**The 49th** [**Session of the UN Statistical Commission**](https://owa.cbm.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=5wDIOtScr0zVd3-pZ9XAjhYX9RzTrPGErY593st3zPEZefbAhYrVCA..&URL=https%3a%2f%2funstats.un.org%2funsd%2fstatcom%2f48th-session%2f)

**Report by International Disability Alliance**

The session took place on 6 to 9 March at the UN Headquarters in New York. There were two important agenda items:

1. Discussions on the SDGs global indicator framework (general debate not disability specific):

Member States remain concerned about the large numbers of indicators (232) and as such suggest to cut down the numbers of indicators and to make them *measurable.*  [Currently only 1 disability inclusive indicator out of 11 is identified as measurable]. Member States continue to struggle with the very board range of disaggregation criteria outlined in target 17.18 (including disability) therefore suggestion was made to take a more realistic approach and prioritize certain feasible characteristic for disaggregation.

1. Discussions over the work of the Washington Group and disability statistics:

Initial presentation was given by the Washington Group focusing on how the short set of questions can be used to disaggregate SDGs indicators by disability. This was followed by interventions from twenty-two Member States and WHO. Finland, Australia, Italy were the only States that openly supported the WG SS for SDG data disaggregation, this is quite a decrease from last year. The remaining intervening Member States pushed for alternate methodologies and for national options to fit needs. In addition there was a strong request for coordination to be undertaken by UN Statistical Division. Almost all Member States endorsed the creation of a group of experts for the revision of the Guidelines and Principles for the Development of Disability Statistics (in E/CN.3/2018/17).