# WHO CAN ACCESS ASSISTIVE PRODUCTS TODAY?

DID YOU KNOW?

## 2.5 billion people

require one or more assistive products today, while 3.5 billion people will need assistive products by 2050

#### Only 1 in 10 have access

to these life-saving products across all low- and middleincome countries, and as low as 3% in some countries

#### **EYEGLASSES**

- Only 36% of the billions who need eyeglasses have access to a quality pair with the right prescription
- Consumer prices are too high for many
   Reduce import taxes, logistical costs, and distributor or retail margins to make eyeglasses more accessible.





## **HEARING AIDS**

- Less than 20% of the millions of people with hearing loss can access hearing aids
- High cost and lack of service provision are major barriers and varies significantly by type/model

Adopt WHO recommendations<sup>1</sup> on delivery, specifications and quality, and aggregate procurement to improve access.







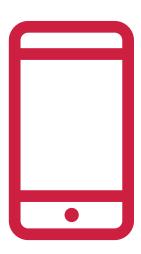


#### **PROSTHESES**

- Less than 20% of the estimated 65 million people with limb amputations can access prostheses
- Ambiguity of quality standards hinders the wider use of emerging affordable solutions

Increase visibility on quality<sup>2</sup> of emerging affordable solutions.





# **SCREEN READERS**

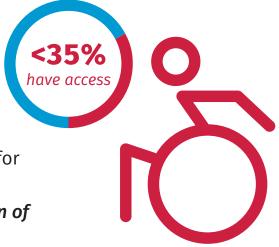
- Over 85% of people with visual impairments live in lowand middle-income countries
- Highly fragmented market with significant disparities in functionality, user experience, and device compatibility

Adopt digital assistive products such as screen readers as essential assistive products along with accessibility standards to address implementation gaps.

# **WHEELCHAIRS**

- Less than 35% of the estimated 80 million people who need wheelchairs have them,
   65 million of which are in low- and middle-income countries
- High costs and low uptake of suitable designs for low- and middle-income countries limit access

Introduce quality standards and ensure provision of appropriate wheelchairs<sup>3</sup> at country level.



1 https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/258721/9789241512961-eng.pdf?sequence=1 2 https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/259209/9789241512480-part1-eng.pdf?sequence=1 3 https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/43960/9789241547482\_eng.pdf?sequence=1