**Name: Rozaline Joseph**

**Country: Namibia**

**Organization: National Youth Council of Namibia**

**Topic: Impacts and challenges faced by persons with disabilities in situations of risk and the role of state and non-state actors in addressing them.**

Persons with disabilities face difficulties and hardships which negatively impact their quality of life. There are so many challenges faced by persons with disabilities that are frequent, especially in risk situations. Just to mention a few: **Communication,** People with disabilities sometimes find themselves in threating situations and because of the barrier in communication depending on the disability often leads to undesirable consequences.

**Social Exclusion,** when people with disabilities are alienated and excluded from participating in society makes them undervalued in contributing to development. PWD find it hard to access job opportunities, adequate health and quality education.

**Violent Crimes,** while many people are affected by conflict, persons with disabilities are considered to be one of the risk and vulnerable group besides children and women. Violent crime is also a contributing factor in the increase of the disability population.

**Solutions**

It is the responsibilities to ensure the domestication of the CRPD in their local law, signing of agreements is not enough but ground work should be done in ensuring the protection of human rights for people with disabilities. There should be revamping of policies or even establishment of new policies to ensure that there are inclusive. There should also be checks and balances to ensure that all are adhering to polices and legal frameworks that guides them in disability inclusiveness.

None- state actors are also responsible firstly to ensure that they hold governments accountable in protecting human rights of persons with disabilities. And ensuring the raise in awareness through advocacy programs and activities.

**Thank you.**