THE ROLE PERFORMED BY GOVERNMENT AND THE CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF DISABLED IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

Persons with disabilities are some of the world's largest minorities. History has shown that they have not always been treated fairly and equally. Historical examples of discrimination against people with different forms of physical and mental disabilities range from being ridiculed to being condemned to permanent exclusion in asylums; from being allowed to drown or die to being out rightly executed, This Research examine the role performed by government and the challenges encountered in the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled in the federal capital territory, Abuja. Other specific objectives are as follows: to assess the role of government in the implementing the UNCRPD in promoting the rights of the disabled people to employment in federal capital territory, Abuja theoretical framework utilized is the Institutional Theory which is best suitable for this research because the United Nations is an institution. Through the institutional framework of the UNCRPD, the UN has put in place mechanisms to ensure that the physically challenged are properly protected. Data were collected with questioner administer to respondents and analyzed using SPSS and it was found that that majority of respondent strongly agreed that the role of government in the implementing UNCRPD in prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability with regard to all matters concerning all forms of employment, including conditions of recruitment, hiring and employment, continuance of employment, career advancement and safe and healthy working conditions This study recommended that there should be a greater inclusion of disability in the governmental national development plan as to how government intends to addressing equality and discrimination against people with disability within the federal capital territory, Abuja.

Key Words: United Nations, Convention, Human Rights, Disability, Public Places

INTRODUCTION

Persons with disabilities are some of the world's largest minorities. History has shown that they have not always been treated fairly and equally. Historical examples of discrimination against people with different forms of physical and mental disabilities range from being ridiculed to being condemned to permanent exclusion in asylums; from being allowed to drown or die to being outrightly executed (Abberley, 2021). As Abang (2021) notes, throughout antiquity people with disabilities have been subjected to a multitude of oppressive social attitudes, which have included "horror, fear, anxiety, hostility, distrust, pity, overprotection and patronizing behaviour". The real issue as far as disability is concerned, therefore, has to do with these pejorative attitudes combined with, according to Barnes (2021), particular social contexts, namely, the way people with disabilities are treated and an inhospitable physical environment (i.e. inaccessible buildings and unusable transport systems, etc.).

Human rights are recognised and protected by a number of international human rights instruments (treaties, laws and conventions, etc.) such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (United Nations, 1948), Rights of persons with disabilities are recognised and protected by the CRPD, which enjoins state parties to "take appropriate measures, including legislation to modify or abolish existing laws, regulations, customs and practices that constitute discrimination against" persons with disabilities (CRPD, article 4). The CRPD and its "Optional Protocol" was adopted on 13 December 2006 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York and entered into force on 3 May 2008. As a key international instrument on the rights of persons with disabilities, it is the first comprehensive human rights treaty of the 21st century (United Nations, Convention and Optional Protocol Signatures and Ratifications, 2020).

With regard to children, the CRC makes provisions that protect the right of the child. This document sets the standard for how children should be treated around the world. By extension, it recognises and protects the rights of children with disabilities. Nigeria is a state party and signatory to all of these legal instruments and by implication is bound to follow through on all of their provisions. We can say that the rights of persons with disabilities fall within the general category of human rights, even though we may speak of rights that are specific to them, or develop and formulate legal instruments that apply only to them.

However, there are certain rights that are specific to the CRPD, and these include the rights to "accessibility including information technology" (article 9), "live independently and be included in the community" (article 19), "personal mobility" (article 20), "habilitation and rehabilitation" (article 26), and "adequate standard of living and protection" (article 28). Furthermore, the CRPD enjoins states parties to raise awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities (article 8), to "adopt all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the rights recognised in the convention", and take "appropriate measures, including legislation, to modify or abolish existing laws, regulations, customs and practices that constitute discrimination against persons with disabilities" (article 4).

The general focus of this study is to analyze the impact of United Nations Conventions on the Rights of People Living with Disability on certain exclusionary and discriminatory practices against persons with disabilities in Nigeria. More specifically, the study critically discusses these practices in two broad areas. First, in the area of education (as it affects persons — adults and children — with disabilities). Second, in the area of safety and accessibility (as it affects persons with disabilities to public places).

Statement of the Problem

Persons with disabilities are generally discriminated against in the area of education, employment and public places generally in Nigeria. One way in which they are discriminated against is in the availability or lack of Government and the Challenges that they encountered in the Implementation of the United Nations Convention. This lack of resources and educational institutions clearly impacts on the number of adults and children with disabilities who are unable to go to school. The Barton (2021) reports that the United Nations Children's Fund estimates that there is an estimated 10 million children that are out of school in Nigeria and of this number "more than 3m of them are children with disabilities" (Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities, 2021).

Cobbah (2021) asserts that public facilities refer to roads, buildings, parking lots and other infrastructure that are made available for public use. Persons with disabilities in Nigeria are discriminated against in the area of accessibility of public facilities. That is, their rights are violated in the broad area of facilities and accessibility with regard to roads, buildings and other physical infrastructures.

The rights to mobility and accessibility are recognised in the CRPD (section 20) and Disabilities Act (sections 3, 4, 5, 9, and 12). In the context of these provisions, consider the problem of the lack of facilities and accessibility in the general area of public and social life. There are practices that exclude accessibility aids in the construction and modification of public buildings, roads, and other facilities. Constructing these facilities or failing to modify existing facilities so as to accommodate and cater for the needs of people with disabilities is in clear violation of the rights to mobility and accessibility provisions in both the CRPD and Disabilities Act. These practices, it must be noted, are widespread across the country.

The absence of facilities and accessibility not only discriminates against persons with disabilities; it makes life difficult for them. Adults with disabilities are discriminated against in the area of work and employment. They are discriminated against when they are either overlooked in job selection or promotion or not given the due consideration that they deserve at work. The discrimination against people with disabilities is not confined to the job application stage. It carries over to the employment

process itself. Here are a few examples of some people with disabilities who were interviewed by Cranston (2020) concerning their experiences in the workplace. Their experiences show that, in many organisations, there is a moderately high degree of discrimination against people with disabilities.

