

Guidance on formulating and submitting commitments

Our shared aim. To be as ambitious as possible in making the very best, far-reaching, achievable commitments that change the lives of people with disabilities for the better.

What makes a good commitment.

Be as specific as possible. Include specific dates and goals for delivery to ensure that real change for persons with disabilities is achieved. The aim of the Summit is to implement change and make a lasting difference.

Aim high. This agenda has been long neglected and now is the time for change. Please join us in setting out ambitious commitments which demonstrate your leadership.

Balance national and sector priorities. Consider current national and sectoral priorities to address this issue that can be adopted by central sectors (such as education, finance, and social protection), but also consider emerging priorities and ambitious targets.

Link to global initiatives. Align commitments to the framework and principles enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Use the targets in the Global Goals as an opportunity to define priorities.

Align with regional processes. Look to regional processes to complement the existing commitments your country or organisation has made.

How to enter your commitments.

1. Write your commitments under each theme in turn. These follow the main themes of the Summit.
 - Please do not enter a commitment more than once. If a commitment corresponds to two themes, please choose the most relevant theme.
 - There is space to enter commitments unrelated to these themes under the 'Other' section.
2. Select the sub-category that your commitment relates to from the drop-down list (e.g. legislation).
 - Sub-categories vary for each theme. Guidance on what each sub-category refers to is included below.
 - Some categories will only be appropriate for a particular organisation (e.g. government, donor etc.). Please use as appropriate.
3. Use the free text box to write the exact wording for your commitments under each theme (75 words max).
 - Please write it in English as concisely as possible and as you would like it to be published.
 - If you have developed the commitment in partnership with others, such as Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (DPOs), please include the names of those organisations.
4. Write a short overview of your implementation plan and/or timeframe for delivery (75 words max).
5. Copy and paste the commitment box if you have more commitments under that theme.
6. Repeat this process for each theme. If you do not have any commitments under a theme, please delete as appropriate.

Summit and Commitment Themes. There are four key themes and two cross-cutting themes for the Summit where we need to make the greatest difference and see change now. Data collection and disaggregation is also a crucial component we want to see commitments for. Commitments are not limited to these themes. Click on the links for suggestions on what potential [government](#), [donor or multilateral](#) commitments could look like.

A. Tackling stigma and discrimination

Why. So that all individuals are able to enjoy the same dignity and respect.

How. By strengthening anti-discrimination laws, policies and strategies; enable the full participation and leadership of people with disabilities in all aspects of life; and shift the underlying harmful attitudes, behaviours and norms that limit us all.

What commitments may look like.

- *Policy, legislation and its implementation* – new or strengthened CRPD-compliant legislation, policy and long-term action plans – and investment in the resources needed to implement them
- *Representation and empowerment of persons with disabilities* – investment in the full participation of people with disabilities including funding for representative organisations and networks
- *Stereotypes, Attitudes and Behaviours* – strategies to eliminate harmful attitudes and practices

B. Inclusive education

Why. Because every girl and boy has the right to learn, from birth.

How. By creating, supporting and implementing plans that advance inclusive quality education for all persons with disabilities.

What commitments may look like.

- *Additional resources and implementation* – targeted investment and resources that implement inclusive education plans and enable all children with and without disabilities to access quality education and learn.
- *Inclusive education sector plans (government only)* - new or strengthened inclusive education sector plans, which coherently link budgets and resources to policy.
- *Capacity building: teachers and staff* – Community, Head Teacher, Teacher and Assistant training and capacity building to introduce, deliver and sustain school wide inclusive education and pedagogic practice.
- *Endorse and support the Partnership for Inclusive Education Facility (donors only)* - provide support or expertise to the new Partnership on Inclusive Education being launched at the Summit.
- *Policy, standards and regulations* – set inclusive education policy and support implementation with accompanying standards and regulations.

C. Routes to economic empowerment

Why. Opening up routes to economic empowerment will mean that persons with disabilities can access decent work and be financially independent.

