



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2016

CONTACT: Jamie Rivas

EMAIL: jrivas@miusa.org

Telephone: (541) 343-1284

www.miusa.org

World Leaders Convene in D.C. to Activate Disability Rights Implementation

Washington, D.C., USA: Mobility International USA (MIUSA), in partnership with three leading U.S. organizations, is honored to welcome twenty-four disability rights leaders from six countries to Washington D.C. for the *RightsNow!: Exploring the U.S. Model* conference, September 17 - 24. This prestigious and high-level conference is a part of the *RightsNow!: Strong Communities through Enforcing the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* project, funded by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor of the U.S. Department of State and administered by MIUSA.

Representing Armenia, Guatemala, Kenya, Mexico, Peru and Vietnam, the international delegation will include leaders from disabled persons' organizations, human rights organizations and government agencies who are spearheading initiatives to strengthen the implementation and enforcement of disability rights legislation, as well as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, at national and local levels.

Throughout the conference, delegates will meet and engage with U.S. disability rights experts and government leaders who played key roles in the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act and other key legislation. Delegates will also meet with leading agencies and specialists in the fields of inclusive education, independent living, employment, coalition building, and other key priority areas, to gain insights into principles, strategies, and lessons learned from implementation and enforcement of U.S. laws and policies.

MIUSA conducts the project with a consortium of U.S. partners: the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF), a disability-led organization at the forefront of U.S. disability civil rights law and policy; the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), a global leader in democracy promotion and good governance; and the U.S. International Council on Disabilities (USICD), a disability-led organization committed to advocacy and action to promote the global disability rights agenda. Mobility International USA is a disability-led organization founded in 1981 dedicated to advancing leadership and disability rights globally.

###