This work therefore is an analysis of the role performed by Government and the Challenges Encountered in the Implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled in The Federal Capital Territory, Abuja

Objectives of the Study

The broad objective of this study is to examine the role performed by government and the challenges encountered in the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled in the federal capital territory, Abuja. Other specific objectives are as follows:

- i. To assess the role of government in the implementing the UNCRPD in promoting the rights of the disabled people to employment in federal capital territory, Abuja;
- ii. To evaluate the challenges faced by the government in implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in federal capital territory, Abuja.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Disabled People

Disability is part of the human condition. Ibhawoh (2021) submits that almost everyone will be temporarily or permanently impaired at some point in life, and those who survive to old age will experience increasing difficulties in functioning. Most extended families have a disabled member, and many non-disabled people take responsibility for supporting and caring for their relatives and friends with disabilities. On the other hand, Dunapo (2020) asserts that disability is complex, dynamic, multidimensional, and contested.

The World Health Organization (WHO) reported in a 29-country study in Africa that the foremost cause of disability was infectious disease. Ekwowusi (2020) asserts that the leading conditions included malaria, polio and leprosy, along with other communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, trachoma, media, meningitis and parasitic disease. The incidence of many of these communicable diseases has been greatly reduced in developed countries but they remain a significant cause of disability in LICs. Etievibo (2020) submits that the second major cause of disability was war, trauma or accidents (primarily road accidents). The third most common cause of disability was congenital and non-infectious diseases such as epilepsy. Adelaja (2020) argues that the poor quality of prenatal care results in disabilities such as cerebral palsy. Other causes of disability include malnutrition due to vitamin A, iron and iodine deficiency and chronic medical conditions such as rheumatic diseases, stroke and diabetes. Adepoju & Fabiyi (2020) submit that HIV/AIDS epidemic has further contributed to the prevalence of disability because many people living with HIV develops different types of impairments and functional limitations. Halliday (2021) and Ibhawoh (2021) assert that chronic conditions such as heart disease and diabetes are in large part outpacing traditional public health targets such as malnutrition and childhood infectious diseases, Mental illness and low back pain are the most common causes of disability, with mental illness responsible for 23 percent of "years lived with disability," in Tanzania and low back pain linked to 11 percent (WHO report, 2021).

Concept of United Nation Convention on the right of people with disability

Adults with disabilities are discriminated against in the area of work and employment. They are discriminated against when they are either overlooked in job selection or promotion or not given the due consideration that they deserve at work. So, take the example of David Okon who (Azu, 2021) was demoted from the position of a bank training manager to telephone operator because of his disabilities. Commenting on this case, Lanre Adebayor — a journalist with visual impairment and spokesman of "Club 2 – 12 of Nigeria", an association of people with disabilities based in Lagos State, Nigeria — notes: "the fact that you are deformed physically or mentally will be used against you even when you are

qualified and apply like any other person. An employer will explain it in two ways; it will be difficult for you and we don't have the facilities for you" (Azu, 2020; Next.com Nigeria, 2020). He adds: "Nigeria is guilty of nonchalance to the plight of these individuals...a situation of being turned back from a job interview on account of being disabled is not just nor is it pleasant to be denied access to housing by landlords merely on account of being a disabled person" (Azu, 2020).

The discrimination against people with disabilities is not confined to the job application stage. It carries over to the employment process itself. Here are a few examples of some people with disabilities who were interviewed by Ihedioha (2021) concerning their experiences in the workplace. Their experiences show that, in many organisations, there is a moderately high degree of discrimination against people with disabilities.

The study by Ihedioha (2021) highlights what she calls "the extent of limitation to access to employment for those who are unemployed; and career development for those already in the employment of these organizations". As the study shows, the social exclusion of people with disabilities in the workplace is widespread, a practice that impacts on the effective engagement of people with disabilities in work organisations. This problem she notes, transcends recruitment and placement to issues of accessibility of employees with disabilities given that most organisations lack "special facilities in buildings, materials and equipped vehicles to cater for these persons".

When we reflect on the case of Okon, and those interviewed by Ihedioha and some provisions in the Disabilities Act, it is clear that the right to work and employment of persons with disabilities in Nigeria has been violated. In particular, sections 67 and 68 prohibit employers from engaging in any form of discrimination against persons with disabilities in the work environment.

Challenges faced by the government in implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in Nigeria Persons living with disabilities in Nigeria face several challenges which have remained unattended for quite sometimes with no proper mechanism to curb them. These challenges include lack of universal access in the structural buildings, persons with disabilities living under extreme poverty, the high unemployment rate among persons with disabilities and poor provisions of education and health services. (Human Rights Report on Nigeria, 2021). Worse enough, universal access that calls for the enabling facilitating movement to persons with disabilities in the country is still a problem.

A study initiated by local NGOs that deals with the rights of persons with disabilities, the Information Centre on Disabilities (ICD) reveals that; there are stairs in hospitals and most public and private buildings, inaccessible toilets, open rainwater and/or sewage canals, narrow pathways in a way that is very narrow and a wheelchair cannot pass through, dark and high structural elements at the reception where the window is situated so high that a PWD cannot easily access it and dangerous road crossings sign which are not respected by road users (Human Rights Survey in Nigeria, 2021).

