CHILDREN WITH BONES OF GLASS

VIETNAM – CHILD IN WHEELCHAIR

NARRATION:
Sixteen-year-old Phong Anh in Vietnam has a genetic disorder – osteogenesis imperfecta – which makes her bones fragile and easy to break. But she prefers to call herself ‘Crystal’. (12)

CRYSTAL: (In English) F
“I’m proud to call myself Crystal, because I want people to see me as a girl who is vulnerable physically but can be hard to break mentally as the same time.” (8)

RICHARD ON PARENT’S BACK

NARRATION:
Across the globe in Ecuador, eight-year-old Richard Herrera suffers from the same disorder which leaves him weak and prone to fractures. (8)

RICHARD: (In Spanish) M
“Because I am disabled, I have bones of glass and I cannot run and jump. If I fall, I can end up in hospital.” (7)

GETTING DRESSED FOR SCHOOL

NARRATION:
Every day millions of children struggle. Many live
hidden lives. Discriminated against and stigmatized. Limited as much by prejudice as by physical barriers. (10)

According to the UN Children’s Fund, UNICEF, implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities adopted by the United Nations in 2006 is critical to mobilizing support for disabled children. (11)

**REPORT**

**ABID ASLAM:** (In English) M

“This means making a serious commitment to understanding their needs, including them in the design of solutions, supports and services that are intended to give them a fair chance at surviving, thriving, succeeding.” (16.5)

**NARRATION:**

Richard is growing up in Ecuador, one of the countries that has implemented the Convention. Today, he’s in school and he’s at the top of his class. (7.5)

**BOY WITH MOM**

**RICHARD:** (In Spanish) M

“When I grow up I want to be a pilot.” (2.5)

**RICHARD ON-CAMERA**

**NARRATION:**

Crystal is also surpassing expectations. (3)

Every Friday, she goes to the radio station to record a special programme – Voice of Vietnam. Crystal has been doing this since she was eight years old. (9)

**CRYSTAL AT RADIO STATION**

**CRYSTAL:** (In English) F

“People with disabilities or not, they would come up to
me and say that I inspired them. And that’s my biggest
goal in life. So what could be more amazing than that?" (9)