

IDA's Compilation of CRPD Committee's Concluding Observations

Article 18 CRPD (Liberty of movement and nationality)

April 2024

Article 18 - Liberty of movement and nationality

1. States Parties shall recognize the rights of persons with disabilities to liberty of movement, to freedom to choose their residence and to a nationality, on an equal basis with others, including by ensuring that persons with disabilities:

a) Have the right to acquire and change a nationality and are not deprived of their nationality arbitrarily or on the basis of disability;

b) Are not deprived, on the basis of disability, of their ability to obtain, possess and utilize documentation of their nationality or other documentation of identification, or to utilize relevant processes such as immigration proceedings, that may be needed to facilitate exercise of the right to liberty of movement;

c) Are free to leave any country, including their own;

d) Are not deprived, arbitrarily or on the basis of disability, of the right to enter their own country.

2. Children with disabilities shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to acquire a nationality and, as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by their parents.

AZERBAIJAN (2024)

BAHRAIN (2024)

KAZAKHSTAN (2024)

NICARAGUA (2024)

SWEDEN (2024)

ZAMBIA (2024)

ANDORRA (2023)

AUSTRIA (2023)

GERMANY (2023)

ISRAEL (2023)

MALAWI (2023)

MAURITANIA (2023)

MONGOLIA (2023)

PARAGUAY (2023)

GEORGIA (2023)

PERU (2023)

TOGO (2023)

TUNISIA (2023)

BANGLADESH (2022)

CHINA (2022)

INDONESIA (2022)

JAPAN (2022)

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (2022)

NEW ZEALAND (2022)

REPUBLIC OF KOREA (2022)

HUNGARY (2022)

MEXICO (2022)

SWITZERLAND (2022)

VENEZUELA (2022) **DJIBOUTI (2021) FRANCE** (2021) **ESTONIA (2021)** AUSTRALIA (2019) **ECUADOR** (2019) EL SALVADOR (2019) **INDIA (2019) IRAQ (2019) KUWAIT (2019) MYANMAR** (2019) **RWANDA (2019)** SAUDI ARABIA (2019) **SENEGAL** (2019) **SPAIN** (2019) **TÜRKIYE (2019)** HAITI (2018) **SEYCHELLES (2018) SLOVENIA (2018)** SUDAN (2018) UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (2017)**ARMENIA (2017) IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF) (2017) BOLIVIA** (2016) **ETHIOPIA** (2016) **GUATEMALA (2016)**

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (2016)

SLOVAKIA (2016) THAILAND (2016) UGANDA (2016) EUROPEAN UNION (2015) GABON (2015) KENYA (2015) QATAR (2015) COOK ISLANDS (2015) DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (2015) REPUBLIC OF KOREA (2014) ECUADOR (2014) MEXICO (2014) EL SALVADOR (2013) PARAGUAY (2013)

Please note there are no recommendations in the Concluding observations on art. 18 on Costa Rica (2024), Angola, Argentina, Cuba, Niger, Norway, Vanuatu, Algeria, Bulgaria, Malta, Philippines, Poland, South Africa, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Nepal, Oman, Russian Federation, Latvia, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Morocco, Panama, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Cyprus, Honduras, Jordan, Republic of Moldova Colombia, Italy, Uruguay, Chile, Lithuana, Portugal, Serbia, Brazil, Mauritius, Ukraine, Croatia, Czech Republic, Mongolia, Turkmenistan, Belgium, Denmark, New Zealand, Sweden, Azerbaijan, Costa Rica (2014), Australia, Austria, Argentina, China, Hungary, Peru, Tunisia, Jamaica, Bangladesh, Hong Kong and New Zealand.

Azerbaijan (2024)

41. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) Gaps in the legislation governing asylum procedures, particularly due to the absence of procedural accommodation for persons with disabilities, including women and girls with disabilities and children with disabilities, throughout the status determination processes;

(b) The lack of measures to ensure that migrant, refugee, asylum seekers and persons with disabilities in refugee-like situations have access to services in the community;

(c) The lack of measures to examine asylum requests by persons with disabilities on the grounds of armed conflict, generalized violence or internal disturbances and when their expulsion could lead to violation of their rights to life, freedom from torture and security of the person;

(d) The absence of a legal framework to prevent and address risk of statelessness among persons with disabilities.

42. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities into refugee legislation, ensuring gender-sensitive and age-appropriate procedural accommodations, information about asylum procedures in accessible formats, and housing and accommodation throughout status determination processes;

(b) Develop a comprehensive policy that is inclusive of migrants, asylum-seekers, refugee persons with disabilities, and those in refugee-like situations, aimed at ensuring access to support required to live independently and in the community, inclusive education, health, and work and employment;

(c) Recognize in its legislation situations of armed conflict, generalized violence or internal disturbances and when their expulsion could lead to violation of their rights to life, freedom from torture and security of the person as additional grounds for requests and provision of refugee status and protection by persons with disabilities;

(d) Adopt legal measures in line with international applicable standards to prevent statelessness of persons with disabilities.

