



United Nations

Programme of the 15th Session of the Conference of State Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Easy Read



About the United Nations and the CRPD Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities



UNITED NATIONS

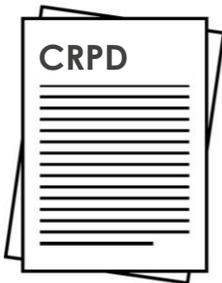
The **United Nations** is an organization made up of governments from 193 countries.

The United Nations is also called the **UN**.



Human Rights

All people should be treated well. The rights to be treated well are called: **Human Rights**.



The United Nations wrote a document to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities are protected.

This document is called: **The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)**.



Many governments from countries around the world signed the CRPD. Governments who sign the convention agree to make sure persons with disabilities know their rights and their rights are being respected.

About COSP15, Conference of State Parties to the CRPD



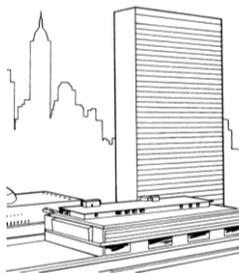
Countries who signed the CRPD need to report to the United Nations.

Countries have to explain to the United Nations how they protect the rights of persons with disabilities.

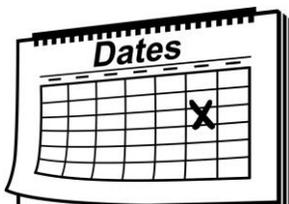


At the **Conference of State Parties**, people representing their countries come together to talk about how they protect the rights of persons with disabilities in their country.

People also call the conference: **COSP**



This Conference happens every year at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. In 2022, it will be the **15th session of COSP (COSP15)**.



It will be held from **14 June 2022**, to **16 June 2022**.

Each day has a morning session and afternoon session.

How to Attend COSP15



Only people who are registered can attend in person. To register you need to belong to an organization that is allowed to attend the meeting.

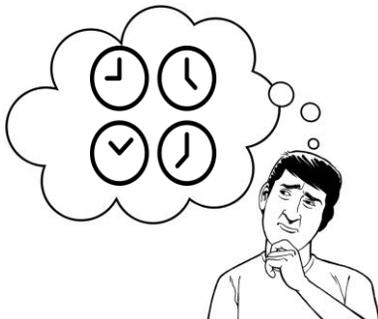


People can also watch the meeting on the internet.

This is the link to the website: media.un.org



If you attend, you do not have to participate in all sessions. You can choose what you are interested in and attend those sessions only.



The time on the agenda is the time in New York City, United States.

When you attend online, you need to find out what the time difference is to your location.

This website can help you find out:

24timezones.com/difference

Day 1 – Morning

Tuesday, 14 June 2022, from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

In the General Assembly Hall



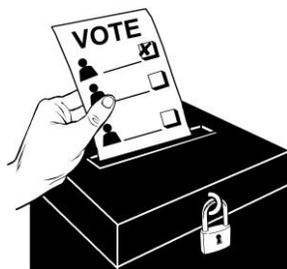
Opening of the Conference

Mr. Jukka Salovarra is the President of the Conference and Permanent State Secretary of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland. He will speak to start the conference.



People at the meeting will agree to the agenda and topics of the conference.

Several people from the United Nations and disability advocates will speak to begin the conference.



New members will be elected to the **Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**.

The Committee is a group of people who make sure countries fulfill the rights of persons with disabilities as written in the CRPD.



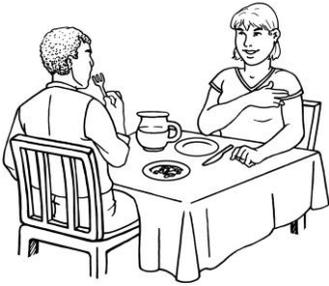
General Debate

People will speak up about what is needed in order to protect the rights of persons with disabilities.

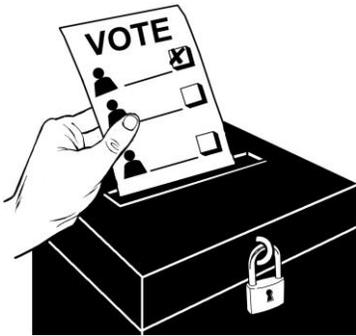
Day 1 - Afternoon

Tuesday, 14 June 2022, from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Inside the General Assembly Hall



People will take a break for lunch from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. The meeting will continue at 3:00 pm.



The meeting will continue with elections of new members to the **Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**.



General Debate

People will continue to speak up about what is important to do next to protect the rights of persons with disabilities.

