Pakistan has ratified CRPD, and a number of consultations and meetings have been held to
highlight the concerns of persons with disabilities. We are most pleased to witness the
landmark initiative to develop a web portal undertaken by the dynamic and committed
members of NFWWDs from all the provinces. This web portal will help fill a large void that
exists at present and will indubitably provide many international and national organizations the
motivation and inspiration to join hands and work towards mainstreaming the concerns of
women with disabilities in development in Pakistan.
We also need to accelerate the implementation of the UNCRPD and MDGs. The need is to
address new challenges, as well as old ones, calling for a new development model to be based
on structural changes for equality, inclusiveness, resilience and sustainable development, as a
more integrated way.

The message that I bring to you also looks at the areas of priority action identified by the
various women with disabilities from grassroots level, priorities which can only be effectively
acted upon through a genuine national partnership, based on trust and not on conditionality,
where both the women with disabilities and other relevant stakeholders particularly DPOs play
their parts. This is why the need for agreement on the means of implementation is extremely
important.

We wish NFWWDs and other Organizations of Persons with Disability every success in this
effort.