# The Marrakesh Treaty: Beneficiaries Perspective

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Meeting on the Marrakesh Treaty

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## Beneficiaries

- -Blind,
  - -Visually Impaired,
- -Print Disabled

## Print Disability...

 It is important to refute the misconception that the Marrakesh Treaty is for the visually impaired only.

### **Statistics**

- Number of disabled...
- Number of publications (printed)
- Percentage in accessible format
- Number of Arab Countries that signed/Ratified the MT

# WHO Report on Disability

### World report on disability



About 15% of the world's population lives with some form of disability, of whom 2-4% experience significant difficulties in functioning. The global disability prevalence is higher than previous WHO estimates, which date from the 1970s and suggested a figure of around 10%. This global estimate for disability is on the rise due to population ageing and the rapid spread of chronic diseases, as well as improvements in the methodologies used to measure disability.

The first ever WHO/World Bank World report on disability reviews evidence about the situation of people with disabilities around the world. Following chapters on understanding disability and measuring disability, the report contains topic-specific chapters on health; rehabilitation; assistance and support; enabling environments;

#### Vision impairment and blindness

Fact Sheet Updated October 2017

#### Key facts

- An estimated 253 million people live with vision impairment: 36 million are blind and 217 million have moderate to severe vision impairment (1).
- 81% of people who are blind or have moderate or severe vision impairment are aged 50 years and above (1).
- Globally, chronic eye diseases are the main cause of vision loss. Uncorrected refractive errors and then un-operated cataract are the top two causes of vision impairment. Un-operated cataract remains the leading cause of blindness in lowand middle-income countries.
- The prevalence of infectious eye diseases, such as trachoma and onchocerciasis, have reduced significantly over the last 25 years.
- Over 80% of all vision impairment can be prevented or cured.

## The MT in the Bigger Picture

-Other related legal instruments: Copyright treaties, CRPD, national law -putting the MT in the context; education, access to information and knowledge, and the role of libraries.

## Role of Libraries

- The need to empower libraries:
- Legal tools that facilitate libraries mission.
- Human, technical and financial resource (potential collaboration among Arab countries)

# Avoiding adding Unnecessary Barriers

- Remuneration
- Commercial Availability

## What after the Ratification of MT

Sharing experience with the countries already ratified the MT

- new legal provisions....
- implementation of the treaty...

## Guides to the MT

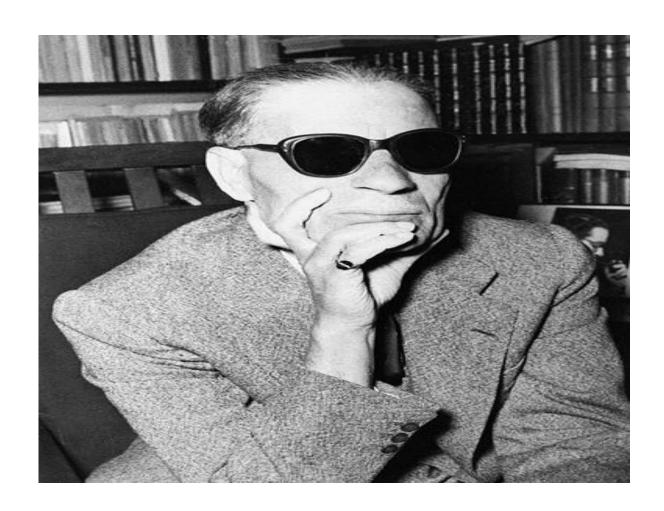
WBU Guide to the Marrakesh Treaty

http://www.worldblindunion.org/English/our-work/our-priorities/Pages/WBU-Guide-to-the-Marrakesh-Treaty.aspx

EIFL Guide to Libraries

<a href="http://www.eifl.net/resources/marrakesh-treaty-eifl-guide-libraries-english">http://www.eifl.net/resources/marrakesh-treaty-eifl-guide-libraries-english</a>





# Thank you

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