



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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IPU SURVEY
IN FOLLOW-UP TO THE PARLIAMENTARY CALL FOR ACTION ON THE RIGHTS
OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITY
(October 2014)

In October 2013, the IPU Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs held a panel discussion on the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. A Call to Act was subsequently issued to all parliaments - <http://www.ipu.org/conf-e/129/uncmt-rpt.pdf> . This Survey is designed to more closely examine the legislative framework in place at the national level for the participation of persons with disability in political and public life.

Name: _____
Function, Parliament and Country: _____
e-mail: _____
Tel.: _____

A. Parliament's work on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability (CRPD)

Is work on the rights of persons with disabilities institutionalized within your Parliament?

- YES, work on the rights of persons with disabilities is carried out by:
 - a focal point, which mainstreams the rights of persons with disabilities in all committees;
 - a Human Rights or Anti-discrimination Committee;
 - a Social Affairs and Labour Committee;
 - a specialized (sub)committee;
 - a cross-party group responsible for liaising with parliamentarians working on the issue;
 - experts for whom seats in parliament are reserved;
 - other, please specify: _____
- NO

If you answered YES, is the focal point/committee/group/experts consulted in all legislation that has an impact on the rights of persons with disabilities?

- YES
- NO

Did your parliament undertake a comprehensive legal review with a view to, or after, ratifying the CRPD, in order to modify or abolish existing laws, regulations, customs and practices that constitute discrimination against persons with disabilities (Article 4.1 (b) of the CRPD)?

- YES, a first review has already been completed.



- YES, the review is currently being conducted by:
 - a special independent statutory body that reports to the Government;
 - an existing body, such as an equality commission, national human rights commission or disability commission; a new parliamentary committee especially established for this purpose;
 - one of the parliament's existing bodies, please indicate which: _____
 - other, please specify: _____
- Discussions are currently under way on the modalities for this review
- NO, no review has been undertaken yet

Please provide details (responsible body, text of the review, new legislation or amendments to existing laws):

When developing or reviewing legislation, do you have mechanisms to guarantee consultation with and involvement of persons with disabilities through their representative organizations, in accordance with Article 4(3) of the CRPD?

- YES, the following mechanism(s) are in place:
 - Related draft legislation must be published and shared with registered organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs)¹, specifying deadlines and ways of participating.
 - Parliament has a participation commission, to which all people and organizations, including persons with disabilities and OPDs, can submit proposals and be informed of the current bills affecting them.
 - Parliament has a mailing list of OPDs and invites them to participate in relevant commission discussions.
 - Other (please specify): _____
- Discussions are currently under way on how to establish such mechanisms.
- NO, there is no systematic mechanism in place.

B. Parliament's political representation, accessibility and communication policy

Does your Parliament have mechanism(s) to promote the political representation of persons with disabilities?

- YES, these mechanisms include:
 - Explicit numerical targets, reserved (percentage of) seats, voluntary or legislative quota for persons with disabilities.
 - Appointment of persons with disabilities as Members of Parliament, by political parties or the President.
 - A high commissioner on disability / disability adviser linked to the executive branch.

¹ Currently there is no internationally agreed definition on what is an organization of persons with disabilities (OPDs). For the purpose of this survey, ODPs are those with over 50 per cent of persons with disabilities in their governing bodies.

- A national council on disability linked to the executive branch.
- Other (please specify): _____

- Possible mechanisms are currently under examination
- NO

Does the Parliament provide and cover the costs of reasonable accommodation² and accessibility measures?

- YES, Parliament provides and covers the costs of reasonable accommodation and accessibility measures, including:
 - Personal assistance
 - Sign language interpretation
 - Documentation in Braille
 - Documentation in Easy language
 - Support for participating in relevant conferences, such as the Conference of State Parties to the CRPD, IPU Meetings, etc.
 - Other (please specify): _____
- YES, Parliament keeps records on the number of parliamentarians who are entitled to reasonable accommodation (please provide the most recent figure): _____
- NO

Do any of the parliamentarians with disabilities currently hold leadership positions (Head of Government, Ministers, Speakers of Parliament, Committee Chair or Deputy Chair)?

- YES (please specify) _____
- NO

Has the Parliament amended its regulations to permit the full participation in parliamentary proceedings of any parliamentarian with disabilities?

- YES (please specify) _____
- NO

If you think your Parliament's mechanism(s) to promote the political representation of persons with disabilities can be considered as a good practice, please provide us with further information (please include details such as when it was established, overseeing body, target group, budget, timeframe, evaluation, etc.):

² According to the CRPD, "Reasonable accommodation" means necessary and appropriate modification and adjustments not imposing a disproportionate or undue burden, where needed in a particular case, to ensure to persons with disabilities the enjoyment or exercise on an equal basis with others of all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Does your Parliament actively promote accessibility of its facilities and procedures, as well as diversity of its staff?

- YES, the Parliament has enacted a comprehensive accessibility policy, which includes criteria for the accessibility assessment of the Parliament's facilities and procedures.
- YES, the Parliament has established a body or focal point in its secretariat, which coordinates the implementation of accessibility policy. Among the results are:
 - Parliament's hearings in plenary and committee rooms are accessible to:
 - Wheelchair users (*for example, through levelled access or the provision of ramps, etc.*)
 - Blind persons and visually impaired persons (*for example, through audio announcements, tactile pavement, etc.*)
 - Deaf persons and persons who are hard of hearing (*for example, through the provision of induction loops, captioning, sign language interpretation, etc.*)
 - Other: _____
 - Parliament's procedures and facilities for parliamentary votes are accessible.
 - Parliament's documents are available in accessible formats, such as Braille, large print, plain language, etc. on request.
 - Parliament's website complies with Level 'A' of the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0.³
- YES, the Parliament has a diversity policy and disability is a positive criterion herein. If yes, how many staff have been identified as having a disability? _____ (indicate number)
- NONE of the above-mentioned issues is covered.

Other: _____

Does your Parliament's communication policy include awareness-raising on the rights of persons with disabilities?

- YES, my Parliament's communication policy includes awareness-raising and the main activities are:
 - General debates on the rights of persons with disabilities.
 - Seminars for parliamentarians and secretariat staff on the rights of persons with disabilities.
 - Broad dissemination of information on legal reforms under the CRPD through media and other channels.
 - Meetings with organizations of persons with disabilities, other civil society organizations, unions, commerce chambers, and other stakeholders to discuss particular aspects of the rights of persons with disabilities under the CRPD.
 - Other (please specify): _____

³ The Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 are available at: (<http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/>)

- My Parliament's communication policy is currently being amended and the inclusion of awareness-raising on the rights of persons with disabilities is being proposed.
- NO, my Parliament's communication policy does not include awareness-raising on the rights of persons with disabilities.

C. Cooperation with the United Nations

Is your Parliament involved in contributing information to, or being consulted in, the preparation of the national report for your country's review by the CRPD Committee?

- YES, my parliament is being consulted for the CRPD national report.
- YES, my parliament is involved in contributing information to the CRPD national report.
- NO, my parliament is neither involved in, nor being consulted on the CRPD national report.

Please return the completed questionnaire by email to postbox@ipu.org or by fax to +41 22 919 41 60

Many thanks