

## Terms of Reference

### Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities for Sustainable Development: Thematic Group on Disaster Risk Reduction

#### I. Background

1. Established under the scope of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (“Sendai Framework”) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2015. The Sendai Framework provides a comprehensive approach to disaster risk reduction by taking a proactive shift from managing disasters to managing risk and promoting the implementation of policies that reduce existing risk, prevent the creation of new risk and build resilience<sup>1</sup>.

2. The Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities for Sustainable Development (“Stakeholder Group”) was established in 2017 under the UN Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Coordination Mechanism. The Stakeholder Group is the focal point for the UN Secretariat, Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and UNGA with regard to the full inclusion and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in the national and global monitoring and implementation of the 2030 Agenda<sup>2</sup>, in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD)<sup>3</sup>.

#### II. Objectives of the Thematic Group on Disaster Risk Reduction

3. Under the auspices of the Stakeholder Group, the Thematic Group on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) will contribute to the monitoring and implementation of the Sendai Framework to ensure the full inclusion and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations, in line with the UN CRPD.

4. The Thematic Group on DRR will participate in the UNISDR Stakeholder Advisory Group to lead the position on behalf of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations and ensure their full inclusion and meaningful participation in the promotion, implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework, in line with the UN CRPD.

#### III. Principles

5. The Thematic Group on DRR will adhere to the principles and Articles contained in the UN CRPD, with particular consideration of Article 11 “Situations of Risk and Humanitarian Emergencies”, which obliges States Parties to take, in accordance with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, “all necessary measures to ensure the protection and safety of persons with disabilities in situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and the occurrence of natural disasters”.

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<sup>1</sup> UNISDR Stakeholder Advisory Group paper (p2)

<sup>2</sup> SGPWD Terms of Reference

<sup>3</sup> United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities:  
<http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/convention/convoptprot-e.pdf>

6. The Thematic Group on DRR will respect the guiding values and principles of the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities, defined in the Stakeholder Group Terms of Reference (Annex 1).

7. The Thematic Group on DRR will ensure the full and meaningful participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in all aspects of its work, in line with UN CRPD Article 4.3.

#### **IV. Membership**

The Thematic Group on DRR is a coordination mechanism open to all persons with disabilities, organizations of persons with disabilities, non-governmental, humanitarian and other organizations working on the rights of persons with disabilities and non-governmental donors and experts working in this space.

All members must register through the SGPWD-Thematic Group on DRR registration form<sup>4</sup>.

#### **V. Methods of Work**

##### Structure

The Thematic Group on DRR will nominate one global focal point and one alternate for a period of two years through an open and transparent nomination and voting system.

In addition, the Thematic Group on DRR will nominate one focal point and one alternate from each of the following regions for a period of two years, through an open and transparent nomination and voting system: Africa, Americas, Arab States, Asia, Europe, Pacific.

The global focal point and alternate will be responsible for coordinating the Thematic Group on DRR to provide inputs on the promotion, implementation and monitoring—including of voluntary stakeholder commitments—on the Sendai Framework, through the following activities, as required:

- a) Coordinating with the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities focal point to ensure collaboration and joint messaging between the SGPWD and the Thematic Group on DRR
- b) Representing the Thematic Group on DRR in the UNISDR Stakeholder Advisory Group and providing information received from UNISDR and other relevant stakeholders to the Thematic Group on DRR
- c) Supporting the participation and engagement of persons with disabilities in the lead up to and during the Global Platform for DRR, held biannually, as well as other global events
- d) Coordinating and disseminating key messaging and establishing common positions in line with the CRPD

The regional focal points and alternates will be responsible for the following, as required:

- a) Supporting the participation and engagement of persons with disabilities in the lead up to and during relevant Regional Platforms for DRR and other regional DRR-related meetings
- b) Informing the Thematic Group on DRR of regional developments and coordinating messaging and information

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<sup>4</sup> Access via: <https://goo.gl/forms/zxalWSOsg0GKzeCz2>

- c) Coordinating and disseminating key messaging and establishing common positions in line with the CRPD

#### Communication and Coordination

The primary method of communication will be through the online Google Groups forum, via the email address [tg-drr@googlegroups.com](mailto:tg-drr@googlegroups.com). All registered members of the Thematic Group on DRR will have access to this group.

All information pertaining to and developed by the Thematic Group on DRR will be hosted on the International Disability Alliance website: <http://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/sgpwd-drr>.

To facilitate coordination and communication amongst members, global and regional meetings may be held on an ad hoc basis. Meetings shall be proposed by any member via the Google Groups forum, and their organization supported by the global and/or regional focal points as required. Ad hoc working groups may be established to support the work and coordination of the Thematic Group.

A membership list will be available for members of the Thematic Group to support coordination. All documents developed by the Thematic Group on DRR will be provided in accessible electronic formats. Reasonable accommodation will be provided for in person and online meetings as required.