

IDA

INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY ALLIANCE

Member organizations:

Disabled Peoples' International, Inclusion International,
International Federation of Hard of Hearing People,
Rehabilitation International, World Blind Union,
World Federation of the Deaf, World Federation of the Deafblind,
World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry

As Approved 10 February 2008

IDA Terms of Reference

Mission

1. To jointly represent people with disabilities at the international level and uphold the leadership of persons with disabilities in all decisions and projects undertaken by IDA and / or member organizations.
2. To encourage and assist in strengthening IDA member organizations and disabled people's organizations to collaborate and participate actively at the international, regional, national and local levels.
3. To identify and develop inclusive positions and joint strategies on key disability related issues and to inform UN bodies and relevant agencies where there is IDA agreement.
4. To promote involvement and capacity building of people with disabilities and disabled people's organizations in relevant politics at all levels on the world arena.
5. To respect the sovereignty of each organization and respect the expertise of organizations on issues affecting their own constituency of persons with disabilities.

IDA Rules of Association

1. Representation

Each IDA member organization will be represented by two persons, the IDA member organization President / Chair or the President's / Chair's nominee and another senior officer, together with interpreters, captionists and personal assistants, as required. Each member organization of IDA is the sovereign body of the constituency it represents.

No organization can independently state they represent IDA or the collective disability movement, unless all IDA members are consulted and are in agreement, for a particular situation.

Any member organization may be involved in projects and activities independent of IDA, provided that such member organization does not purport to represent IDA or the disability movement as a whole.

IDA meetings are to be held at an agreed location and time, at least twice a year.

2. Membership Applications and Acceptance

A potential member of IDA will provide its rules of association, list of members, letter of agreement to the Terms of Reference, and such additional documents that may be required by IDA, for consideration and approval by IDA members.

3. Decisions

Decisions will be made by consensus of the members as far as possible and any disagreements will be resolved by agreed procedures and subject to the IDA Terms of Reference.

4. Officers

The Chair and Vice Chair will serve for one calendar year from 1 July to 30 June.

The Chair and Vice Chair will move by rotation alphabetically to each international and regional member organization, with each organization having the right to decline or pass acceptance of the Chair and Vice Chair in favour of the next organization.

5. Role of the Chair and Vice Chair

The Chair will have the responsibility of calling meetings and consulting with members through email, telephone and other means as required.

The Vice Chair is the incoming Chair, and can delegate for the Chair as required, and by agreement with the Chair and IDA members.

6. Secretariat

Fiscal affairs will be administered by a Secretariat or one of the member organizations volunteering, and approved by the other members.

General Administration will be carried out by a Secretariat or by such persons as are nominated by the Incoming Chair, and approved by the other members.

7. Projects

Member organizations are encouraged to invite other IDA members to collaborate with each other on projects and activities, particularly in relation to the UN, UN agencies, and other inter-governmental organizations.

Member organizations are encouraged to share information about proposed projects of interest to the disability movement as a whole, and the outcome and results of such projects.

8. Administration of projects or activities

When IDA decides to be involved in projects / activities, a member organization may be designated as being responsible for management of the project on behalf of IDA.

9. Membership criteria

Membership of IDA is open to international organizations meeting the following criteria

1. A global umbrella structure, comprising member organizations from individual countries
2. Persons with disabilities have a majority in the governing body of the organization, including its general assembly
3. Representative in nature, with leadership elected by members

4. Organizational structure constituted through democratic processes

Membership of IDA is also open to regional organizations meeting the following criteria

- a) A regional structure open to membership and inclusive of all regional organisations of international IDA members as well as representative national umbrella organisations of persons with disabilities
- b) Where IDA organizations are not represented in a region, the regional structure commits to support and promote the establishment of regional organisations in collaboration with the international IDA members concerned, and work for the membership and inclusion of those organisations in the regional structure
- c) Persons with disabilities have a majority in the governing body of the organization, including its general assembly
- d) Representative in nature, with leadership elected by members
- e) Organizational structure constituted through democratic processes

Organizations meeting some, but not all, of these criteria may be admitted to membership upon unanimous agreement by existing IDA members with the condition that the new organization works towards meeting all IDA Terms of Reference criteria in a specified and agreed period of time.

10 **Reviews and amendments**

The IDA Terms of Reference shall be reviewed the Chair and designated IDA members, every two years, or as required.

Any IDA member can propose an amendment to the IDA Terms of Reference, by giving a minimum 14 days notice to IDA members of such proposed amendments before discussion and resolution at the next IDA meeting.
