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## Press Statement

### EXPANDING PARTICIPATION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

#### LAUNCH OF CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT FOR DISABLED PEOPLE'S ORGANISATIONS

The Ghana Federation of Disability Organisations (GFD) is launching the “Expanding Participation for Persons with Disabilities” project. The project will strengthen the GFD and bolster the disability movement. It will increase the GFD’s ability to effectively monitor programs and actions to increase the rights of persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Ghana.

The activity is sponsored by USAID, and is meant to enhance the capacity of Disabled People Organisations (DPOs) in strategic planning, human rights, resource mobilization, and leadership skills, as well as foster inclusion of persons with disabilities in programs funded by USAID, host governments and other donors in Ghana.

The activity will address organizational capacity building of member organizations and administrative functions of the Federation in order to enhance its capacity to lead and coordinate a country-wide citizens’ actions for the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability (UNCRPD), the Persons with Disability Act of 2006 (ACT 715) and other pro-disability policies and programmes in Ghana.

GFD will implement the project in all 10 regions of Ghana. The project will work with regional level DPOs, GFD committees, networks and coalitions as a way of enabling them advocate the human rights of PWDs and their effective inclusion and participation in society at all levels.

The project will target a minimum of 200 leaders from seven national and district level DPOs to enhance their capacity in leadership, organizational development, advocacy, financial management and resource mobilization as well as develop specific strategies/plans, tools and standards to support organisational effectiveness.

It will also develop standard protocols, tools and processes to serve as a barometer for testing disability sensitivity and compliance to pro-disability policies and laws in government and private sector organizations

The project will further promote monitoring, evaluation and lessons sharing to enhance the quality of pro-disability policies, and programs in Ghana.

The Ghana Federation of Disability Organizations (GFD) is a national umbrella disability organization established in 1987 to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities in Ghana

The Federation represents the voice and face of persons with disabilities in Ghana. It is a civil society organisation which brings together the key organisations of persons with disabilities in Ghana to advocate the rights and inclusion of persons with disability in society.

We are extremely grateful to USAID for funding the project and particularly H.E Robert P. Jackson, United States Ambassador to Ghana for performing the Official Launch