Terms of Reference - Global Disability Summit Civil Society Reference Group

# Background

The Department for International Development and the International Disability Alliance will co-host a Global Disability Summit in July 2018. The Global Disability Summit is an opportunity to build on the current momentum on disability inclusive development. It provides a platform to secure financial and political commitments by national governments, bilateral and multilateral donors, the private sector and civil society organisations.

A successful summit can accelerate the commitments made in policy frameworks such as the CRPD and Agenda 2030, and ultimately deliver real and lasting change in the lives of people with disabilities in low and middle-income countries.

# Role of the civil society reference group

* Ensure collaboration and co-ordination amongst the different civil society actors, including organisations of persons with disabilities (DPOs) with an interest in the summit;
* Ensure the leadership of DPOs and visibility during the Summit, in line with the UN CRPD
* Provide DFID with a co-ordinated way of accessing a diverse range of expertise, perspectives and knowledge from across civil society;
* Provide strategic input and direction during the planning of the summit, for example supporting the development of commitments and feeding into the accountability mechanisms;
* Provide a link to organisations and networks based in low and middle income countries to ensure that the summit reflects the realities and voice of people with disabilities living in low and middle income countries;
* Share information amongst the different networks and organisations involved in the summit to ensure effective and co-ordinated inputs;
* Support the planning, co-ordination and delivery the Civil Society Forum which will take place the day before the main summit;
* After the summit, in line with the accountability mechanism designed for the summit, play a role as appropriate in the effective follow up from the summit and holding those who have made commitments to account.

# Membership

The current membership of the civil society reference group is:

* **The International Disability Alliance** (IDA) – represented by two members of the secretariat and one member organisation;
* **The Bond Disability and Development Group** (DDG) – represented by the three co-chairs of the group. The DDG will also co-ordinate input from other UK based networks working on international development who are not as directly involved but are interested in the Summit, such as the Global Campaign on Education UK;
* **The International Disability and Development Consortium** (IDDC) – represented by the chair of the consortium;
* **Disability Rights UK** – represented by the CEO and Deputy CEO;
* **Disability Rights Fund** – represented by Founding Executive Director.

# Methods of working

* Initially the group will hold monthly calls, chaired by the International Disability Alliance or another member if requested. Actions agreed at the meeting will be taken by the chair and circulated, by email, no later than 5 days after the meeting. The frequency of calls will increase to every other week, if needed, closer to the summit. The calls are an opportunity to share information and ensure co-ordinated inputs into the summit;
* Members of the Civil Society Reference Group may also be providing inputs to the summit bilaterally and through other mechanisms, but should aim to keep the group updated where appropriate;
* The establishment of working groups, which could draw in others from civil society, may be necessary as the planning of the summit evolves, including facilitation of the Civil Society Forum a day before the Summit.