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**December 1, 2011**

**PRESS STATEMENT**

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES - DECEMBER 3, 2011**

As the world marks international day of persons with disability today, December 3, the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) acknowledges and celebrates the significant contributions persons with disabilities continue to make to the growth and development of the nation.

December 3 has been set aside since 1992 to promote an understanding of disability issues and galvanize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities and to increase awareness of gains to be derived from the inclusion of persons with disability in every aspect of life.

This year's celebration, which is on the theme **"Together for a better world for all: Including persons with disabilities in development"**, evinces persons with disabilities as an important segment of the population who cannot be overlooked in our national development agenda.

The Commission, therefore, believes that the recent launch of the Persons with Disability ICT Project by government, aimed at equipping persons with disabilities with the necessary skills to enable them take up opportunities and businesses brought about by information and electronic knowledge, is highly commendable.

Again, the inauguration of the Disability Management Fund Committee to oversee the disbursement of the two per cent share of the District Assembly Common Fund meant for persons with disabilities to acquire skills and eke a living is also a step in the right direction.

The Commission has no doubt that these interventions would, in no small measure, put persons with disabilities in good stead to further contribute to national development. We hope that these measures would be sustained, whilst other avenues are explored to provide an even playing field for persons with disabilities to contribute to making the world better for all.

The Commission notes with regret, however, that the Legislative Instrument (LI) needed for the full implementation of the Persons with Disability Act (Act 750), passed five years ago, remains one of the outstanding issues that persons with disabilities have to contend with.

The Commission takes this opportunity to call on the Attorney General's Department to speed up the processes to have the Legislative Instrument passed, since it would spell out the parameters for ensuring the full realization of the rights of persons with disabilities in Ghana.

We wish all persons with disabilities a happy celebration and urge them to remain resolute in their quest to have their rights fully respected.

**RICHARD QUAYSON**  
**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER**