# **Elections 2018**

# **Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)**

# **Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)**

# **Human Rights Committee (HR Cttee)**

# **Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)**

Questionnaire for candidates

Four UN Treaty Bodies (Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Human Rights Committee (HRCttee) and Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)) will have elections organised in June 2018.

In order to strengthen the treaty bodies, the International Disability Alliance, Child Rights Connect together with its member CRIN, IWRAW Asia-Pacific and the Centre for Civil and Political Rights – as part of TB-Net, the NGO network on the UN Treaty Bodies – seek to promote quality, independence and diversity of treaty body membership through transparent and participators nomination and elections processes.

This questionnaire, which is sent to all nominated candidates and is based on the criteria set forth in the relevant treaties and in the GA Resolution 68/268, will enable all States and other stakeholders to better understand the skills, experiences and motivation of running candidates to CRPD, CEDAW, HRCttee, and CRC committees in advance of the elections.

The written responses to the questionnaires will be made available on the website [www.untbelections.org](http://www.untbelections.org), while the video responses will be shared on a dedicated [YouTube page](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3AE1yyjFFbfT9G9lFKAaTQ). The responses will also be shared with all UN Member States through a side event which will take place in New York during the week of the treaty bodies Chairpersons’ meeting (more information on [TB-Net Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/UNTBNet/)).

*This initiative does not imply that we support or oppose any individual candidates.*

## Questions for all treaty bodies candidates

1. Name:

2. Gender:

3. Nationality:

4. Language skills:

5. Current position/s:

***Current position/s and independence***

6. According to the Addis Ababa Guidelines (Guidelines on the independence and impartiality of members of the human rights treaty bodies), “the independence and impartiality of treaty body members is compromised by the political nature of their affiliation with the executive branch of the State. Members of treaty bodies shall consequently avoid functions or activities which are, or are seen by a reasonable observer to be, incompatible with the obligations and responsibilities of independent experts under the relevant treaties.”

Are you currently holding or have you previously held any position on behalf of, or for, your Government (Executive branch), that may compromise your actual or perceived independence and impartiality?

If so, please give details:

7. The Addis Ababa guidelines say that “real or perceived conflicts of interest and challenges to the requirements of independence and impartiality may be generated by many factors, such as a member’s nationality, place of residence, current and past employment, membership of or affiliation with an organization, or family and social relations (…) or the interest of a State of which a member is a national or resident”.

Please indicate, if any, current or potential conflict of interest that may undermine the independence and impartiality of your work as a member of a UN Treaty Body. In particular, do you have any financial ties to any governmental or private industry related to the subjects addressed by the Committee, which may compromise your actual or perceived independence and impartiality?

If so, please give details:

***Nomination and Elections processes***

8. Was the nomination process at the national level for your candidacy a transparent and participatory process? Was civil society or other relevant stakeholders involved? If yes, please explain how was civil society involved.

9. What do you think, if any, should be improved in the process of the election of Committee members? How civil society should be involved?

***Availability during your mandate if elected***

10. During your possible service as a member of a UN Treaty Body, what other positions or professional activities do you intend to engage in?

11. Will you have time for the required work and commitments as a member of a UN Treaty Body, including outside its official sessions (i.e. unofficial country visits)? How do you plan to dedicate such time?

***Your view on the treaty body system***

12. What are the current and main challenges that you see for the treaty body system in general and what are your ideas for improvement?

Link to your full resume:

**Questions for candidates to the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)**

*Please provide responses that are as precise as possible and in no more than* ***200 words per question****.*

***Your motivation, experience and qualifications to become a member***

1. What do you think are the core values and key functions of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in protecting and promoting their rights?

2.What motivates you to be a member of the CRPD Committee?

3. Do you have lived experience as a person with disability or as a family member or close associate of any person(s) with disabilities?

4. Please indicate areas of your expertise and experience relevant to CRPD and the work of the CRPD Committee. What would be particular values that you can add / bring as a member of the Committee? In which areas of the CRPD do you feel you have the strongest understanding or expertise? Please describe. **(video option)**

5. Have you had the opportunity to use or apply the CRPD and/or other human rights instruments in your work? Please describe your experience and direct us to any documents that evidence this application.

6. Have you advocated for the adoption and/or implementation of the CRPD or other human rights instruments in your work? Please describe your experience, referring in particular to activities to publicise, defend or strengthen the CRPD implementation at the national, regional or international level.

***Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: challenges ahead***

7. What do you think are the major issues and challenges in the implementation of the CRPD and its Optional Protocol, globally as well as in your country/region? **(video option)**

8. What do you think are the areas where the Committee needs to strengthen its capacity and/or improve its work to advance implementation of the CRPD? What would you say is the biggest challenge the CRPD Committee faces currently?

9. What do you think are the thematic issues or areas of the rights of persons with disabilities, where the Committee should pay more attention and/or provide more guidance e.g. through General Comments?

10. How do you envision the role of the CRPD Committee with respect to the Sustainable Development Goals?

***Interaction with other key stake-holders***

11. Who are the relevant stakeholders, apart from State parties, with whom you think the Committee needs to strengthen its engagement e.g. civil society, NHRIs, UN agencies, members of the Parliament, judicial actors? And how?

12.NGOs, particularly organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), had an important participatory role in the negotiations of the CRPD.

a) What is your experience working within or with the disability rights movement?

b) How do you envision the interaction of civil society with the Committee?

c) How do you think the Committee could work more effectively with civil society?