IN TELECOM MORED 2009 In Review

DAISY technology can transform original print text into multimedia which is accessible for blind people, dyslexic people, for those who have no upper mobility or who cannot handle the books or papers those without written language. This list also included, psychiatric disabilities, which may prevent focusing on some issues for a long time, to read the contents. This is especially important in getting health messages across about HIV or H1N1 flu warnings.

We have to take into account the challenges for another 20 percent of the population and that meant not only persons with disabilities but the aging population. Television plays an important part in communications and there were many difficulties presented in the switch over from Analogue to Digital TV. Assistive technology would have to play a part in this switchover and that it was not a straightforward issue especially when the Internet and broadcasting came together.

The ITU with their partners, stakeholders including civil society, governments, the industry and activists will help include everyone in the information society.

The definition of disability is very important, as people are not including categories that should be included. For example an 82 year old woman if asked she was blind would say no even though she had macular degeneration and could not see the computer screen. Though the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities says that 10% of the population around the world suffers from disabilities, the figure is much higher; the statistics really do vary depending on the definition of disability.

## Summary of closing remarks

It was concluded that the UN Convention and specifically article 9 was a terrific opportunity. The Convention was actually written with the active participation of persons with disabilities and their respective organizations from around the world, industry and regulators. That it could and should impact Governments to provide e inclusiveness as mandated by the UN convention, It was also stated that the in the developed world that R and D departments of industry should begin to view that everything they do the should begin with the concept of universal design in mind They would reach more people with their products