Day 2 – Morning

Wednesday, 15 June 2022, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Conference Room 4



This meeting is called a Round Table. It is supported by **Iraq**. Two people will lead this meeting:

- Mr. Sarhad Fatah, Deputy Permanent Representative of Iraq
- Mr. Moses Serwadda, a disability advocate



Topic: At this meeting people will talk about new ideas and ways technology can support the rights of persons with disabilities.



People from different countries will speak:

- Ms. Diana Paola Palma Pardo from Colombia
- Mr. Meelis Joost from Estonia
- Mr. Ádám Kósa from Hungary
- Mr. Alexander Bankole Williams from Ghana
- Ms. Esther Mkamori from Kenya



People in the room will be able to ask questions or say what they think about the topic.

At the end of the meeting a person leading the meeting will repeat the most important points.

Day 2 – Afternoon

Wednesday, 15 June 2022, from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Conference Room 4



This meeting is called a Round Table. It is supported by

Guatemala. Two people will lead the meeting:

- Ms. Libna Bonilla, Minister Counsellor of Permanent Mission of Guatemala, Vice President of the Conference
- Then Ms. Itto Outini, a disability advocate



Topic: At this meeting people will talk about how we can ensure persons with disabilities have enough money and are able to work and get paid.



People from different countries will speak:

- Mr. Dan Rashal from Israel
- Mr. Ichiro Kabasawa from Japan
- Mr. Marek Kalbarczyk from Poland
- Ms. Sabina Lobato from Spain
- Mr. Josh Wintersgill from the United Kingdom



People in the room will be able to ask questions or say what they think about the topic.

At the end, a person leading the meeting will repeat the most important points.

Day 3 – Morning

Thursday, 16 June 2022, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Conference Room 4



People from different countries will speak:

- Mr. José Eduardo Curruchich from Guatemala
- Mr. Hiroshi Tamon from Japan
- Mr. Shuaib Chalken from South Africa
- Ms. Pratima Gurung from Nepal
- Ms. Mata'afa Fa'atino Utumapu from Samoa



People in the room will be able to ask questions or say what they think about the topic.



At the end, a person leading the meeting will repeat the most important points

Day 3 – Afternoon

Thursday, 16 June 2022, from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Conference Room 4



At this meeting, people from different offices at the United Nations will speak.

They will talk about how the United Nations protects the rights of persons with disabilities.

People from these UN offices will speak:

- **Ms. Amina J. Mohammed**, Deputy Secretary-General, Executive Office of the Secretary General (EOSG), (video message)
- **Mr. Liu Zhenmin**, Under Secretary General, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
- **Mr. Achim Steiner**, Administrator and USG, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- **Ms. Ilze Brands Kehris**, Assistant Secretary-General, UN Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (UNOHCHR).
- **Ms. Roxana Widmer-Iliescu**, Senior Programme Officer, International Telecommunications Union (ITU)
- **Ms. Beate Andrees**, Special Representative to the UN and Director of the International Labour Organization (ILO) Office in New York
- **Ms. Ola Abu Al Ghaib**, Manager of the Technical Secretariat, UN Partnership on the Rights of persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD)



Then people appointed as disability advocates at the United Nations will speak:

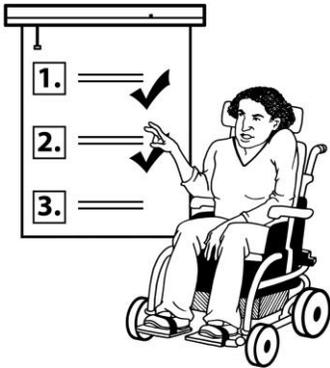
- **Ms. Rosemary Kayess**, Chairperson of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- **Mr. Gerard Quinn**, UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- **Ms. Maria Soledad Cisternas Reyes**, Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Disability and Accessibility
- **Ms Betty Najjemba**, a Civil Society representative (virtually) ¹



Day 3 – Afternoon

Thursday, 16 June 2022, from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Conference Room 4



Decisions by the Conference of State Parties

The decisions by the Conference of State Parties will be announced.

These are decisions on next steps countries should take to protect the rights of persons with disabilities.



Closing of the meeting

To end the conference, final words will be spoken by the Vice Presidents of the Conference from:



Guatemala



Iraq



Poland



Zambia



Finland

Updates on the
Conference of State Parties to the CRPD
will be available at the UN ENABLE website link at:

[COSP15 Website](#)

This Easy Read translation was developed by:



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