

Interactive dialogue between States Parties, the United Nations system and other stakeholders on the implementation of the Convention

Overarching theme: Building back better: Meeting the needs and Realizing the rights of persons with disabilities in COVID-19 response and recovery

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Period: June 2020 - May 2021.

Objective of the Mandate.

The objective of the mandate of the Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary General on Disability and Accessibility (SE) is to promote the rights of persons with disabilities and universal accessibility, based on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In this way, awareness-raising is a priority in this role, transversalizing the human rights model for persons with disabilities.

In the development of the Mandate, the following lines were prioritized during the period:

1. Awareness-raising campaigns

a) Campaign ***"Universal Accessibility: Pillar and Bridge for the exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms"***, which was produced by the Special Envoy and presented at the 13th COSP, together with its video and poster. The campaign continues to be promoted and disseminated during this period.

b) Global campaign on ***"Good treatment for girls, boys and adolescents with disabilities in the world"***. Led by the Special Envoy. In this campaign, a website was developed with the 10 principles translated into 16 languages and 38 indigenous languages, which complies with all accessibility standards, calling for the commitment of all persons, and which to date continues the process for dissemination.

2. Mainstreaming the human rights model for persons with disabilities

a) The Special Envoy has done sustained work with the Presidency and Secretariat of the Ottawa Convention, linking the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities with the promotion and protection of the rights of landmine survivors. Research on this matter is currently underway for publication.

b) Line of work on access to justice for inclusive quality police services for persons with disabilities. Interdisciplinary research has been carried out on the subject, producing guidelines as a basis for a protocol for action, a training programme for police officers, a poster and a video. The launch of the campaign took place in this 14COSP.

c) The Office of the Special Envoy produced information leaflets that were handed out to all delegations participating in the 88th Interpol General Assembly.

3. Promoting inclusive education for persons with disabilities

The Special Envoy is preparing a project on bullying in relation to students with disabilities. In this regard, she is in contact with UNESCO for the World Anti-Bullying Forum 2021 (WABF). The Special Envoy will participate in a preparatory meeting on 6 July in Paris, France, and in the World Forum to be held 1-3 November in Stockholm, Sweden.

4. Women and girls with disabilities

The Special Envoy recognizes that women and girls with disabilities are subject to multiple forms of discrimination and, in this regard, prioritized measures must be taken to ensure that they are able to fully enjoy their rights and fundamental freedoms.

For this reason, the Office of the Special Envoy has worked intensively on gender mainstreaming with UN Women.

- Work keeps going on to strengthen the presence of women with disabilities in the 2021 Equality Generation Forums, in the framework of Beijing +25.

- In ECLAC, the Special Envoy participated in the Regional Consultation for Latin America and the Caribbean, prior to the 65th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). At the ministerial meeting she placed a special emphasis on the participation of women with disabilities, and on parity in action from an intersectional approach.

- Regular contact is maintained with the signatories of the New York Declaration on Political and Public Participation of Women with Disabilities.

- The Special Envoy is developing the project "*Supported Motherhood for Women with Disabilities*", which through a field study and the applicable legal norms will lead to the elaboration of recommendations for implementation in this area, which will be useful to the States Parties in the execution of public policies.

5. Pandemic

The rights of persons with disabilities continue to be made visible and promoted in the COVID-19 humanitarian emergency. In this regard, together with the documents issued by the General Secretariat, the statements made by the Special Envoy together with other United Nations mandates in 2020 have served as a basis for inputs to various conferences for States, civil society and various stakeholders.

6. Preparation of studies and production of comments on other documents from the perspective of the human rights model for persons with disabilities and universal accessibility.

The Special Envoy permanently prepares her own messages and documents, as well as comments on interdisciplinary texts proposed by United Nations agencies and other stakeholders.

In addition, in this last period, two studies have materialized:

- Universal Accessibility as a standard in human rights and sustainable development.
- Access to information and communications for persons with disabilities during the pandemic: A view from the perspective of transparency.

7. Strategic alliance

- In terms of universal accessibility, the Special Envoy considers important the strategic alliance developed with United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) to promote universal accessibility through local governments and municipalities.

- As part of media management, we maintain a Twitter account: @Disability_SE. At the same time, we keep updated the website of the Special Envoy at United Nations up to date.