



Revised Draft Agenda (as of 5pm, 30 July 2021)

PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN BUILDING A DISABILITY-INCLUSIVE, ACCESSIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE POST-COVID-19 WORLD

United Nations Expert Group Meeting in collaboration with UN Women and the UN Inter-Agency Support Group on CRPD

3-6 August 2021

DAY 1 – Tuesday, 3 August 2021

Opening Session

Welcome and Introductory Statements

10:00-10:10

Opening remarks: UN-Women
Overview of the Meeting and its goals and objectives (Facilitator - Prof. Nora Groce)

Session 1

Overview of experiences, lessons learned and good practices in advancing the participation and leadership of persons with disabilities under the COVID-19 crisis

10:10 to 11:45

Experts, from their expertise and experiences, will discuss an overview of experiences, lessons learned and good practices in advancing the participation and leadership of persons with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups in COVID-19 response and recovery and Building Back Better.

- What are your experiences in promoting the goals and objectives of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with disabilities in the global/national/regional/local agenda and other relevant experiences before the COVID-19 crisis?
- What is/are other relevant knowledge, experiences and resources for ensuring the participation of persons with disabilities and their leadership in response, recovery and Building Back Better from the COVID-19 crisis?
- What obstacles have you encountered in your work to promote the participation of persons with disabilities and their leadership?
- What are good practices in promoting the participation of persons with disabilities and their leadership at the community, national, regional and global levels?
- What are lessons learned in the context of COVID-19 response and recovery to advance the participation of persons with disabilities and their leadership in steering us back toward the disability-inclusive implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

11:45 to 12:00

Wrap up of Session I and summary of the discussion.

DAY 2 – Wednesday, 4 August 2021

Session 2

Identification of key issues within each subject area

Expert moderator: Ms. Florence Ndagire

10:00 to 11:50

Under the broad theme of “enabling the participation of persons with disabilities and their leadership in society and development,” experts will discuss the pressing areas for action by governments, the international community and other stakeholders and identify 3 key issues of focus within each of the 3 subject areas:

1. Strengthening policy frameworks, institutions and mechanisms;
 2. Mobilizing human, financial and other resources for action toward inclusive, accessible and sustainable societies and development; and
 3. Creating multi-stakeholder networks for building inclusive and accessible communities
- Where is action to promote the leadership of persons with disabilities most – or most immediately – needed? Where is the disability perspective most lacking: law, policies, institutions and decision-making and/or implementing mechanisms?
 - Which groups among persons with disabilities are most often left behind, especially in the experience of addressing COVID-19 response and recovery and Building Back Better?
 - What priority action should be taken for next steps in the short-medium and longer terms, e.g., where there are already existing networks, data, mechanisms for engagement, etc.?
 - What would constitute “Building Back Better” for the future participation and leadership of persons with disabilities in society and development?
 - How do we apply our in-depth learning of the exacerbated inequalities and intersecting forms of discrimination that persons with disabilities have been experiencing during the COVID-19 crisis to elevating the participation and leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and accessible post-COVID-19 world?

11:50-12:00

Wrap up of Session II and summary of the discussion.

DAY 3 – Thursday, 5 August 2021

Session 3

Formulation of practical recommendations

Expert moderator: Ms. Abia Akram

10:00 to 11:50

Within the same 3 subject areas as in Session II, experts are expected to discuss practical recommendations for policies, programmes and plans of action at the local, national, regional and global levels to address the leadership of persons with disabilities in the 3 selected key issues per subject area.

- Are there lessons learned or good practices gleaned from promoting the leadership of persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups in COVID-19 response and recovery so far, or in comparable past crises?
- How can current leaders, in each issue and at each level, better engage and include persons with disabilities and their representative organizations?
- How can prevalent “models” of a leader, especially in a crisis context, become more diverse and inclusive, so as to ensure that the leadership of persons with disabilities be an integral part responding to future crisis situations?

11:50 to 12:00

Wrap up of Session III and summary of the discussion.

DAY 4 – Friday, 6 August 2021

Session 4

Discussion of implementation strategies for practical recommendations

Expert moderator: Mr. Kudakwashe Dube

10:00 to 11:25	Experts engage in an open discussion of implementation strategies for the decided sets of practical recommendations.
11:25 to 11:40	Review of discussions and adoption of the recommendations
11:40 to 11:50	Next steps
11:50 to 12:00	Closing remarks: UN Women and UNDESA

List of expert participants (as of July 30 2021, 5pm)

- **Ms. Maria Njeri**, Global Youth Advocate and Executive Director, *Njeri Maria Foundation*
- **Ms. Jazz Shaban**, *Leonard Cheshire*
- **Ms. Shiela May Aggarao**, Secretary, *Nationwide Organization of Visually-Impaired Empowered Ladies (NOVEL)*, Philippines
- **Mr. Mohammed Ali Loutfy**, *Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities*
- **Ms. Bethany Brown**, *Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities*
- **Ms. Elizabeth Lockwood**, *Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities*
- **Ms. Abia Akram**, *Global Forum on the Leadership of Women and Girls with Disabilities*
- **Ms. Supaanong Panyasirimongkol**, *Global Forum on the Leadership of Women and Girls with Disabilities*
- **Ms. Karina Chupina**, *Individual international expert and consultant in disability inclusion; IFHOH*
- **Mr. Abul Hasnat Monjurul Kabir**, UN Coordination Adviser, Gender Equality and Disability Inclusion, UN System Coordination Division; Global Lead: Intersectionality in WPS, *UN Women*
- **Mr. Frank Folino**, *World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) / International Disability Alliance (IDA)*
- **Ms. Teresa Thomson**, Gender Equality, Intersectionality and Inclusion Advisor, *Paper Cup Consulting*, Australia
- **Ms. Rosario Galarza**, Intersectionalities Officer, *International Disability Alliance (IDA)*
- **Mr. Peter Ochieng**, Youth Fellow, *International Disability Alliance (IDA)*
- **Mr. Kudakwashe Dube**, Chief Executive Officer, *Africa Disability Alliance (ADA)*
- **Ms. Florence Ndagire**, International disability rights consultant, *UN Women regional civil society advisory group of East and Southern Africa*
- **Mr. Mosharraf Hossain**, *Individual Global South expert on disability-inclusive development*
- **Mr. Erich Kofmel**, President, *Autistic Minority International*
- **Mx./Ms. Morénike Giwa Onaiwu**, *Autistic Minority International*, USA

- **Ms. Meenakshi Balsubramanian**, Associate, *Center for Inclusive Policy (CIP)*, India
- **Mr. Yosuke Ishikawa**, Program Director, Social Inclusion Team, Global Issues Department, *The Nippon Foundation*
- **Ms. Zara Todd**, *Reclaiming Our Futures Alliance (ROFA) International Committee*, United Kingdom
- **Ms. Ghadeer Al Hares**, Assistant Secretary-General, *Higher Council for Rights of Persons with Disabilities (HCD)*
- **Ms. Alia Zureikat**, *Higher Council for Rights of Persons with Disabilities (HCD)*