



BARACK OBAMA

January 27, 2022

To the Atlas Alliance and all the organizers of the Global Disability Summit 2022:

I am honored to join you in this moment of reflection ahead of the 2022 Summit. And I'm thrilled that you're framing today's event with a screening of *Crip Camp*.

*Crip Camp* was one of the first films Michelle and I were lucky enough to produce. It's an American story, but one with universal themes. It shows us all we can achieve when we build diverse coalitions for change from the ground up.

The film captures the brilliance, heart, and courage of disabled folks in the 1970s onward. I've loved seeing how the next generation of activists has used *Crip Camp* to unite the global disability community. My hope is that today's conversation can set the stage for meaningful progress on disability rights worldwide—at the 2022 Summit and beyond.

Above all, *Crip Camp* teaches us that with disabled communities leading the way, a more equitable, inclusive world for everyone is within reach. So to the Atlas Alliance, Summit organizers, distinguished panelists, and all of you working tirelessly to forge that brighter future: thank you. You have my enduring gratitude and deepest admiration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Barack Obama', written in a cursive style.