

COMPLYING WITH THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL STANDARD OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION

The purpose of the National legislation such as the Promotion of Access to Information Act 2 of 2000 purpose is to ensure that people can exercise their constitutional right of access to any information held by the state or any organ that is required for the exercise or protection of any rights. South African Human Rights Commission has established a section in its library which is specifically for use by persons with disabilities for equal enjoyment of access to information on equal basis with others.

Article 21 (a) of the UNCRPD (United Nation Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) state that information intended for the general public should be made available to persons with disabilities in accessible formats and technologies appropriate to different kinds of disabilities in a timely manner and without additional cost;

The provision of the Disability Unit is in line with the Commission's mandate to promote respect for, observance of, and protection of Human rights for everyone.

This unit is equipped with devices suitable for use by persons with different disabilities

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Assist with completing the complaints form
- Training of any user with disabilities on how to use the special devices in the unit.
- Make copies of requested documents in the user's preferred format, either hard or soft copy.
- Assisting with searching of books on the shelves.
- Provide information session to individuals and organizations on the CRPD
- Regularly scheduled consultation for persons with reading disabilities.
- Documents can also be provided to the users via email.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The library can be accessed free of charge during working hours:

Monday – Thursdays: 08h00 – 16h30 and

Fridays: 08h00 – 15h00

Contact: Ms Hellen Makwana on:

Tel: 011 877 3671

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SAHRC Library – Disability Unit

SEDIBENG SA TSEBO “Fountain of knowledge”



Transforming society

Securing rights

Restoring dignity

WHAT DOES ACCESS TO INFORMATION MEAN TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES?

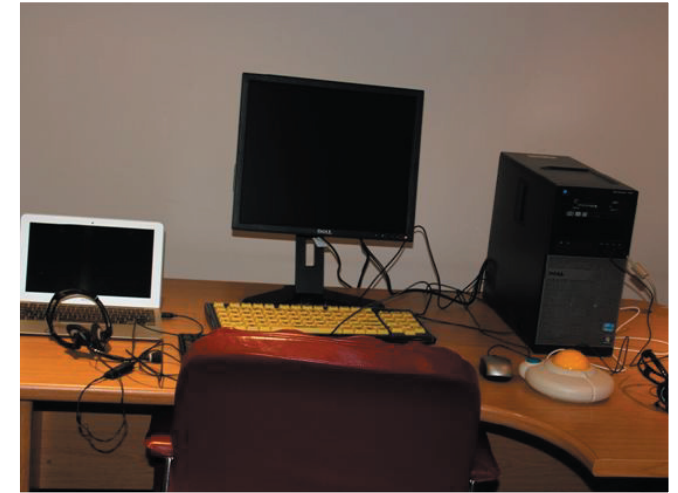
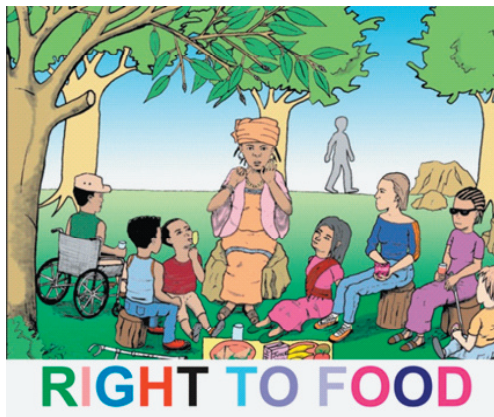
This question can be answered when you visit the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) Library, which is located at the national office of the SAHRC. A section in the Library has been named “Fountain of knowledge” specifically for users with disabilities.

This section was created in order for the SAHRC: as a public entity, to comply with constitutional provisions of respect for human dignity, equality, and UNCRPD (United Nation Convention on the Rights of people with Disabilities).

The disability unit is integrated into the main library of the SAHRC and is available to any user with a disability

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

South African Human Rights Commission dedicated Human Rights Month by officially opening a section in its Library provide people living with disabilities an equal opportunity to access information on and acquire knowledge on Human Rights issues. The official launch took place on the 18th day of March 2014 during the National Library week celebrated under the theme “Celebrating Libraries in 20 years of Democracy: CHECK IN @ YOUR LIBRARY “ the assigned name for the section is “Sedibeng Sa Tsebo (Fountain of knowledge)”



“Converting a book into Braille or onto audiotape can take months, depending on the length of the book; who is doing the conversion; and whether they are situated locally, or abroad.” Denise Nicholson (Mrs.), Scholarly Communications Librarian Scholarly Communications & Copyright Services Office

University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

“Embrace diversity by making your Library accessible to people with disabilities” Commissioner Malatji – South African Human Rights Commission