

## UNEDITED VERSION

COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES  
Fourth session  
04-08 October 2010

### Day of General Discussion 2010

#### Guidelines for participants on registration and submissions

##### *Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*

On 07 October 2010, the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities will hold a Day of General Discussion in Geneva on “Article 9 of the CRPD – the **Right to Accessibility**”. The Day of General Discussion is a public meeting at which Government representatives, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, National Human Rights Institutions, civil society and disabled people organizations as well as private individuals, companies and experts are welcome.

#### Participation and oral statements

In order to facilitate the exchange of views between participants and Committee members, the discussion will be held in three periods or sessions based on the following areas in order to focus the discussions:

- (1) The right to access on an equal basis with others to the physical environment and transportation;**
- (2) The right to access on an equal basis with others to virtual and material information and communications;**
- (3) Discussion of the best practices on the implementation and promotion of the Right to Accessibility.**

The Committee asks participants to avoid presenting formal statements during the Day of General Discussion. Copies of written statements to the Committee may be distributed by participants during the discussion day.

#### Submission of written contributions

The Committee encourages the submission of written contributions or case studies that reflect the different challenges in implementing the Right to Accessibility. Such contributions can be devoted to one or more of the following subtopics, or any other, provided that the submissions remain within the framework of the issues codified under Article 9.

**a) The right to access on an equal basis with others to the physical environment and transportation**

- New proposals for the elimination of obstacles and barriers to physical accessibility.
- Definition of international indicators of minimum standards and guidelines for the accessibility of facilities and services open or provided to the public.
- Defining the concept of “Universal design”.
- Measures concerning the provision of appropriate means of transportation.
- Reservations to Article 9.

**b) The right to access on an equal basis with others to information and communications**

- According to Article 30 (3), States Parties shall take all appropriate steps to ensure that laws protecting intellectual property rights do not constitute an unreasonable or discriminatory barrier to access by persons with disabilities to cultural materials; examine the possibility of copyright exceptions for visual impaired people.
- Developing inclusive policies for persons with disabilities to access virtual and material information and knowledge.
- Developing concrete and specific international indicators (standards) concerning virtual and material web accessibility, regarding computers and mobile phones.
- International cooperation and partnerships for the purposes of communication accessibility.
- Raising awareness about existing opportunities for persons with disabilities.

**c) Discussion of the best practices on the implementation and promotion of the Right to Accessibility**

- Implementation and fulfillment of the Right to Accessibility.
- Scope of the Right to Accessibility and its linkage with other rights.
- The challenges of the effective implementation of the obligations arising under Article 9 and practical measures to provide training for stakeholders on evaluating accessibility.
- The role of independent monitoring bodies.

Please see attached Outline for suggested issues for review under each item.

Authors of written contributions are encouraged to present a **maximum of five suggestions** on the Right to Accessibility for the recommendations to be adopted by the Committee following the Day of General Discussion. The suggestions, which should be attached to the submission as an annex, must be directly relevant to the topic of the Day of General Discussion as described above. Although the main

working language of the Committee is English, written contributions can also be submitted in French, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish and Russian.

**The deadline for the submission of written contributions is 05 September 2010.**

The Committee requests that written contributions be limited to a **maximum of 2500 words**. Written contributions will be forwarded and posted on the CRPD website. Previously published materials may also be submitted to the Committee, or distributed during the Day of General Discussion to other participants (with indication of source of first publication). Sufficient copies must be brought along, as the Secretariat does not have resources for reproduction and distribution. Copies of written statements to the Committee may be distributed by participants during the Day of General Discussion.

Registration

For organizational purposes, all participants are asked to fill out a registration form, which can be downloaded from the OHCHR website;

<http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crpd.htm>.

Please send it back to the Secretariat by e-mail; [crpdgeneraldiscussion@ohchr.org](mailto:crpdgeneraldiscussion@ohchr.org) or fax (+41 22 917-9052) **before 05 September 2010**. Due to limited space, please note that organizations are strongly encouraged to limit participation in this event to a **maximum of three representatives**. Please do not make any travel arrangements until you have received this final confirmation from the Secretariat of the Committee.

As this is a public meeting of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, there is neither a registration fee, nor does the Committee send out individual invitations. **The United Nations is not able to provide assistance with visa, travel or accommodation arrangements**. Participants are responsible for all expenses and arrangements related to their participation in the Day of General Discussion.

Logistics

The Day of General Discussion will take place on 07 October 2010 from 10.00 am till 18.00 pm (to be confirmed) at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. Participants, whose registration has been confirmed, are requested to bring identification, such as a passport, with them to the Day of General Discussion in order to obtain a security badge to enter the Palais des Nations (Pregny gate).

For any additional information, please contact:

The Secretariat of the CRPD,

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNOG-OHCHR.

