

Disability Rights Bulletin

January 2009

A Publication of the International Disability Alliance

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Global News

• IDA Seminar on shadow reporting (January 7 and 8, 2010)

The seminar, entitled "Capacity building of NGOs of Persons with Disabilities to Make Effective Use of the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mechanisms," was held in the Palais des Nations in Geneva. The event was attended by more than one hundred participants from the disability rights and mainstream human rights community, from more than thirty countries, and focused on a variety of issues, including interaction with the UN treaty body system, development of parallel reports, participation in the Universal Periodic Review and how to interact with the UN Special Procedures, as well as monitoring the implementation of the CRPD at national level. Speakers included, among others, representatives from the OHCHR, members of treaty body committees, States parties to the CRPD and other treaty bodies, and international disability rights and human rights experts.

• CRPD Signatures Reach 144

The signature in December 2009 by Albania has increased to 144 the number of signatures to the CRPD, while the Optional Protocol has 87 signatures. The number of ratifications to the CRPD is 76, while the Optional Protocol has 48 ratifications.

Treaty Bodies

The 45th session of the CEDAW Committee will consider, between January 18 and February 5 2010, reports from Botswana, Egypt, Malawi, Netherlands, Panama, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates and Uzbekistan. On the basis of the references to women with disabilities to be found in state reports, the list of issues and written replies of this session, IDA has prepared a document with suggested recommendations for the Concluding Observations that will be adopted by the Committee during its 45th session. [Click here](#) for this document.

The CEDAW Pre-Sessional Working Group for the 47th session

will take place from February 8 – 12, 2010. The working Group will consider reports from Bahamas, Burkina Faso, Czech Republic, Malta, Tunisia and Uganda. IDA has prepared another document with suggested questions for the list of issues, which could be made by the Committee to the States under review. [Click here](#) to see this document.

The CERD Committee, in its 76th Session

from February 15 to March 12, 2010, will consider reports from Argentina, Cambodia, Cameroon, Guatemala, Iceland, Japan, Monaco, Netherlands, Panama, Slovakia and Kazakhstan.

[Click here](#) for the references to persons with disabilities in state reports, the list of issues and written replies.

UPR Working Group

The UPR Working Group will hold its 7th session from February 8 – 19, 2010. In this session, the following countries will be reviewed: Qatar, Nicaragua, Italy, El Salvador, Gambia, Bolivia, Fiji, San Marino, Kazakhstan, Angola, Iran, Madagascar, Iraq, Slovenia, Egypt and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

OHCHR

For an analysis of the references to persons with disabilities in the reports that will be taken into account by the UPR Working Group in this session (National reports, UN information and Stakeholders information), please [click here](#).

On the basis of this analysis, IDA will prepare a document with suggested recommendations which could be made by States.

Special Procedures

The UN Independent Experts on human rights and extreme poverty, Ms. Magdalena Sepúlveda, and on water and sanitation, Ms. Catarina de Albuquerque, undertook a joint visit to Bangladesh (December 3 – 10, 2009). During this visit they held meetings with some national NGOs of persons with disabilities.

The Independent Experts included several references to persons with disabilities in their joint statement, issued at the end of the visit on December 10th.

To access this statement, please click the links here: [Word version](#) or [PDF version](#).

Recently, the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has published a thematic study on the structure and role of national mechanisms in the implementation and monitoring of the CRPD. For the preparation of this study, the OHCHR took into account submissions by States, national human rights institutions, civil society and other stakeholders. It also organized a one-day open-ended consultation on the theme of the study on October 26, 2009, in Geneva.

This thematic study has been elaborated on, following a request of the Human Rights Council via resolution 10/7 of March 2009. In this resolution, the Human Rights Council also decided that the next interactive debate on the rights of persons with disabilities would be held at its thirteenth session (March 1 – 26, 2010) and that it would focus on the structure and role of national mechanisms for the implementation and monitoring of the CRPD. This interactive debate will be held on March 5, 2010.

To access this study, please click the links here: [Word version](#) or [PDF version](#).

Upcoming Meetings

The 3rd session of the CRPD Committee will take place from February 22 – 26, 2010, in Geneva. Main issues on the agenda will be the adoption of the Rules of Procedure and Working Methods.

About the IDA Disability Rights Bulletin

This bulletin is intended for experts advocating for the rights of persons with disabilities, in particular within the Geneva-based human rights framework. It is prepared by the IDA CRPD Forum, which also provides support to the Group of States Friends of the CRPD.

For more information about IDA, its CRPD Forum and its member organisations, please visit:
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