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UN Disability Convention

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Blind Low Vision NZ, Auckland

Transcriber's Note: There are two logos at the top of the page. The logo on the left is Whaikaha—Ministry of Disabled People. The logo on the right is Whaimana—Support My Decisions.

UN Disability Convention

The United Nations (UN) Disability Convention says that disabled people have the right to get the support they need to make their own decisions.

What is the UN Disability Convention?

The UN Disability Convention is an agreement between different countries. It says what governments must do to make sure disabled people get the same rights as everybody else.

What does "disability" mean in the UN Disability Convention?

The UN Disability Convention covers people with:

- physical impairments
- mental distress
- intellectual impairments
- sensory impairments.

The UN Disability Convention says that people experience disability when:

- people don't get the support they need so they can't easily do everyday things
- society doesn't adapt to people's needs, so it's difficult for them to participate fully.

What does the UN Disability Convention say about supported decision-making?

Article 12 of the UN Disability Convention says that:

- disabled people have the same right to make their own decisions as everyone else
- disabled people should have the help they need to make decisions
- if a person needs someone else to speak for them, there should be rules to do this properly.

Aotearoa New Zealand has agreed to follow the Disability Convention. This means that all New Zealanders have the right to have the support they need to make decisions.

For more information visit

<https://www.supportmydecisions.nz/why-is-sdm-important/un-disability-convention> or
www.supportmydecisions.nz/201

End of UN Disability Convention