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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 10, 2025 1:32 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** At UN -- Disability Rights in the Gulf: UAE delegation speaks at an event at COSP18

Hi [REDACTED],

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Best,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Senior Account Executive

[Redacted]



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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 10, 2025 1:26 PM

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**Sent:** Tuesday, June 10, 2025 1:30 PM  
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**Sent:** Tuesday, June 10, 2025 2:51 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
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Vice President

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**prosek**

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**Sent:** Tuesday, June 10, 2025 2:59 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** At UN -- Disability Rights in the Gulf: UAE delegation speaks at an event at COSP18

Hi [REDACTED],

Hope this finds you well. The UAE had a delegation speak at the UN yesterday showcasing their improvements and resolve to help people with disabilities. We'd like to offer an opportunity for you to interview some of their spokespeople (see list below).

As you may know, the 18<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of States Parties ("COSP18") to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities ("CRPD") is taking place in New York from June 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, with the overarching theme of enhancing public awareness of the rights and contributions of persons with disabilities to social development in the lead-up to the World Social Summit.

**The United Arab Emirates coordinated an event at COSP18 to showcase its inclusive development efforts, backed by policy and practice, and open the door for international dialogue,** hosting:

- **H.E. Abdullah Al Kamali**, Executive Director of the People of Determination Sector, Zayed Higher Organization
- **Christopher Gutenbrunner**, President, Rehabilitation International, Professor emeritus, Hannover Medical School
- **Dr. Madan M. Kundu**, Deputy Vice President, Rehabilitation International – North America
- **Hamed al Darmaki**, Trainer, Zayed Higher Organization for People of Determination; Deaf Association Member
- **Dr. Chrisann Schiro-Geist**, Professor & Director of the Institute on Disability, University of Memphis
- **Ms. Meera Al Shamsi**, Genomic Genetics Analyst, Zayed Higher Organization; Vice Chair, Health and Functioning, Rehabilitation International
- **Ms. Maryiam Al Qubaisi**, Zayed Higher Organization for People of Determination; Multiple Sclerosis Ambassador

The event highlighted the great developments of the UAE and all organizations in attendance in bettering the lives of People of Determination, especially with the goal of aiding these individuals in learning to live independently across the globe. For example, Dr. Chrisann Schiro-Geist highlighted the growth of Tiger Programs at higher education institutions across the United States and the benefits that they are providing to individuals in the programs. The UAE is also launching a new scientific journal, The International

Journal of Rehabilitation & Disability Studies, which will publish research, reviews, and case studies on topics such as rehabilitation techniques, disability rights, assistive technologies, inclusive practices, and societal inclusion. The goal of this journal is to bridge the gap between academic research, policy development and practical implementation.

Please let us know if you'd be interested in speaking further – we'd be happy to arrange something in person, if possible, or to set up a call or Zoom in the coming days. We can also share a recording of the event if you're interested in hearing the full event.

Best,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Vice President

[REDACTED]



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