20 percent of global poverty, of which the majority live in developing countries. In spite of being the world’s largest minority group, persons with disabilities and the issue of disability has remained largely invisible in the mainstream development frameworks and its processes.*

Within the framework of sustainable development goals and population development strategies is an over-arching promise to all humankind, disabled or not, found in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. That very crucial statement ratified in 1948 declares, “Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.”

“As the United Nations moves forward with setting development goals, its leaders and decision makers must always remember that human beings and human life need to remain the central focus of all sustainable development,” said Scott Fischbach, Executive Director of Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life Global Outreach (MCCL GO).

MCCL GO is a pro-life NGO global outreach program of the Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life Education Fund with one goal: to save as many innocent lives as possible from the destruction of abortion. Learn more at [www.mccl-go.org](http://www.mccl-go.org). Please subscribe to our [RSS Feed](#).