Nothing About Us Without Us -
General Comment on Meaningful Participation

CRPD Articles 4(3) and 33 (3) implementation - realizing meaningful participation of representative organisations of persons with disabilities and civil society at large

Summary:
The motto “Nothing about us without us” was legally framed in two articles relating to implementation and monitoring of the CRPD. The CRPD Committee at its 19th Session in February/March 2018 endorsed a draft General Comment on these provisions. The 11th Conference of State Parties to the CRPD offers the opportunity to engage in interactive dialogue among stakeholders about this draft.

Event objectives:
Present and discuss the draft General Comment No 7 and identify challenges and gaps. Further, to explore unresolved legal issues; to analyze the main causes for shortfalls of implementation of articles 4 (3) and 33 (3), including as crosscutting provisions of the Convention (i.e. the disaggregation of data, the development of indicators, and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development); to identify necessary support systems within State parties, including facilitation of participation processes, accommodation, funding, capacity-building, etc., to ensure accessibility of persons with all kinds of impairments, through their representative organizations, to all facilities and procedures related to public decision-making and monitoring processes; and to learn about experiences of exclusion and discrimination related to the close consultation and active involvement of persons with disabilities, through their representative organizations, in decision-making and monitoring processes at the national level.

Time: Thursday 14 June, 13:15 – 14:45

Venue: Conference Room 12

Additional information: This side event will be held in English and captioning and sign language interpretation will be provided

Organizers:
Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in collaboration with:
Permanent Mission of Germany to the UN
Permanent Mission of Denmark to the UN
Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEP), Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Thailand  
GANHRI General Assembly of National Human Rights Institutes  
IDA International Disability Alliance

Opening remarks:  
H.E. Mr. Christoph Heusgen, Permanent Representative of Germany to the UN (tbc)  
H.E. Mr. Vitavas Srivihok, Permanent Representative of Thailand to the UN  

Moderator: Victoria Lee, OHCHR, Geneva

Panellists:  
- Ms. Theresia Degener, Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities  
- Ms. Paula Tesoriero, Disability Commissioner, New Zealand Human Rights Commission, GANHRI  
- Mr. Yannis Vardakastanis, IDA International Disability Alliance  
- Ms Catalina Devandas, UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities  
- Mr. Monthian Buntan, Member of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Vice Chair of Working Group on Participation  
- Mr. Jürgen Dusel, German Federal Government Commissioner for Matters relating to Persons with Disabilities