The cruelty against this young girl is inhuman and degrading that should not be tolerated in our communities. Cruelties against persons with albinism also continued although in small scale compared with the past. Other pertinent problems facing this special group is the education system in the country as it does not provide room for inclusive education to cater for students with disabilities needs. Currently there are only 16 special schools for persons with disabilities and 159 units integrated in ordinary schools in the whole country. The situation in ordinary schools where special units have been integrated is not promising. They lack specialized teachers, interpreters, sign language experts and school equipment to enable persons with disabilities to master their studies. Some of the known challenges faced by the government in the implementation of the Convention in Nigeria are:

The government has been faced with challenge of providing access to health services to the disabled. This is because most times the disabled people usually get humiliated by health providers, while health

centers' infrastructure poses obstacles for them to reach the areas, The gender discrimination existing in the public cycle is also prevalent when it has to do with the issue of PWDs. The survey report conducted indicates that there is gender imbalance of employment opportunities to PWDs as men with disabilities are more employed than that of their female counterparts and that the working environment are not friendly to PWDs. The challenge government faces in the implementation of the Convention in Nigeria is the discrimination from employers of labour. Persons with disabilities face challenges as denial of employment and economic marginalization. They are regarded as people who cannot contribute to anything because they are dependent and always wait to be helped (Jimmy, 2021). Another facing the government is that most of the PWD lack physical energy to fight sexual aggressors and the boldness to report such acts to the authorities. Most of people with disabilities are poor so they look for money and get HIV/AIDS in the process. They are marginalized groups who are not easily reached by health information sites, for example many people with disabilities do not have the opportunity to access where HIV/AIDS discussion, blood screening and sensitization take place. In the same manner they deliberately have unprotected sex with them. Wrong belief that women with disabilities are not HIV/AIDS infected. Some men tend to assume that women with disabilities are less likely to have HIV/AIDS and so involve them in sex relations.

Empirical Review

Chibaya et al. (2022) in their research work title "Exploring the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) in Namibia. Perspectives of policymakers and implementers." It was observed that Namibia signed the UNCRPD in 2007 without any reservation. The country uses a monist system prescribed in its constitution. Therefore, the UNCRPD became part of the national binding document related to disability. This paper explores the perspectives of disability stakeholders on the implementation of the UNCRPD in Namibia, they used an exploratory qualitative study using in-depth interviews was conducted in Omusati and Khomas regions, Namibia. Key stakeholders in disability policy formulation and implementation were included in the study. Policymakers (n=4), implementers (n=7) and representatives from Non-Government Organisations (n=3) were recruited via purposive sampling. Data were thematically analysed, and their findings revealed evidence of fundamental national disability rights-enabling strategies. These include disability rights-enabling environment, national disability policy and legislative framework, and disability rights enforcement strategies. However, there are setbacks in implementing the UNCRPD in Namibia, such as the challenges created due to insufficient collaborative and technical capacity, limited aggregated disability data and lack of expertise and experience to apply UNCRPD concepts to advance disability rights. In conclusion, the disability sector may utilise policy and legislative framework and disability rights enforcement strategies to develop an Integrated National Disability Strategy to support occupational freedom and justice for persons with disabilities

Peter (2021) in his research titled "The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Implementing a Paradigm Shift." It was observed that Implementation of the United Nations' (UN) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), together with the new UN commitment to ensure the inclusion of people with disabilities in the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), should now be considered an overarching priority by organizations and individuals committed to improving the quality of life of people with disabilities. The CRPD is not merely the latest in a long line of UN declarations, but a potential catalyst for a radical reappraisal of policy and practice among governments and organizations of persons with disabilities (disabled persons organizations (DPOs)) and by service planners and providers, members of professional and voluntary organizations, the research community, and by society at large. The 152 governments that have ratified the CRPD have entered into a commitment in international law to submit detailed reports to the CRPD Committee of the UN human rights commission. Although some DPOs have made good use of their right of access to this Committee, there is cause of concern about resources available to others. The Committee's criticisms of the nature and quality of government implementation highlight the need for sustained and informed advocacy by civil society and the use of the Internet and social media to raise public awareness about the potential of

the CRPD to benefit people with disabilities. The author posits that lack of data on persons with disabilities in many countries now presents the most serious obstacle to accountability and monitoring. It is suggested that scientific and professional bodies need to work more earnestly in partnership with DPOs in a combined effort to make a reality of the Convention and the emerging SDGs in a new dynamic of "research to practice."

Lang (2019) in his work titled "the United Nations Convention on the right and dignities for persons with disability: A panacea for ending disability discrimination." Data of this research were analysed by using both descriptive (frequency, percentage, mean, and standard deviation) and inferential statistics (Linear Multiple Regression, and Independent Samples T-Test), and organised under tables based on the research questions and hypothesis. In his finding, he observed that political history and intellectual antecedence of disability policy and practice in the past 30 years, which culminated in the successful negotiation of the United Nations (UN) Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities, that came into force in May 2008. It therefore analyses the raison d'etre that underpins the UN Convention, as well as providing a brief description of the substantive issues that the Convention addresses. The article also analyses some of the perceived challenges with regard to the implementation of the UN Convention, by drawing upon the substantive findings of two Disability Scoping Studies in Zimbabwe and Nigeria, funded by the UK's Department for International Development. Reference is also made to contemporary debates within mainstream development studies discourse, particularly the efficacy of "rights-based approaches" to development, which have a direct bearing on the extent to which the UN Convention will be successfully implemented. The article concludes by arguing that the UN Convention is a necessary but not sufficient instrument for the enforcement of disability rights and should not be perceived as a panacea that will end disability discrimination. Such legislation can and should make such discrimination illegal. However, it is very difficult indeed to implement, for it is extremely difficult to enforce. Notwithstanding the UN Convention's acknowledged seminal importance, other deep-seated, endemic policy-orientated challenges will need to be addressed in order for this ideal to become an objective reality.

Alter (2019) in his work titled "The United Nations Convention on the right and dignities for persons with disability: A panacea for ending disability discrimination" La Convention des Nations Unies sur les droits des personnes handicapées. He observe that political history and intellectual antecedence of disability policy and practice in the past 30 years, which culminated in the successful negotiation of the United Nations (UN) Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities, that came into force in May 2008. It therefore analyses the raison d'etre that underpins the UN Convention, as well as providing a brief description of the substantive issues that the Convention addresses. The article also analyses some of the perceived challenges with regard to the implementation of the UN Convention, by drawing upon the substantive findings of two Disability Scoping Studies in Zimbabwe and Nigeria, funded by the UK's Department for International Development. Reference is also made to contemporary debates within mainstream development studies discourse, particularly the efficacy of "rights-based approaches" to development, which have a direct bearing on the extent to which the UN Convention will be successfully implemented. The article concludes by arguing that the UN Convention is a necessary but not sufficient instrument for the enforcement of disability rights and should not be perceived as a panacea that will end disability discrimination. Such legislation can and should make such discrimination illegal. However, it is very difficult indeed to implement, for it is extremely difficult to enforce. Notwithstanding the UN Convention's acknowledged seminal importance, other deep-seated, endemic policy-orientated challenges will need to be addressed in order for this ideal to become an objective reality.

