**UK GLOBAL DISABILITY SUMMIT**

**Update from Civil Society**

**Monday 14 May 2018**

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# Special Note on Invitations

* There was a technical glitch last week and DFID sent invitations to a number of organizations regarding the Summit. Please disregard the invitations if you are a DPO and were nominated through the IDA led process.
* Official communications regarding invitations for DPOs will only be sent out by IDA in the next couple weeks.
* If you were nominated for the GDS and do not receive an email from IDA by 25 May 2018, please email [Summit@ida-secretariat.org](mailto:Summit@ida-secretariat.org) for further support.

# Updates from the Civil Society Reference Group (CSRG)

* For the full description of the roles, membership and methods of working for the CSRG, [Download the Terms of Reference to the Civil Society Reference Group](http://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/sites/default/files/tor_gds_civil_society_reference_group.docx)
* Since early March the CRSG has formed two working groups. The first focused on defining and carrying out the DPO nomination and selection process. The review process is nearly finalised and invitations should be going out this week. The second is focused on the Civil Society Forum and the group has begun to put together the programme.

## Civil Society Forum

* As noted in the last update, the Civil Society Forum will take place 23 July, a day prior to the Summit, in the same venue as the Summit. Everyone invited to the Summit will also be invited to the Forum. If space is available, additional DPO representatives from the UK and surrounding countries that will not need a visa will be invited to attend. That will become clearer in early to mid-June. The aim is to provide a platform for civil society to come together and agree on key messages to bring to the Summit. The Forum is a pre-Summit preparation meeting.
* The Working Group responsible for drafting the Forum programme plans to have a version to share by the end of May.
* If you are part of a national coordination mechanism that would like to review and provide inputs into the Forum programme, please email [Summit@ida-secretariat.org](mailto:Summit@ida-secretariat.org).

## Co-moderators of the main Summit

* DFID asked civil society to provide proposals for co-moderators for the main summit
* IDA will provide more information on moderators once a decision is made.

# National Consultations towards Commitments

* DFID country teams have been asked to organise national coordination mechanisms ahead of the Summit in 13 countries (see list under the first section of this update). See the first IDA update on 16 April for more background information on these mechanisms. Below are updates from countries currently available. If you are engaged with the national coordination mechanism in another country for the Summit and would be willing to provide us with an update, please email [Summit@ida-secretariat.org](mailto:Summit@ida-secretariat.org). If you are not already involved and would like to get involved, try to find a local contact. Since these activities are led at the country level, we do not have a full overview of when they are happening or who is leading, however if you are in one of the priority countries and are not able to find a contact, please email [summit@ida-secretariat.org](mailto:summit@ida-secretariat.org) and we will do our best to get a contact person for you.
* Country Updates:
  + Bangladesh: There is a DPO consultation being planned, but it is still early and we do not have any firm details on this yet
  + Ghana: There have been a number of meetings with DFID and the Government, with GFD co-ordinating; the next meeting (this week or next week) should start to identify draft commitments
  + Kenya: There was a disability rights caucus meeting on 8 May, with a range of potential commitments identified - these will be brought to the mini-Summit being hosted by the Government on 24 May
  + Malawi: The Government are looking to organise a National Task Force to agree on a commitment (and the process for agreement) - this should be decided soon to give enough time for decisions
  + Nigeria: A range of consultative meetings will be taking place soon, especially amongst the disability rights community – the aim is for a draft commitment to be agreed by the end of June
  + Pakistan: We have heard the government will be running a consultation amongst the disability rights community and will share further information as it becomes available
  + Uganda: The National Technical Working Group is reviewing inputs from a wide range of stakeholders, including DPOs, in advance of a wider-ranging consultation to be held in June (more details when we have them)
  + Zambia: There will be a consultation taking place in May with DPOs, which will feed into a multi-stakeholder meeting with the Government to push for a strong commitment (taking place soon, but no date agreed)
* If you are engaged with GDS activities at the national level in another country not already listed above and have information to share, please email [Summit@ida-secretariat.org](mailto:Summit@ida-secretariat.org) and we will add it to the next update.

# Updates from the Thematic Working Groups

## Stigma and Discrimination

The 3rd call will be this Friday May 18th where the Working Group will start suggesting potential panelists and speakers who have expertise in the 4 main areas pertaining to this thematic area (Political and Institutional will; Evidence and Inclusive Data; Leadership, representation and empowerment; and Stereotypes, attitudes and behaviours).  The group will also be consolidating the concrete outcomes that they expect to be implemented from different actors at the Summit, including national governments, donors and multilateral agencies, private sector and civil society (NGOs).

## Inclusive Education Working Group

The Inclusive Education Working Group met on May 3. The Draft Statement of Action was reviewed and members were asked to send comments to Nafisa Baboo by May 11. A form is being developed to enable civil society groups to make pledges at the Summit. DFID is considering different tools which could be used to monitor pledges to ensure accountability, both by governments and by civil society. UNICEF and UNESCO are planning a Technical Round Table on Inclusive Education Planning to be held in Paris July 18-20 which would allow people travelling to the Summit to travel to Paris at low cost. Finally, the Global Education Monitoring Report plans to hold a consultation in conjunction with the Summit since the next report will be on inclusion.

Technology and Innovation

## Nothing new to report since the last update.

## Routes to Economic Empowerment

Nothing new to report since the last update. The next meeting of this group is Wednesday, 16 May.

## Humanitarian Action (cross-cutting)

The second meeting of the humanitarian network took place on 10 May, at which a briefing was given by a smaller working group on the work done over the past month.  This involved a draft menu of commitments for different groups of stakeholders by Summit theme and beyond where applicable.  DFID is now reaching out bilaterally to all stakeholders to discuss what firm commitments their representatives can make at the Summit, and to pin down attendance.  The working group also submitted many great concepts for spotlight sessions.  Marc and Claire reviewed the proposals, pitched two concepts to the network, and in the week of 14 May will begin discussions with organisations to flesh out the detail of the spotlight sessions.  There will be one more network meeting in June, mostly aimed at reviewing the collected commitments that will be brought to the day.

# Coming up

* Next meeting of the Economic Empowerment working group: 16 May 2018
* Next meeting of the GDS Civil Society Reference Group - Working Group on the Civil Society Forum will have a call 16 May 2018
* The Government of Kenya with support from the National Council of Persons with Disabilities is organizing a Mini-Summit 24 May 2018
* Civil Society Reference Group will share a concept note and proposed agenda for the Civil Society Forum that will take place on 23 July as soon as it’s available.

# For more information

The persons listed below may be contacted for general information on the thematic Working Groups only:

* Stigma and Discrimination: IDA, Megan Smith, [msmith@ida-secretariat.org](mailto:msmith@ida-secretariat.org)
* Inclusive Education: IDA, Diane Richler, [dianer@cacl.ca](mailto:dianer@cacl.ca)
* Routes to Economic Empowerment: Philip Vernon, [P-Vernon@dfid.gov.uk](mailto:P-Vernon@dfid.gov.uk) and Mosharraf Hossain, [Mosharraf.Hossain@add.org.uk](mailto:Mosharraf.Hossain@add.org.uk)
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**For general information, please contact:**

* Email [summit@ida-secretariat.org](mailto:summit@ida-secretariat.org)
* Updates will be posted on: <http://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/summit>