How. By creating more and better jobs, improving social protection, ensuring the necessary skills training, making workplaces accessible, and hiring people with disabilities.



What commitments may look like.

- *Inclusive environments in the workplace* – enhancing equal opportunities for employment and addressing workplace culture and wider societal norms that stop people with disabilities being able to participate
- *Amending legal frameworks* - e.g. equal opportunities, non-discrimination, social protection laws etc.
- *Access to financial services* - e.g. establishment/amendment of financial services and products that are inclusive and equally accessible for people with disabilities
- *Access to decent work* - opening labour markets, formal and informal, business support services
- *Inclusive social protection systems* – social protection systems that actively reach persons with disabilities
- *Skills development for decent work* - including ensuring foundational skills are attained (numeracy and literacy) and vocation specific training, establishment of training schemes, job-matching
- *Accessible transport and infrastructure*
- *Universal design* - all aspects of building/products/environments consider persons with disability from the start (including all procurement)
- *Reasonable accommodation in the workplace and training institutions* - use of technology, accessible equipment/machinery

D. Harnessing technology and innovation

Why. So persons with disabilities are able to fully participate and contribute to all aspects of society.

How. By improving the availability and affordability of appropriate assistive technology.

What commitments may look like.

- *Policy and guidance* – e.g. agree national standards/guidelines and/or local adaptation of WHO guidelines
- *New programmes or services* - new accessible programmes or services which improve the availability and affordability of appropriate assistive technology
- *Additional resources* - initiatives and investment to enable access to affordable assistive devices
- *Join Global Partnership for Assistive Technology* – join and/or contribute to the Global Partnership for Assistive Technology

E. Data collection and disaggregation

Why. So we can better understand and address the scale, and nature, of the challenges faced by persons with disabilities.

How. By gathering and using better data and evidence, using tested tools including the [Washington Group Disability Question Sets](#).

What commitments may look like.

- *Commit resources to support strengthened disability data* - generating or supporting others to generate disability disaggregated data in programmes, census, household surveys or administrative systems.

- *Commit to use the Washington Group questions* - committing to support use of [Washington Group Disability Question Sets](#), introducing a spend marker on disability inclusion;
- *Sign up to the Inclusive Data Charter* - signing up to the new [Inclusive Data Charter](#) and committing to develop Inclusive Data Action Plan with strong actions on disability data;
- *Adopt the voluntary OECD-DAC disability marker*

F. Women and Girls with Disabilities (cross-cutting)

Why. Because no-one should be left behind.

How. By championing the rights of the most under-represented and marginalised persons with disabilities, of all ages, affected by any form of multiple discrimination, and notably women and girls with disabilities

What commitments may look like.

- Targeted interventions such as ensuring legislation, policies and implementation strategies prevent and address violence against women and girls with disabilities – by institutions and individuals.
- You may also want to include some of the commitments listed above that champion the rights of women and girls with disabilities, but please do not enter these a second time if you have stated them above.

G. People with disabilities in humanitarian contexts (cross-cutting)

Why. So humanitarian action is full inclusive and accessible to persons with disabilities.

How. By mainstreaming inclusion across all Disaster Risk Reduction and humanitarian sectors, and implementing our commitments in the Charter 'Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action'.

What commitments may look like.

- Targeted interventions such as new inclusive humanitarian response funding announcements, new mandatory/recommended guidelines or guidance for implementing partners, new partnerships, capacity building initiatives etc.
- You may also want to include some of the commitments listed above and applied in humanitarian contexts, but please do not enter these a second time if you have stated them above.

H. Other

Why. We realise there are a broad number of ways in which we can commit to advancing the rights of persons with disabilities, and that your national or sectoral priorities might not be reflected by the themes of the Summit. You are welcome to make commitments which do not fall under one of the listed themes.

What commitments may look like.

Any other commitment which does not fall under one of the listed themes (e.g. improving and investing in accessible infrastructure, creating or advancing plans for inclusive healthcare systems, investing in new research on the experiences of persons with disabilities etc.)

Questions and Answers.

Q: Will commitments be published?

