1. What progress to achieving the aims of SDG 10 have you seen or contributed to (please describe)? \*

With explicit references to persons with disabilities in the 2030 Agenda, including in SDG 10, doors have opened for equal participation of persons with disabilities and has enabled persons with disabilities to start addressing the institutional, physical, communication, legal, and attitudinal barriers that have inhibited their full participation within human rights and development dialogues. An example of this is the increased representation and leadership role of persons with disabilities in the global follow up and review of the SDGs in the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) and related processes. For example the Synthesis Report on the 2017 Voluntary National Reviews prepared by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs includes 29 explicit references to persons with disabilities and also dedicates a chapter to persons with disabilities. This is a significant achievement, as while organizations of persons with disabilities had a variety of experiences at national and regional levels, at the global level, persons with disabilities were prominently highlighted and recognized during the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs). There is also an increased understanding and willingness for persons with disabilities and their representative organizations to engage in the implementation, monitoring, and follow-up processes. This growing recognition stems from a collective achievement of the disability movement, including leaders and members of organizations of persons with disabilities and advocates of persons of disabilities.

2.What impediments do you experience in working toward achieving SDG 10 or any of its targets? \*

All persons with disabilities, and particularly those from underrepresented groups, must have equal opportunities to contribute to sustainable development if the SDGs are going to be realized. Yet, in many places, there is an increasing gap between persons with and without disabilities in which the socio-economic status of persons with disabilities remains stationary, while that of persons without disabilities advances. This is because persons with disabilities, particularly women with disabilities, experience higher rates of unemployment, low levels of education, economic inactivity and a lack of social protection in comparison to their peers without disabilities. Women and girls with disabilities also face barriers with an increased risk of violence and abuse, lack of access to justice, minimal participation in political and public life, and prejudice and discriminatory attitudes in sexual health, reproductive rights and in the right to family life.

3.Through your direct experience, what strategic areas of SDG 10 require political guidance, intervention, cooperation, or appropriate measures in order to be achieved? What do you see as being needed? \*

Particular areas that need to be strengthened to achieve equality for persons with disabilities include the following:

1. Provide equal access to education to children and youth with disabilities, including reasonable accommodations, in line with Article 24 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and SDG 4. This can help closing the poverty gap between persons with and without disabilities. When children and youth with disabilities experience meaningful inclusion at school, they are more likely to gain employment and have better health outcomes.
2. Recognize the right of persons with disabilities to work on an equal basis with others in line with Article 27 of the CRPD and SDG 8. Alongside the importance of ensuring persons with disabilities attain their right to work, there are economic and business reasons for inclusion. These include the benefits to economies as a whole, businesses that adopt diverse and inclusive practices and for persons with disabilities themselves and their quality of life.
3. Invest in and ensure universal access to quality health care for persons with disabilities that use a multidisciplinary, holistic approach in order to increase productivity and the wealth of a household in line with Articles 10, 11, 23, 25, and 32 of the CRPD.
4. What new or unnoticed policy messages should be heard at the 2019 HLPF? \*

Collectively, persons with disabilities are one of the most resource poor groups in the world, and often face other marginalization due to intersecting factors such as their gender, sexuality, ethnicity, religious adherence, level of education, and geographical location. Hence, they are globally among the most at risk people to the impacts of accelerating climate change. Specific recommendations to combat this include:

1. Integrate human rights obligations into climate-related policies and programmes so that the principles of non-discrimination and equal opportunity apply, meaning there is accountability in how state actors and non-state actors implement measures in response to changing environments, which can be attributed to climate change.
2. Ensure Article 3 of the CRPD is read with Articles 11 and 32 to those who are responsible for funding and implementing programmes that address both the risk of natural disasters and the response (upon occurrence of natural disaster) in a way that is non-discriminatory of all persons with disabilities.
3. Disability inclusion must be systematically taken up across all phases of the disaster management cycle and provision made for disability awareness and inclusion training of personnel, involving local organizations of persons with disabilities and disability NGOs (see CRPD Articles 11 and 32).
4. Include persons with disabilities meaningfully into raising awareness and providing technical capacity within communities about climate change, and the absolute necessity to protect local environments, within the framework of the Paris Agreement. This awareness raising must be provided in an accessible way, including the provision of sign language interpreters or in the frame of bilingual education for deaf children.
5. Ensure inclusion of persons with disabilities into the development and outcomes of evolving people-centered approaches, which integrate Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) as part of longer-term sustainable, resilient community development. Such approaches seek to address the root causes of poverty and injustice, while dealing with the increasing risks and vulnerability climate change is creating.
6. As part of climate programs, ensure persons with disabilities meaningfully contribute to and benefit from activities designed to strengthen security in: food and nutrition; water, sanitation & hygiene (WASH); energy (cooking, lighting, heating, cooling); resilient, accessible shelter and other infrastructure; livelihoods and human security.
7. Ensure climate resilience is part of a broad socio-economic transformation that enables persons with disabilities to become empowered to play their full role as citizens, without the multiple burdens of poverty, poor accessibility and other issues.
8. Advocate to local governments and the international community for the ongoing rights of persons with disabilities and all community members, to access quality health, education and other services, in the face of changing environments due to climate change.
9. Advocate that all expenditure of Green Climate Funds is fully inclusive of persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups.
10. Collect and use disaggregated data by disability to inform climate-related policymaking.

