



International Federation of
Library Associations and Institutions

ITEM 7: Action Plan for Education and Research Institutions and People with Other Disabilities
31 May 2018

We sympathise the positions taken by colleagues from the education sector. As key actors in promoting education, both within the context of formal institutions, and lifelong-learning, libraries stand ready to turn any legislative change into meaningful actions that deliver sustainable development.

I wanted to raise the topic of people with other disabilities. Our members invest considerable resources in supporting all users with special needs, and we will be happy to offer examples of good practices in this area.

This notwithstanding, it continues to be a matter of regret for libraries that the Marrakesh Treaty focuses only on those with print disabilities. The proposed event will doubtless be helpful, but we recall that the Treaty too began with the claims that 'innovative solutions' could provide a comprehensive answer.

From our point of view, such an event, and of course the preparatory work for this, could also draw on the increasingly rich experience of countries in implementing Marrakesh. In particular, understanding of how the new rules have been applied, and their impact – notably concerning terms in Articles 4(4) and 4(5), on commercial availability – would support the committee in its discussions.

Thank you.