Yes, we intend on publishing the exact form you submit in pdf. around the day of the Summit. On gov.uk website and in longer term on GDS18 global tracker.

Q: When do commitments need to be submitted by?

Commitments should be submitted in advance of the Summit by the 12th July 2018. This will allow time for commitments to be published on the Summit website in time for the Summit.

Q: How does this link to the Global Disability Summit Charter for Change?

The Global Disability Summit Charter for Change is the principal legacy of the Summit: an expression of our collective ambition, our collective commitment and a call to action that unites us all. We are inviting all attendees to join us in adding their name to this collective call to action.

Your organisation's commitments are an opportunity to showcase your leadership on this agenda and progress specific change in your country or sector. These organisational commitments should complement the principles of the Charter, and make provision for how this will be achieved in practice.

Q: Can more than one person from the same organisation sign up to the Charter for Change?

Please try and submit one consolidated form on behalf of the organisation you work for. We will record the name of the organisation rather than the individual who signs up to the Charter.

Q: Can we sign up to the Charter for Change and not make any commitments?

The aim of the Summit is to advance the realities of persons with disabilities and this will be achieved in large part through making commitments. If there is no scope to make a commitment at this stage, you are still invited to sign up to the Charter for Change. You can do this by responding 'yes' to this email, to the [GDScommitments](#) mailbox.

Q: What do we mean by a new commitment? What about existing legislation, policies or actions?

The focus of the Summit is on new commitments to change, rather than previously existing legislation etc: it is through new commitments to implementation, action and investment that we will advance the agenda most. There will also be some opportunity to showcase existing legislation, policies and actions, but this will not be the main focus of the day.

Q: What about emerging priorities? Can we express intent to make a commitment, but it's too early to give full details?

The main aim of the Summit is to commit to action and implementation to advance the rights of persons with disabilities. Where possible, commitments should reflect this and make concrete plans for delivery. Where you are unable to do so, you can express intent to make a commitment but please make sure you are clear in the timeframe and implementation box when you expect to be able to deliver this by.



Q: Will there be opportunity to announce commitments on the day?

Yes, there will be lots of opportunities to announce commitments on the day of the Summit. We will confirm specific opportunities with you in due course.

Q: What if one commitment corresponds to more than one theme?

Please do not enter a commitment more than once in the template. We will be publishing the exact template you submit, so we should be as concise as possible. If a commitment addresses more than one theme, then please select the theme it is most relevant to.

Q: Can we make a commitment which does not fit under a theme of the Summit?

Yes, commitments are not restricted to the themes of the Summit.

Where possible, please do prioritise the Summit themes as this is where we need to make the greatest difference. However, we do realise there are a broad number of ways in which we can commit to advancing the rights of persons with disabilities, and that your national or sectoral priorities might not be reflected by the themes of the Summit. You are welcome to make commitments which do not fall under one of the listed themes.

Q: What if we do not have any commitments to make under one (or more) of the themes?

We should look to make far-reaching commitments under as many themes as possible, in order to achieve comprehensive change. However, we recognise you may not be able to make commitments under every theme. If there is a theme in the form you do not have a commitment for, then please delete that section.

Q: Will the Charter for Change and the completed commitments forms be converted into easy read format?

We will be converting the Charter for Change into easy read format in advance of the Summit.

There will not be enough time between receiving your returns and the Summit day to convert all commitment forms received into easy read. We will do this following the Summit. If you are able to convert your own form into easy read in advance of the Summit, this would be much appreciated and well received.

Q: Is it possible to reword/edit commitments after they have been submitted.

We will be publishing all commitments around the day of the Summit online and there will be limited opportunity to make changes after this. Only under extenuating circumstances, will we be able to modify these commitments.

Q: Will we be held to account on these commitments? Will progress be monitored?

We will all be accountable to our own stakeholders for the promises we make. To help us stay on track, we will be putting a review mechanism in place. We will review progress against the commitments and produce a one-year on progress report. We value your input on this and we will be convening a stakeholder group following the Summit to agree a longer-term approach.