Guide (2010) in his work titled "The convention on the rights of persons with disabilities" he observed that the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol were adopted on 13 December 2006 and entered into force on 3 May 2008. They came into existence through a forceful call from persons with disabilities around the world to have their human rights respected, protected and fulfilled on an equal basis with others. The Convention celebrates human diversity and human dignity.

Its main message is that persons with disabilities are entitled to the full spectrum of human rights and fundamental freedoms without discrimination. This is reflected in the Convention's preamble and throughout its articles. In prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability and establishing that reasonable accommodation shall be provided to persons with disabilities with a view to ensuring equality, the Convention promotes the full participation of persons with disabilities in all spheres of life. In establishing the obligation to promote positive perceptions and greater social awareness towards persons with disabilities, it challenges customs and behaviour based on stereotypes, prejudices, harmful practices and stigma relating to persons with disabilities. In establishing a mechanism for complaints, the Convention's Optional Protocol ensures that persons with disabilities have an equal right to redress for violations of the rights enshrined in the Convention. Importantly, the Convention and its Optional Protocol challenge previous perceptions of disability—as a medical problem or a generator of pity or charitable approaches—and establish an empowering human rights-based approach to disability. Through this historic paradigm shift, the Convention forges new ground and requires new thinking. Its implementation demands innovative solutions. To get it right from the start, the Convention's aims, concepts and provisions must be well understood by all stakeholders: from government officials to parliamentarians and judges; from representatives of United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes to professionals in areas such as education, health and support services; from civil society organizations to staff of national human rights institutions; from employers to those representing the media; and from persons with disabilities and their representative organizations to the general public. While the ratification of the Convention and its Optional Protocol has proceeded rapidly, knowledge on how to implement and monitor them has not kept pace. Conscious of this challenge, my Office has developed this Training Guide on the Convention and its Optional Protocol. It is complemented by eight training modules, designed to inform and empower those who are involved in ratifying, implementing and monitoring the two instruments. While the *Training Guide* is mainly targeted at facilitators of training courses on the Convention and its Optional Protocol, it acknowledges that each and every one of us has a role to play. I recommend wide dissemination of the training package, and its use by all those who want to embark upon the essential journey towards greater awareness and effective implementation of the rights of persons with disabilities and, ultimately, the building of an inclusive society for all.

Summary of Gaps in Literature

Scholars such as Abberley (2021) Abang (2021) Adelaja (2020) and Adepoju & Fabiyi (2020) have focused on the rights of People with disability and poverty alleviation in Nigeria without looking at the impact of UNCRPD on the rights of people living with disability in Nigeria. This research therefore draws a link between UNCRPD and the rights of people living with disability in Nigeria. It is in order to address this anomaly that this research is embarked on. Although as welcome as this scholarly effort seems to be, there is the need to also evaluate the impact of UNCRPD on the rights of people living with disability in Nigeria. It is the intension of this study to fill this gap by looking holistically on the subject matter and analyzing the role performed by government and the challenges encountered in the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled in the federal capital territory, Abuja.

Institutional Theory

The study of institutions is one of the oldest in political science. The theory focuses on the formal or structural aspects of an institution and can be adopted in political science. An institution is a set of regularized patterns of human behavior that persist over time. Some people, unsophisticated, of-course, seem to equate institutions with the physical structures in which they exist. It is their differing sets of behavior, which we often call rules, structures and the like, that can affect decision-making and the content of public policy. Rules and structural arrangements are usually not neutral in their impact, rather, they tend to favour some interests in society over others, some policy results rather than others. For development to be achieved there is need for virile and strong institutions.

Clemens & Cook (2021) institutions give legal authority to policies and can legally impose sanctions on violators of its policies. As such, there is a close relationship between development and institutions. It is not surprising, then, that political scientists would focus on the study of governmental structures and institutions. Institutionalism, with its focus on the legal and structural aspects can be applied in policy analysis. The structures and institutions and their arrangements can have a significant impact on national development. Traditionally, the focus of study was the description of structures and institutions. The study of linkage between structures and development outcomes remained largely unanalyzed and neglected.

The value of the institutional theory to national development lies in asking what relationships exist between institutional arrangements and the content of development and also in investigating these relationships in a comparative manner. It would not be correct to assume that a particular change in institutional structure would bring about changes in development. Without investigating the actual relationship between structure and development, it is difficult to assess the impact of institutional arrangements on development.

Institutional theory relies not on aggregations of individual action, or on patterned interaction games between individuals, but on "institutions that structure action" (Clemens and Cook, 2021). Institutions are emergent, "higher-order" factors above the individual level, constraining or constituting the interests and political participation of actors "without requiring repeated collective mobilization or authoritative intervention to achieve these regularities" (Jepperson, 2021:145). The influence and durability of institutions is a function of the extent to which they are inculcated in political actors at the individual or organizational level, and the extent to which they thereby tie up material resources and networks (Clemens & Cook, 2021).

The institutional theory is best suitable for this research because the United Nations is an institution. Through the institutional framework of the UNCRPD, the UN has put in place mechanisms to ensure that the physically challenged are properly protected. It is true that the absence of facilities and accessibility not only discriminates against persons with disabilities; it makes life difficult for them. Adults with disabilities are discriminated against in the area of work and employment. They are discriminated against when they are either overlooked in job selection or promotion or not given the due consideration that they deserve at work. The discrimination against people with disabilities is not confined to the job application stage. It carries over to the employment process itself. Persons with disabilities are some of the world's largest minorities. History has shown that they have not always been treated fairly and equally. Historical examples of discrimination against people with different forms of physical and mental disabilities range from being ridiculed to being condemned to permanent exclusion in asylums; from being allowed to drown or die to being outrightly executed.

