

Press Release: Italy and the Ministry Education promote the right of an inclusive education for all

On February 13th, H.E. Mashair Ahmed Alamin, Minister of Education, H.E. Ahmed Mohamed Osman Hamid, State Minister of Security and Social Development, Mr. Bdradeen Ahmed Hassan Mohamed, Secretary General, National Council for Persons with Disabilities and the Director of the Italian Cooperation Office in Khartoum, Vincenzo Racalbuto, open the workshop on inclusive education, organised in framework of Tadmeen Project funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation.

Inclusive Education means accessible environment in the schools; adoption of a norejection clause within legislation and inclusive pre-school programs and early intervention support in order to guarantee equitable opportunities to people with disabilities, stated the Minister of Education H.E Mashair Ahmed Alamin concluding that "*education is the most powerful investment in our future*".

The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation recognizes that more work is needed to ensure inclusive education. Inclusion is embedded in all aspects of school life, and is supported by culture, policies and every day practices. All children deserve the opportunity to be in school and learn so they acquire the skills and knowledge to thrive regardless of their diverse educational needs, declared AICS Representative in Khartoum, Vincenzo Racalbuto. Italy has a portfolio of 9.7 M Euro in Social Inclusion initiatives aimed at *"leaving no one behind"*.

The Secretary General of the Council of Persons with Disabilities, from his part, recalled the relevance of the "*nothing about us without us*" approach, highlighting the importance of partnership and consultation of persons with disabilities in inclusion-related matters in Sudan, especially in education issues, because education is the most powerful investment in our future, concluded Mr. Bdradeen Ahmed.