



*"I have lived experience of disability and the experience of my accident and the sudden change in my life as a result of the spinal cord injury marked the beginning of a continuous enquiry of knowledge and understanding of disability from the philosophical, theoretical, legal and practical perspectives.*

*My experience as a woman with disability has increased my consciousness of the compounding effects that personal attributes and circumstances have on an individual's life and opportunities.*

*This has been informed further by my work with Australia's Indigenous peoples as well as my work with people with disabilities from the Pacific Islands and Asia.*

*As a result I have a keen understanding of the importance of the implementation of the CRPD and in particular Article 32 on international cooperation as well as the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals."*

— ROSEMARY KAYESS

@AUSTRALIAUN  
UNNY.MISSION.GOV.AU



**"I AM COMMITTED TO ACHIEVING THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY IN POLITICAL AND POLICY DISCOURSE. CENTRAL TO THIS IS THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY TO BE ABLE TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES"**

— ROSEMARY KAYESS

PERMANENT MISSION OF AUSTRALIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

150 East 42nd St  
Level 33  
New York NY 10017

Phone: +1-212-351-6600

Fax: +1-212-351-6610

Email: australia@un.int

**AUSTRALIA'S CANDIDATE  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON  
THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS  
WITH DISABILITIES  
2019-2022**

**ROSEMARY KAYESS**



# AUSTRALIA SEEKS YOUR GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT FOR THE ELECTION OF ROSEMARY KAYESS TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES



Australia is committed to advancing human rights globally, including the rights of persons with disabilities. Men, women and children have the right to fundamental freedoms and to live their lives with dignity.

Australia considers the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) as critical in promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and is committed to increasing the awareness of these rights and taking practical steps to enable people with disabilities to participate fully in society.

Rosemary Kayess is supported by Australian disabled people's organisations.



## EXPERTISE

Rosemary Kayess is an accomplished Australian human rights lawyer, researcher and academic. Her work nationally and internationally has advanced Australia's agenda for a socially-inclusive society.

Rosemary is currently Director of the Disability Innovation Institute at the University of New South Wales. She has advised and researched on numerous projects including access to justice, social inclusion, employment, human rights and disability and the implementation of the CRPD in Australia, Asia-Pacific and Europe.

For the past eleven years Rosemary has taught international human rights law and anti-discrimination law at the University of New South Wales and at the Centre for Disability Law and Policy at the National University of Ireland (Galway).

Rosemary has extensive experience with the CRPD. She was a designated specialist in the Australian Government delegation that contributed to the development of the Convention.



## DISABILITY SECTOR EXPERIENCE

- 1995–present **Australian Centre for Disability Law**  
Chairperson
- 2015–present **World Bank**  
Expert Focus Group on Non-Discrimination and Disability
- 2013–2017 **National Mental Health Commission**  
Core Reference Group - Seclusion and Restraint
- 2010–2015 **Council of Australian Governments**  
Disability Policy Research Working Group Steering Committee
- 2009–2015 **Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**  
Disability Reference Group
- 2013–2014 **Australian Law Reform Commission**  
Advisory Group on Equality, Capacity and Disability
- 2006–2008 **National Disability and Carers Ministerial Advisory Committee**
- 2004–2008 **Disability Studies and Research Institute**  
Chairperson
- 2004–2006 **Department of Family and Community Services**  
NGO Representative (Ministerial appointment)  
Australian Delegation  
United Nations Ad Hoc Committee
- 2004 **Australian Human Rights Commission** Disability Rights Unit  
Senior Policy Officer
- 1996–2000 **Disability Council of NSW**  
(Ministerial appointment)
- 1994–1996 **Physical Disability Council of NSW**  
Council Director
- 1993–1996 **The Benevolent Society of NSW**  
Ethics Committee
- 1989–1995 **Spinal Cord Injuries (Australia)**  
Director