METHODOLOGY

The research designed for this study is a cross sectional research design. This design type is chosen because of the nature of the research, which is largely aimed at examining the Role Performed by Government and the Challenges Encountered in the Implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

The study population entails stakeholders or individuals who can provide basic and necessary information on the subject matter. For this study, those that fall within the confine of the study population that is the target population are as follows: Directorate on employment, special adviser on disabled in Abuja, disable organization who are experience and have got dependable information that will help this study.

Table 1 Table showing sample area and frequency of respondents

Sample Area	Frequency	Sample
Directorate of employment, Abuja	155	91
Special adviser on disable people, Federal		
Capital Territory, Abuja	314	185
Disable organization within federal		
Capital Territory, Abuja	210	124
Total	679	400

Source: Field Survey, 2024

The total population used in this research is 679, out of which 400 persons will be served with questioners. The basis for the concentration on these committees is because the respondents can provide useful information on the Subject matter

Sample Size: Sample size refers to the number of elements selected from a given population. Taro Yamane formula was used in determining the sample size as follows:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where N = The sample size N = The population size $e = \text{error of sampling } (0.05)^2$ $n = \frac{679}{1+679(0.05)^2}$ n = 400

This gives a sample size of 400

From the above computation, the sample size derived for this study, using Taro Yamane formulae is four hundred (400) respondents in directorate on employment, special adviser on disable and disable organization within Federal Capital Teritory, Abuja. However, additional 10 % will be added to the sample and also administered with questionnaires to allow for attrition population size, Attrition is the loss of study units from a sample. This unit may drop out of the study by refusal to participate or by absenteeism.

The importance of sampling is to reduce the population under study to a manageable size and to meet up with the stipulated research period. The researcher used purposive sampling technique. Hence, the purposive selection of the respondents in his study sample from the target population. In this study the sample was drawn to cover the views of the members of staff of Directorate of employment, Special advisal on disable people and disable organization with in federal capital territory, Abuja. Data for this research was gathered through primary sources while relying on questionnaire and interviews. This method helps the researcher in getting professional information from only qualified and persons working directly with the concern department/unit. The questionnaire was drafted to include section A and section B. Section A is basically on the respondents' bio-data. Section B on the other hand had series of questions drafted in line with the objectives of the study. The questionnaire was framed in Likert form of agree, strongly agree, disagree and strongly disagree. Also, open ended questionnaire was used as well. The first part of the questionnaire which is section A, comprised of the bio-data of the respondents. The section B with comprise of both open and closed ended questionnaire. Data will be analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The role of government in the implementing UNCRPD and promoting the rights of disabled people in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja

Table 2: The role of government in the implementing UNCRPD and promoting the rights of disabled

people in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuia

	Variable	Strongly agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	Prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability with regard to all matters concerning all forms of employment, including conditions of recruitment, hiring and employment, continuance of employment, career advancement and safe and healthy working conditions	240 (60.0%)	100 (25.0%)	50 (12.5%)	6 (1.5%)	4 (1.0 %)
2	Protect the rights of persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others, to just and favourable conditions of work, including equal opportunities and equal remuneration for work of equal value, safe and healthy working conditions, including protection from harassment, and the redress of grievances	200 (50.0%)	120 (30.0%)	60 (15.0%)	20 (5.0%)	-
3	Ensure that persons with disabilities are able to exercise their labour and trade union rights on an equal basis with others	110 (27.5%)	220 (55.0%)	40 (10.0%)	30 (7.5%)	-
4	Enable persons with disabilities to have effective access to general technical and vocational guidance programmes, placement services and vocational and continuing training	250 (62.5%)	110 (27.5%)	25 (6.25%)	13 (3.25%)	2 (0.5%)
5	Promote employment opportunities and career advancement for persons with disabilities in the labour market, as well as assistance in finding, obtaining, maintaining and returning to employment	242 (60.0%)	106 (26.5%)	28 (7.0 %)	14 (3.5%)	9 (2.25%)
6	Promote opportunities for self-employment, entrepreneurship, the development of cooperatives and starting one's own business	238 (59.5%)	111 (27.75%)	30 (7.5%)	18 (4.5%)	3 (0.75%)
7	Employ persons with disabilities in the public sector	234 (58.5%)	112 (28.0%)	29(7.25%)	16(4.0%)	9(2.25%)
8	Promote the employment of persons with disabilities in the private sector through appropriate policies and measures, which may include affirmative action programmes, incentives and other measures	262 (65.5%)	121 (30.25%)	17 (4.25%)	-	-
9	Ensure that reasonable accommodation is provided to persons with disabilities in the workplace	250 (62.5 %)	110 (27.5%)	28 (7.0 %)	10 (2.5 %)	2 (0.5 %)
10	Promote the acquisition by persons with disabilities of work experience in the open labour market	200 (50.0%)	120 (30.0%)	55 (13.75%)	25 (6.25%)	-
11	Promote vocational and professional rehabilitation, job retention and return-to-work programmes for persons with disabilities	250 (62.5 %)	110 (27.5%)	28 (7.0 %)	12 (2.5 %)	

Source: Field Survey, December, 2024

Data obtained from table 2. revealed that 240 respondents representing 60.0 % said that they strongly agreed that the role of government in the implementing UNCRPD in prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability with regard to all matters concerning all forms of employment, including conditions of recruitment, hiring and employment, continuance of employment, career advancement and safe and healthy working conditions, this was followed by 100 respondents representing 25.0 % said that they agreed that role of government in the implementing UNCRPD prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability with regard to all matters concerning all forms of employment, including conditions of recruitment, hiring and employment, continuance of employment, career advancement and safe and

healthy working conditions, while few respondents said that they are undecided, disagreed and strongly disagreed.

