



Civil Society CRPD Forum
Conference Room 4, North Lawn Building
United Nations Headquarters
New York, June 9th 2014 10:00am – 6:00pm

**Co-organised by the International Disability Alliance, Disability Rights Fund,
Human Rights Watch, the International Disability and Development Consortium
and Rehabilitation International**

Draft Programme (as of 9 May 2014)

Introduction

The Civil Society CRPD Forum (CSF) is a full day event that will be held on 9 June 2014, the day prior to the United Nations (UN) Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

The focus of this year's CSF is the post-2015 development agenda, which currently represents one of the most relevant international advocacy goals for the disability community worldwide. Panel discussions will include an overview and explanation of the UN Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, an important step in the process of defining the post-2015 framework.

Promoting the full inclusion of persons with disabilities in the post-2015 process remains a significant challenge. For this reason, it is important that the CSF facilitates a platform for discussion that will take stock of what has been done and lessons-learned from the process thus far, and provide up-to-date information on key processes taking place between June 2014 and the adoption of post-2015 development goals in September 2015.

By early June, the Open Working Group (OWG) will have concluded its eleventh session. Two final sessions will be held in June and July, in which the future Sustainable Development Goals will be refined. At this juncture, it is crucial for the disability community to unify its advocacy work regarding concrete and measurable targets for the relevant goals that are inclusive of persons with disabilities. The CSF sessions will focus on a number of ways in which this can occur, including coordinating national, regional and international advocacy work and building alliances with other vulnerable/marginalised groups such as women, children, youth, aging and indigenous. In this way, the disability community will be able to address potential inequalities in the Sustainable Development Goals and encourage Member States to uphold their responsibility to safeguard human rights for all, eliminate discrimination, diminish inequalities and ensure that no one is left behind.

Draft programme

10:00-10:15 Opening Session

10:15-11:45 Session One

Main conclusions from the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and the post-2015 development process so far; follow-up to the September 2013 High-Level Meeting on Disability and Development

11:45-13:15 Session Two

Aligning national, regional and global conversations: need for information sharing between these levels of advocacy

13:15-14:45 Lunch Break

14:45-16:15 Session Three

Forging partnerships: Building alliances with other vulnerable groups including women, children, youth, aging and indigenous

16:15-17:45 Session Four

Looking ahead: A roadmap for advocacy to ensure inclusion of persons with disabilities in the post-2015 development framework, and concrete asks: targets and indicators inclusive of persons with disabilities

17:45-18:00 Closing Session

Practical Information

During the CSF, CART and International Sign Language will be provided.

It is proposed that each of the sessions will be chaired by one of the Ambassadors of the co-sponsoring countries and one of the co-organising CSOs.

Each session will include a short Q&A session open to CSF participants, including those participating via webcast. Questions can be handed directly to the organisers or submitted via email.

The sessions will each have four to five panelists, speaking for approximately seven minutes each. This will leave 15-20 minutes for questions.