E-mail: [crpd@ohchr.org](mailto:crpd@ohchr.org)

Fax: (+41 22) 917-9052

## **Selected supporting material for the Day of General Discussions:**

### **Session I**

**Topic: The right to access on an equal basis with others to the physical environment and transportation.**

- CRPD Case Study: Turkmenistan  
[http://www.unescap.org/esid/psis/meetings/EGM\\_CRP\\_2009/Turkmenistan.pdf](http://www.unescap.org/esid/psis/meetings/EGM_CRP_2009/Turkmenistan.pdf)
- Interactive Roundtable on Legislative Measures to Implement the CRPD with a focus on Accessibility & Reasonable Accommodation  
[http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/COP/IDA%20Draft%20Background%20Note\\_Roundtable\\_1.doc](http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/COP/IDA%20Draft%20Background%20Note_Roundtable_1.doc)
- The Principles of Universal Design  
[http://www.design.ncsu.edu/cud/about\\_ud/udprinciples.htm](http://www.design.ncsu.edu/cud/about_ud/udprinciples.htm)

### **Session II**

**Topic: The right to access on an equal basis with others to virtual and material information and communications.**

- Access-Ability: Making technology more useable by people with disabilities, John Gill, 2004 <http://www.tiresias.org/research/guidelines/access-ability/index.htm>
- Estudio sobre las perspectivas de la armonización de la ciber legislación en América Latina [http://www.unctad.org/sp/docs/webdiltktcd20091\\_sp.pdf](http://www.unctad.org/sp/docs/webdiltktcd20091_sp.pdf)
- Involving people with disabilities in the standardization process, by John Gill, Chief Scientist, RNIB  
[http://www.tiresias.org/about/publications/disabilities\\_standardisation/Standards\\_2007.pdf](http://www.tiresias.org/about/publications/disabilities_standardisation/Standards_2007.pdf)
- Measuring the Information Society, ICT Development Index, 2009  
[http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/idi/2009/material/IDI2009\\_w5.pdf](http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/publications/idi/2009/material/IDI2009_w5.pdf)
- The Accessibility Imperative: Implications of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for Information and Communication Technologies  
[http://g3ict.org/resource\\_center/publications\\_and\\_reports/p/productCategory\\_whitepapers/subCat\\_0/id\\_118](http://g3ict.org/resource_center/publications_and_reports/p/productCategory_whitepapers/subCat_0/id_118)
- The Digital Accessibility and Inclusion Index  
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/disability/docs/consultation/Civilsocietyinputs/GlobalinitiativeforinclusiveICT150909.doc>
- The Salamanca Statement and Framework for Action, on Special Needs Education, Adopted by the World Conference on Special Needs Education: Access and Quality, Salamanca, Spain, 1994  
[http://www.unesco.org/education/pdf/SALAMA\\_E.PDF](http://www.unesco.org/education/pdf/SALAMA_E.PDF)
- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 <http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/>

### **Session III**

#### **Topic: Discussion of the best practices on the implementation and promotion of the Right to Accessibility.**

- Commission for Social Development “Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda” Doc. E/CN.5/2010/L.3/Rev.1  
[http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/resolutions/csocd48\\_resolution.doc](http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/resolutions/csocd48_resolution.doc)
- Global Survey on Government Action on the Implementation of the Standard Rules of the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities  
[http://www.escwa.un.org/divisions/sdd/news/GlobalSurvey\\_Report\\_Jan30\\_07\\_ReadOnly.pdf](http://www.escwa.un.org/divisions/sdd/news/GlobalSurvey_Report_Jan30_07_ReadOnly.pdf)
- Mainstreaming Disability in MDG Policies, Processes and Mechanisms: Development for All  
[http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/reports/egm/mdgs\\_09.doc](http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/reports/egm/mdgs_09.doc) and its related Summary  
[http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/reports/egm/mdgs\\_09\\_summary.doc](http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/reports/egm/mdgs_09_summary.doc)
- Promotion and Protection of all Human Rights Civil, Political, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Including the Right to Development - 10/... Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities: National Frameworks for the Promotion and Protection of the Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities  
<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/LTD/G09/123/03/PDF/G0912303.pdf?OpenElement>
- Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities through the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/427/69/PDF/N0942769.pdf?OpenElement>
- Recommendations of the European Conference “Make Development Inclusive – MDGs: Inclusion of People with Disabilities” <http://www.make-development-inclusive.org/docsen/recommendations-mdg.pdf>
- Resolution 10/7. Human rights of persons with disabilities: national frameworks for the promotion and protection of the human rights of persons with disabilities, 2008  
[http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/E/HRC/resolutions/A\\_HRC\\_RES\\_10\\_7.pdf](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/E/HRC/resolutions/A_HRC_RES_10_7.pdf)
- Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, with particular reference to Rule 5 “Accessibility”  
<http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r096.htm>
- Thematic study by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on enhancing awareness and understanding of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities  
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/docs/10session/A.HRC.10.48.pdf>
- Thematic study by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the structure and role of national mechanisms for the implementation and monitoring of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities  
[http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/disability/docs/A.HRC.13.29\\_en.pdf](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/disability/docs/A.HRC.13.29_en.pdf)

**General:**

- A/RES/64/131: Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/469/69/PDF/N0946969.pdf?OpenElement>
- Disability, poverty and development, by the Department for International Development (DFID) is the British government <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Documents/publications/disabilitypovertydevelopment.pdf>
- The current use and future potential of United Nations human rights instruments in the context of disability, Gerard Quinn and Theresia Degener, 2002 <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/HRDisabilityen.pdf>