It can be safely concluded that majority of respondents strongly agreed that government play a great role in the implementing UNCRPD in prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability with regard to all matters concerning all forms of employment, including conditions of recruitment, hiring and employment, continuance of employment, career advancement and safe and healthy working conditions in federal capital territory, Abuja.

The challenges faced by the government in implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in Nigeria

Table 3. The challenges faced by the government in implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in Nigeria (n = 400)

S/N	Variable	Strongly	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly
		agree	_			disagree
1	The government has been faced with challenge of	3	10	27	110	250
	providing access to health services to the disabled	(0.75%)	(2.5%)	(6.75%)	(27.54%)	(62.5%)
2	The gender discrimination existing in the public	242	106	28	13	10
	cycle is also prevalent when it has to do with the	(60.5%)	(26.5%)	(7.0 %)	(3.25%)	(2.5%)
	issue of PWDs.					
3	The challenge government faces in the	234	113	28	16	9
	implementation of the Convention in Nigeria is	(58.5%)	(28.25%)	(7.0%)	(4.0%)	(2.25%)
	the discrimination from employers of labour.					
4	Another problem facing the government is that	261	122	17	-	-
	most of the PWD lack physical energy to fight	(65.25%)	(30.5%)	(4.25%)		
	sexual aggressors and the boldness to report such					
	acts to the authorities					
5	Most of people with disabilities are poor so they	251	109	28	10	
	look for money and get HIV/AIDS in the	(62.75%)	(27.25%)	(7.0 %)	(2.5%)	
	process					
6	They are marginalized groups who are not easily	200(50.0	120	56	24	-
	reached by health information sites	%)	(30.0%)	(14.0 %)	(6.0%)	
7	Wrong belief that women with disabilities are not	4 (1.0%)	5 (1.25%)	51	100	240
	HIV/AIDS infected.	, ,	,	(12.75%)	(25.0%	(60.0%)

Source: Field Survey, 2024

Data obtained from table 3 revealed that, 250 respondents representing 62.5% said that they strongly disagreed that the government has been faced with challenge of providing access to health services to the disabled as the challenges faced by the government in implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in Nigeria, this was followed by 110 respondents representing 27.54 % said that they disagreed that the government has been faced with challenge of providing access to health services to the disabled as the challenges faced by the government in implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in federal capital territory, Abuja, while, few respondents said that they are they are undecided, agreed and strongly agreed that the government has been faced with challenge of providing access to health services to the disabled as the challenges faced by the government in implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in in federal capital territory, Abuja,.

It can be safely concluded that that the majority of respondents said that they strongly disagreed that the government has been faced with challenge of providing access to health services to the disabled in implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in in federal capital territory, Abuja.

Data Analysis

This involve test of hypotheses and results of the accepted null hypotheses/research question are analysed

Regression Analysis and Answer to Research Question

The study used regression analysis to examine the role performed by government and the challenges encountered in the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled in the federal capital territory, Abuja. and it was used to test hypotheses one and two and following the way Hypothesis are solved, the research questions formulated in above will be equally be answered using the relative responses of respondents to their various question in the questionnaires given to them.

Hypotheses one

H0₁: The UNCRPD has no statistical relationship with the roles played performed by government in promoting the rights of the disabled people to employment in Nigeria

Table 4. The model summary of the study with respect to the role performed by government in the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled in the federal capital territory, Abuja

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	
				Estimate
1	0.972^{a}	.945	0.942	.18840

a. Predictors: (Constant),

Dependent Variable: implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of Rights of the Disabled Access to Public Places in Nigeria

From the findings, the value of coefficient of R is 0.972 representing 97.20 %, this shows that there is a strong coefficient between the study variables i.e. Depended variable (implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled in the federal capital territory, Abuja) and the independent variable (the role performed by government in the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled). The value of R^2 is 0.945 which represent 94.5 % indicating that there are other factors or variables other than implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of Rights of the Disabled Access to Public Places in Nigeria

which accounted for 5.5 % that were not included and treated in this study of the role performed by government and the challenges encountered in the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled in the federal capital territory, Abuja are subjective to implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled in the federal capital territory, Abuja. This finding is in line with Harpur, (2012) who indicated that R-square of above 70 % is adequate for relevant conclusion.

Table 5. The model Coefficients^a of the study with respect to the role performed by government in the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled in the federal capital territory, Abuja

		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	sig
		В	Beta	Beta		
1	(Constant)	0.122	0.057		-2.151	.000
	Prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability with regard to all matters concerning all forms of employment,	.299	.110	.393	2.728	.000
	Protect the rights of persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others,	.145	.045	.177	3.236	.000

Ensure that persons with disabilities are able to exercise their labour and trade union rights on an equal basis with others	060	.055	104	-1.083	.000
Enable persons with disabilities to have effective access to general technical and vocational guidance programmes,	047	.069	067	693	.489
Promote employment opportunities and career advancement for persons with disabilities in the labour market	.013	.042	.019	.301	.764
Promote opportunities for self- employment, entrepreneurship	.581	.072	.449	8.052	.000
Employ persons with disabilities in the public sector	166	.103	250	-1.602	.000
Promote the employment of persons with disabilities in the private sector through appropriate policies and measures	.254	.100	.351	2.536	.000
Ensure that reasonable accommodation is provided to persons with disabilities in the workplace Promote the acquisition by persons with disabilities of work experience in the open labour market	006	.103	009	056	.955
Promote vocational and professional rehabilitation, job retention and return-to-work programmes	.145	.045	.177	3.236	.000
	013	.042	.019	.301	.764

a. Dependent Variable: the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled in the federal capital territory, Abuja

From Table 4.8, the following model was extracted;

Y = 0.112 + 0.231X1

Where: Y=; the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled in the federal capital territory, Abuja

B1= Regression coefficient relating to Change components; X1= the role performed by government in the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled

At 5% level of significance, the study documents that the role performed by government in the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled (p < 0.05, at 95 % confident interval) with a positive beta coefficient. This shows that the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled in the federal capital territory, Abuja has a positive and significant effect on the role performed by government in the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled. Therefore, the role performed by government in the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled is more likely to result into an increase in the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled in the federal capital territory, Abuja. It can be safely concluded that that the null hypothesis one is rejected and alternative hypothesis was accepted which state that there is statistically significant relationship between UNCRPD and the roles played series in promoting the rights of the disabled people to employment in Nigeria.

