Africa Disability Forum

Information on establishment

The first meeting of the 9-member Executive Council of the African Disability Forum (ADF), the membership organization of organizations of persons with disabilities (DPOs) in Africa, took place 14-15 March 2016 in Addis Ababa. During the meeting the Council approved for ADF membership 8 Continental DPOs, 4 Sub-Regional DPO Federations and 34 National DPO Federations, as follows:

Continental DPOs:

1. African Down Syndrome Network (ADSN)
2. African Federation of the DeafBlind (AFDB)
3. African Union of the Deaf (AUD)
4. African Youth with Disabilities Network (AYWDN)
5. Disabled Women in Africa (DIWA)
6. Inclusion Africa
7. Pan African Federation of the Disabled (PAFOD)
8. Pan African Network of People with Psychosocial Disabilities (PANUSP)

Sub-Regional DPO Federations:

1. Eastern Africa Federation of the Disabled (EAFOD)
2. Central Africa Federation of Persons with Disabilities (CAFOD)
3. Southern Africa Federation of the Disabled (SAFOD)
4. West Africa Federation of Persons with Disabilities (WAFOD)

National DPO Federations/Networks:

1. Algeria – Fédération Nationale Algérienne des Personnes Handicapées (FNAPH)
2. Angola – Associacâo Nacional de Deficientes Angolanos (ANDA)
3. Benin – Fédération des Associations des Personnes Handicapées du Bénin (FAPHB)
4. Botswana – Botswana Federation of the Disabled (BOFOD)
5. Burkina Faso – Fédération Burkinabé des Associations des Personnes Handicapées (FEBAH)
6. Burundi – Union des Personnes Handicapées du Burundi
7. Cameroon – Plateforme Inclusive Society for Persons with Disabilities
8. Chad – Union Nationale des Associations des Personnes Handicapées du Tchad
9. Congo Brazzaville – Union Nationale des Associations des Personnes Handicapées du Congo (UNHACO)
10. Equatorial Guinea – ASSONAMI
11. Ethiopia – Federation of Ethiopian National Associations of Persons with Disabilities (FENAPD)
12. Gabon – Fédération Nationale des Associations des Personnes Handicapées du Gabon (FNAPHG)
13. Gambia – Gambia Federation of the Disabled (GFD)
14. Ghana – Ghana Federation of the Disabled (GFD)
15. Guinea – Fédération Guinéen des Associations de/pour les personnes handicapées (FEGUIPAH)
16. Ivory Coast – Confédération des Organisations des Personnes Handicapées de Cote d’Ivoire (COPHCI)
17. Kenya – United Disabled Persons of Kenya (UDPK)
18. Lesotho – Lesotho National Federation of Organizations of the Disabled (LNFOD)
19. Malawi – Federation of Disability Organizations of Malawi (FEDOMA)
20. Mali – Fédération Malienne des Associations de Personnes Handicapées (FEMAPH)
21. Mauritania – Fédération Mauritanienne des Associations Nationales de Personnes Handicapées (FEMANPH)
22. Mauritius – Mauritius Federation of Disabled Persons Organizations
23. Mozambique – Mozambique Federation of the Disabled (FAMOD)
24. Namibia – National Federation of People with Disabilities in Namibia
25. Niger – Fédération Nigérienne des Personnes Handicapées (FNPH)
26. Nigeria – Joint National Association of Persons with Disability (JONAPWD)
27. Rwanda – National Union of Disability Organizations of Rwanda (NUDOR)
28. Sao Tome – Associação dos Deficientes de SaoTomé e Príncipe (ADSTP)
29. Senegal – Fédération Sénégalaise des Associations de Personnes Handicapées (FSAPH)
30. Somalia – Somalia/Somaliland Disability Network (SOSODIN)
31. Tanzania – Tanzania Federation of Disabled Peoples Organizations (SHIVYAWATA)
32. Togo – Fédération Togolaise des Personnes Handicapées (FETAPH)
33. Uganda – National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda (NUDIPU)
34. Zambia – Zambia Federation of the Disabled (ZAFOD)

In addition, the Council approved for ADF Associate membership:

1. Albinism Society of South Africa
2. Consortium of African Diasporas in the United States for the Social and Economic Inclusion of People with Disabilities (CADUS)
3. Ethiopian National Disability Action Network (ENDAN)
4. National Paralympics Committee of Congo Brazzaville
5. Universal Design Africa

The ADF Executive Council Chairperson, Mr. Shuaib Chalklen, welcomed the DPOs and organizations to formal membership in ADF, and urged national DPO federations in other African countries to apply for ADF membership. He also encouraged interested organizations sharing ADF principles and objectives to apply for ADF Associate membership.

Executive Council members were informed that the Board of the International Disability Alliance (IDA) had granted ADF full IDA membership, and the Council approved ADF membership in IDA. The Council also approved the ADF 2016 Work Plan and Budget and thanked IDA, the UN Partnership Fund for Promoting the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) and Disabled Persons Organizations of Denmark (DPOD) for their continuing partnership and support.

Observing the Council meeting were 4 ADF interns presently in Addis Ababa for an orientation to ADF and to African regional institutions. They include:

Ms. Betty Najjemba, Uganda (East Africa), 27, hearing impairment

Ms. Tchotchom Virginie, Cameroun (Central Africa), 28, mobility impairment

Mr. Thabiso Maysenyetsi, Lesotho (Southern Africa), 28, visual impairment

Mr. Sissoko Mamadou, Mali (West Africa), 33, albinism