

## FROM THE HONORARY PRESIDENT



*Commitment since 1995 ... as  
Honorary President*

Sometimes, care-givers, supporters and parents do not want people with disabilities to be too independent or to make a choice or do something by themselves. They believe that people with disabilities cannot and do not think, and do not know what is going on around them. Many people think that is too risky to allow people with disabilities to do things by themselves

Persons with disabilities must direct and mould their own destiny but at the same time must be supported by other so-called citizens of the world. They must get disability on the human rights agenda not as an after thought nor should they allow to be lumped under the term "vulnerable groups" because of systematic violation of their human rights on daily basis.

Persons with disabilities need to have positive attitude towards life which a key to self advocacy and independence. In most cases persons with disabilities do not accept or believe in positive thinking because of their disability. Positive attitude helps to cope more easily with your disability. It brings optimism into your life, and makes it easier to avoid worry and negative thinking. If you adopt it as a way of life, it will bring constructive changes into your life, and makes you happier, brighter and more successful. With a positive attitude you see beyond your disability, you see the bright side of life. For persons with disabilities positive thinking is certainly a state of mind that is well worth developing.

## Ms Eva Mahlangu: Dept for Women, Children & Disabilities



*Commitment as chairperson 2001 - 2004*



*Commitment as Governance Board member 1995 - 2000*