5. What processes work best for coordinating efforts, building partnerships, and supporting those trying to achieve SDG 10? \*

Multi-stakeholder partnerships are critically important for advancing the SDGs as stakeholders represent a wide range of groups, including civil society, academia, local authorities, the private sector, philanthropic organizations and other groups that bring new and important perspectives to the global Agenda. Building on the 2030 Agenda’s principle of leave no one behind, multi-stakeholder partnerships can ensure that different communities from all over the world have representation at the global level and consequently the challenges faced by all people are accounted for and met in the implementation of the SDGs.

Additionally,multi-stakeholder partnerships can provide a valuable space for dialogue among government officials, policy makers, UN entities and Major Groups and other stakeholders showcasing the work of multi-stakeholder partnerships in supporting the achievement of the SDGs, by focusing efforts where the challenges are greatest, and ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind.

Multi-stakeholder partnerships in support of SDG implementation can track the progress of these implementation efforts to foster exchanges of best practices and mutual learning. Stakeholders can learn about various initiatives, implementation methodologies, arrangements for capacity-building and technology transfer, coordination mechanisms and governance structures, resources and other valuable information.

Multi-stakeholder partnerships promote and encourage the spirit of the Agenda by fostering open, transparent, effective, participatory and inclusive processes and dialogue that promote accountability to citizens, support effective international cooperation and truly leave no one behind to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

1. How can we do better in reducing inequality within and among countries and change courses that are not on track in terms of "empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”? Share either challenges you see to achieving this and/or processes that are effective in achieving empowerment, inclusiveness and equality, particularly in reaching those furthest behind. \*

Recommendations:

1. The CRPD as a whole, must also be considered generally applicable to the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs in a cross-cutting manner, more importantly to achieve Goal 10 the following CRPD Articles must be upheld: 4, 5, 10, 16, 18, 27, 28.
2. Build partnerships, develop collaborations between academic centers, government, policymakers, and stakeholders, to ensure the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities into social, economic, and political aspects of society.
3. Collect, analyze and disseminate disaggregated data and research information in order to identify inequalities and discriminatory practices, and analyze the effectiveness of measures promoting equality.
4. Donors should use the OECD-DAC policy marker on the inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities to record aid activities targeting and mainstreaming the inclusion of persons with disabilities.
5. Allocate cross-ministry budgeting for the inclusion of persons with disabilities that will ensure the inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities on an equal basis in society by implementation the CRPD and 2030 Agenda.
6. Align national legislation and policies with CRPD provisions on equality and non-discrimination, including the provision that the denial of reasonable accommodation constitutes disability-based discrimination. Understand intersecting forms of discrimination when designing and planning policies and programs to ensure that inequality is addressed, and barriers are removed, not further entrenched.
7. Urgently identify and repeal all discriminatory laws and take measures to eliminate discriminatory practices. This includes, but is not limited to: removal of legal capacity authorized by law against persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities, segregated forms of education of pupils with disabilities, forced treatment and placement of persons with psychosocial disabilities, all forms of institutionalization, and so forth.
8. In order to reach the furthest behind first and thus realize the principles of the 2030 Agenda, Member States should identify areas or subgroups of persons with disabilities, including those who face intersectional discrimination and who are underrepresented, and undertake and adopt additional measures to accelerate or achieve their inclusion and equality with others.

7. Add any additional thoughts, comments, observations here