

'Accessibility' of a Building

Includes

- **Approach** to the building from the site boundary;
- **Entry** through principal entrance(s);
- **Health, Safety, Convenience & Comfort In Use**, including thermal comfort, indoor air quality, protection from fire, etc;
- **Egress** under normal conditions;
- **Evacuation in the Event of a Fire**, or other emergency;
- **Removal** from the vicinity of the building back to the site boundary;

and

- Each stage of a **Work Process**, at every level, in places of work;
- Use of **Electronic, Information & Communication Technologies (EICT's)** - at minimum, those permanently fixed in/to the building;

and

- **Management, Services & Attitudes of People** in the building;
- **Recruitment, Employment, Promotion & Training Practices**.



'Accessibility-for-All' Matrix

Built, Social, Virtual (including EICT's) & Economic Environments		People with Activity Limitations (2001 WHO ICF)				
		All Users incl. children & frail, older people & late-stage pregnant women & people with health conditions, etc.	People with Disabilities / Impairments (2006 UN Disability Rights Convention)			
			Visual Impairment	Hearing Impairment	Physical Function Impairment	Mental / Cognitive Impairment
1. Buildings	i List A	Building Priorities - See 2004 Rio Declaration on Sustainable Social Development, Disability & Ageing				
	ii List B					
	iii List C					
2. Street Pavements & Public Spaces						
3. Means of Transport	a Buses					
	b Taxis					
	c Trains					
4. Transport Interchanges						
5. Miscellaneous						



Priority Targets for Concerted Action

List A 'Survival & Liberation'	List B 'Health & Social Wellbeing'	Support Measures
Residential Buildings	Health Facilities²	Accessibility Partnership
Public Transport (buses, coaches, taxis, trams, trains, ferries, ships & planes)	EICT's (electronic, information & communication technologies)	Accessibility Impact Assessment
Educational Buildings¹	Civic Buildings (voting/judicial functions)	Life Cycle Costing
Workplaces¹ (as defined in Article 2 of EU Council Directive 89/654/EEC)	Buildings of Historical, Cultural or Architectural Importance	Accessibility Performance Indicators (qualitative & quantitative)

1. Good Education & Employment are Important Keys to Social Inclusion.

2. Health is not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, but a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing. [World Health Organization]



'People with Activity Limitations'

2001 WHO ICF is a classification of 'Health' ... not of 'Disability'

Those people, of all ages, who are unable to perform, independently and without aid, basic human activities or tasks - because of a health condition or physical/mental/cognitive/psychological impairment of a permanent or temporary nature.

- wheelchair users ;
- people who experience difficulty in walking, with or without aid, e.g. stick, crutch, calliper or walking frame ;
- frail, older people ;
- the very young (people under the age of 5 years) ;
- people who suffer from arthritis, asthma, or a heart condition ;
- the visually and/or hearing impaired ;
- people who have a cognitive impairment disorder, including dementia, amnesia, brain injury, or delirium ;
- women in the later stages of pregnancy ;
- people impaired following the use of alcohol, other 'social' drugs, e.g. cocaine and heroin, and some medicines, e.g. psychotropic drugs ;
- people who suffer any partial or complete loss of language related abilities, i.e. aphasia ;
- people impaired following exposure to environmental pollution and/or irresponsible human activity ;

and

- people who experience a panic attack in a fire situation or other emergency ;
- people, including firefighters, who suffer incapacitation as a result of exposure, during a fire, to poisonous or toxic substances, and/or elevated temperatures.



Some International Developments

◆ NIST(USA) 2005 Final Report on 9-11 WTC 1 & 2 Collapses

Introduced a **New Benchmark** for International Fire Engineering
30 Important Recommendations contained in Chapter 9

◆ U.N. 2006 Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Article 9.1: " States Parties shall take appropriate measures to ensure
*access, , to the **physical environment**, , both in **urban** and in **rural areas**.* "

Article 11: " States Parties *shall take all necessary measures to ensure the
protection and safety of persons with disabilities in situations of risk, including
situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and the occurrence of
natural disasters.* "

Article 4.3: " In the development and implementation of legislation and policies
...., and in other decision-making processes concerning issues relating to persons
with disabilities, States Parties *shall closely consult with and actively involve
persons with disabilities, including children "*

Preamble (g): " Emphasizing the importance of *mainstreaming disability issues
as an integral part of relevant strategies of **sustainable development**, "*