Question one: assess the role of the UNCRPD in promoting the rights of the disabled people to employment in Nigeria

To answer this question, the researcher refers to the Responses in table 2. Data obtained revealed that the majorities of respondents said that said that they strongly agreed that UNCRPD prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability with regard to all matters concerning all forms of employment, including conditions of recruitment, hiring and employment, continuance of employment, career advancement and safe and healthy working conditions as a one of the role of UNCRPD in promoting the right of disabled people to employment in Nigeria, 200 respondents representing 50.0 % said that they strongly agreed that UNCRPD Protect the rights of persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others, to just and favourable conditions of work, including equal opportunities and equal remuneration for work of equal value, safe and healthy working conditions, including protection from harassment, and the redress of grievances as one of role of the role of UNCRPD in promoting the right of disabled people to employment in Nigeria, 110 respondents representing 27.5% said that they strongly agreed that UNCRPD ensure that persons with disabilities are able to exercise their labour and trade union rights on an equal basis with others as a role of UNCRPD in promoting the right of disabled people to employment in Nigeria, 250 respondents representing 62.5% said that they strongly agreed that UNCRPD enable persons with disabilities to have effective access to general technical and vocational guidance programmes, placement services and vocational and continuing training as a role of UNCRPD in promoting the right of disabled people to employment in Nigeria, 242 respondents representing 60.5 % said that they strongly agreed that the UNCRPD Promote employment opportunities and career advancement for persons with disabilities in the labour market, as well as assistance in finding, obtaining, maintaining and returning to employment as a role of UNCRPD in promoting the right of disabled people to employment in Nigeria, 238 respondents representing 59.5% said that they strongly agreed that the UNCRPD promote opportunities for self-employment, entrepreneurship, the development of cooperatives and starting one's own business as one of the role of UNCRPD in promoting the right of disabled people to employment in Nigeria, 234 respondents representing 58.5 % said that they strongly agreed that the UNCRPD employ persons with disabilities in the public sector as part of the role of UNCRPD in promoting the right of disabled people to employment in Nigeria, 262 respondents representing 65.5 % said that they strongly agreed that UNCRPD promote the employment of persons with disabilities in the private sector through appropriate policies and measures, which may include affirmative action programmes, incentives and other measures as one of the role of UNCRPD in promoting the right of disabled people to employment in Nigeria, 250 respondents representing 62.5 % said that they strongly agreed that UNCRPD ensure that reasonable accommodation is provided to persons with disabilities in the workplace as one of the role of UNCRPD in promoting the right of disabled people to employment in Nigeria, 200 respondents representing 50.0% said that they strongly agreed that UNCRPD promote the acquisition by persons with disabilities of work experience in the open labour market as one of the role of UNCRPD in promoting the right of disabled people to employment in Nigeria, 250 respondents representing 62.5 % said that they strongly agreed that UNCRPD Promote vocational and professional rehabilitation, job retention and return-to-work programmes for persons with disabilities as one of the role of UNCRPD in promoting the right of disabled people to employment in Nigeria,

Hypotheses Two

Ho₂: The series of challenges faced by the government has no statistical relationship with implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in in federal capital territory, Abuja, Nigeria

Table 6. The model summary of the study with respect to series of challenges faced by the government with implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in in Federal Capital Territory Abuja, Nigeria

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted	R	Std. Error of t	he
			Square		Estimate	
1	0.921ª	.848	.843		0.30998	

a. Predictors: (Constant),

From the findings, the value of coefficient of R is 0.921 representing 92.10 %, this shows that there is a strong coefficient between the study variables. The value of R² is 0.848 which represent 84.8 % indicating that there are other factors other than implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in in Federal Capital Territory Abuja, Nigeria. This finding is in line with Harpur, (2012) who indicated that R-square of above 70 % is adequate for relevant conclusion.

Table 7: The model Coefficients^a of the study with respect to series of challenges faced by the government with implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in in Federal Capital Territory Abuja, Nigeria.

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	sig
		В	Beta	Beta		
1	(Constant)	0.122	0.057		-2.151	.000
	The government has been faced with challenge of providing access to health services to the disabled	.299	.110	.393	2.728	.000
	The gender discrimination existing in the public cycle is also prevalent when it has to do with the issue of PWDs.	.145	.045	.177	3.236	.000.
	The challenge government faces in the implementation of the Convention in Nigeria is the discrimination from employers of labour	060	.055	104	-1.083	.280
	Another problem facing the government is that most of the PWD lack physical energy to fight sexual aggressors and the boldness to report such acts to the authorities	047	.069	067	693	.489
	Most of people with disabilities are poor so they look for money and get HIV/AIDS in the process	.013	.042	.019	.301	.764
	They are marginalized groups who are not easily reached by health information sites	.581	.072	.449	8.052	.000.
	Wrong belief that women with disabilities are not HIV/AIDS infected	166	.103	250	-1.602	.000

a. Dependent Variable: Implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in in Federal Capital Territory Abuja, Nigeria.

From Table 4.19. The following model was extracted; Y = -0.122 + 0.299 X1

Where: Y= implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in in Federal Capital Territory Abuja, Nigeria; B1= Regression coefficient relating to Change components; X1= Series of challenges faced by the government with implementing the provision of the UNCRPD

At 5% level of significance, the study documents that series of challenges faced by the government with implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in in Federal Capital Territory Abuja, Nigeria. (p < 0.05 with 95 % confident interval) with a positive beta coefficient. This shows that Series of challenges faced by the government with implementing the provision of the UNCRPD has a positive and statistically significant effect on implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in in Federal Capital Territory Abuja, Nigeria. Therefore, an identification of Series of challenges faced by the government with implementing the provision of the UNCRPD was more likely to result into an increase in implementing the provision

of the UNCRPD in in Federal Capital Territory Abuja, Nigeria. Hence, the null hypothesis two is rejected and alternative hypothesis was accepted which state that the challenges faced by the government has statistical relationship with the implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in Federal Capital Territory Abuja, Nigeria. The finding is consistent with Paré (2019) who suggest that there will be improvement in the Rights of the Disabled Access to Public Places in Nigeria

Question Two: Evaluate the challenges faced by the government in implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in Nigeria?

To answer this question, the researcher refer to the Responses in table 2, Data obtained revealed that the majorities of respondents strongly disagreed that the government has been faced with challenge of providing access to health services to the disabled in implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in Nigeria, 242 respondents representing 60.5% said that they strongly agreed that the gender discrimination existing in the public cycle is also prevalent when it has to do with the issue of PWDs as the challenges faced by the government in implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in Nigeria.

Discussion of the findings

The majorities of respondents strongly disagreed that the government has been faced with challenge of providing access to health services to the disabled in implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in Nigeria

The result obtained confirmed the first hypothesis which states that the role of government in the implementing UNCRPD has no statistical relationship with and promoting the rights of disabled people in federal capital territory, Nigeria since there is an improvement in the roles played by the government in promoting the rights of the disabled people in federal capital territory, Nigeria, hence, the null hypothesis one was rejected and alternative hypothesis was accepted which state that the role of government in the implementing UNCRPD has statistical relationship with and promoting the rights of disabled people in federal capital territory, Nigeria. From the findings, the value of coefficient of R is 0.972 representing 97.20 %, this shows that there is a strong coefficient between the study variables i.e the dependent variable (implementing UNCRPD and promoting the rights of disabled people in federal capital territory, Nigeria) and the independent variable (The role of government in the implementing UNCRPD has no statistical relationship with and promoting the rights of disabled people). The value of R² is 0.945 which represent 94.5 % indicating that there are other factors or variables other than that of the implementing UNCRPD and promoting the rights of disabled people in federal capital territory, Nigeria, which accounted for 5.5 % that were not included and treated in this study.

Null hypothesis two was rejected and alternative was accepted which state that the challenges faced by the government has statistical relationship with the implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in federal capital territory, Nigeria, the value of coefficient of R is 0.921 representing 92.10 %, this shows that there is a strong coefficient between the study variables, table 2 was used to respond to research question two, which showed that the majority of respondents said that they strongly disagreed that the government has been faced with challenge of providing access to health services to the disabled in federal capital territory, Nigeria. also, the majority of the respondent strongly agreed on other challenges as the gender discrimination existing in the public cycle, the discrimination from employers of labour, most of the people with disability lack physical energy to fight sexual aggressors and the boldness to report such acts to the authorities, most of the people with disabilities are poor so they look for money and get HIV/AIDS in the process, They are marginalized groups who are not easily reached by health information sites and wrong belief that women with disabilities are not HIV/AIDS infected.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Persons with disabilities are some of the world's largest minorities. History has shown that they have not always been treated fairly and equally. Human rights are recognised and protected by a number of

international human rights instruments (treaties, laws and conventions, etc.) such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (United Nations, 1948)

The majority of respondents strongly agreed that the followings are the role of government in the implementing UNCRPD and promoting the rights of disabled people in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

That the government Prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability with regard to all matters concerning all forms of employment, including conditions of recruitment, hiring and employment, career advancement and safe and healthy working conditions, Protect the rights of persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others, to just and favourable conditions of work, including equal opportunities and equal remuneration for work of equal value, safe and healthy working conditions, including protection from harassment, and the redress of grievances, Ensure that persons with disabilities are able to exercise their labour and trade union rights on an equal basis with others, Enable persons with disabilities to have effective access to general technical and vocational guidance programmes, placement services and vocational and continuing training, Promote employment opportunities and career advancement for persons with disabilities in the labour market, as well as assistance in finding, obtaining, maintaining and returning to employment, Promote opportunities for self-employment, entrepreneurship, the development of cooperatives and starting one's own business, Employ persons with disabilities in the public sector Promote the employment of persons with disabilities in the private sector through appropriate policies and measures, which may include affirmative action programmes, incentives and other measures, Ensure that reasonable accommodation is provided to persons with disabilities in the workplace, Promote the acquisition by persons with disabilities of work experience in the open labour market, Promote vocational and professional rehabilitation, job retention and return-to-work programmes for persons with disabilities and this roles are in line with global practice..

Challenges faced by the government in implementing the provision of the UNCRPD in The Federal Capital Territory, Abuja are as following

The majority of respondent strongly disagreed that the government has been faced with challenge of providing access to health services to the disabled and they strongly agree on the following, the gender discrimination existing in the public cycle is also prevalent when it has to do with the issue of PWDs, The challenge government faces in the implementation of the Convention in Nigeria is the discrimination from employers of labour, Another problem facing the government is that most of the PWD lack physical energy to fight sexual aggressors and the boldness to report such acts to the authorities, Most of people with disabilities are poor so they look for money and get HIV/AIDS in the process, and Wrong belief that women with disabilities are not HIV/AIDS infected.

Following from the findings above, the following are the recommendations:

The research publications from this PhD serve as an introduction for deeper inquiry, as little evidence was available on such a significant global programme. More longitudinal research of diverse rounds of projects beyond the first inception round will capture change over time. Additional research should explore both the United Nation Convention Right of people with disability (UNCRPD) programme and the changes it triggers with country and regional projects. For example, does the UNCRPD reflect on and address programmatic role performed by government and the challenges encountered in the implementation of the United Nations convention on the rights of disabled in the federal Republic of Nigeria.

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