Bahrain (2024)¹

36. Recalling the concluding observation of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW/C/BHR/CO/4, para. 34), the Committee is concerned about:

(a) The discriminatory provisions of the Nationality Law of 1963, which prevents Bahraini women from transmitting their nationality to their children if they are married to a foreign man, putting children with disabilities of a Bahraini mother and a foreign father at risk of remaining stateless.

(b) Persons with disabilities with non-Bahraini parents are prevented from enjoying the rights and accessing the services provided for in Law No. 74 of 2006 on the Care, Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities; and

(b) Discrimination against persons with psychosocial disabilities and persons with intellectual disabilities in the Nationality Law of 1963, which states in its article (6) that nationality is granted to a person with full capacity, and the same law defines full capacity in its article (2) as "not a minor and not of unsound mind".

37. Recalling the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW/C/BHR/CO/4, para. 35), the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Amend the 1963 Nationality Law to grant Bahraini women, in particular women with disabilities, including when married to a foreign man, the right to transmit their nationality to their children, including children with disabilities.

¹ When compiling the recommendations, the Concluding Observations were only available in Arabic. This document includes an automated translation to English by <u>DeepL</u>.

(b) Repeal the provision in Law No. 74 of 2006 on the Care, Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities that deprives persons with disabilities with non-Bahraini parents from enjoying the rights and accessing the services prescribed therein; (c) Repeal the provision in Law No. 74 of 2006 on the Care, Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities.

(c) Repeal the provision in the Nationality Law of 1963 that prevents persons from acquiring nationality on the basis of their mental disability.

Kazakhstan (2024)

39. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) Limited access of migrant persons with disabilities, including refugees and asylumseekers with disabilities and persons with disabilities in refugee-like situations, to social security, disability-related allowances, inclusive education, specialized health care, health insurance, social housing and employment;

(b) The lack of residency and naturalization processes for refugees with disabilities;

(c) The risk of statelessness of migrant persons with disabilities due to legislation requiring foreign persons applying for citizenship of the State party to renounce their existing citizenship before they receive a binding decision on whether their application is granted;

(d) The vulnerability of stateless persons with disabilities due to the long duration of the processes for the determination of statelessness;

(e) Reports of lacunae in migration legislation and practice leading to insufficient protection of the principle of non-refoulement, and about barriers, including attitudinal and physical barriers in asylum procedures, restricting persons with disabilities, including persons with intellectual and/or psychosocial disabilities and persons with disabilities with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis or other diseases, to apply for asylum.

40. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Adopt legislation to ensure to migrant children and adults with disabilities, including refugees and asylum-seekers with disabilities and persons with disabilities in refugee-like situations who lack permanent resident status, legal recognition of their disability, access to social protection, including disability allowances, health insurance, equipment and mobility devices, housing, and inclusive education;

(b) Ensure that refugees with disabilities have effective access to residency and naturalization processes;

(c) Amend citizenship legislation to ensure that persons with disabilities applying for citizenship are not obliged to renounce their existing citizenship before they receive a binding decision on their application with the State party;

(d) Ratify the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and ensure that procedures for the determination of statelessness are conducted with all deliberate speed, and guarantee access to identification, documents and registration;

(e) Ensure that migration legislation and practice protect the principle of *non-refoulement* without exception, and that persons with disabilities, including persons with intellectual and/or psychosocial disabilities, have full access to immigration and asylum procedures, including by providing procedural accommodation.

Nicaragua (2024)

34. El Comité nota que la Ley de los Derechos de las Personas con Discapacidad (Ley N° 763), indica que todas las personas con discapacidad tienen derecho a estar inscritos en el Registro Público de Personas, sin embargo, preocupa al Comité la información recabada en el censo del Programa "Todos con Voz" del Ministerio de Salud y otros estudios reflejan que existe una brecha significativa entre las personas con discapacidad que no se encuentran registradas civilmente versus el resto de la población, especialmente en el área rural donde se ha detectado carencia de documentos legales para diversos trámites, incluyendo la cédula de

identidad ciudadana y certificado de nacimiento, lo que dificulta aún más el registro de las personas con discapacidad.

35. El Comité recomienda al Estado parte que intensifique las acciones establecidas en el artículo 22 de la Ley de los Derechos de las Personas con Discapacidad (Ley No. 763), incluyendo en las zonas rurales y remotas, y que obtenga estadísticas confiables del subregistro actual de nacimientos, específicamente de personas con discapacidad.

36. Al Comité le preocupa también que:

a) El Estado parte sea un país de origen, tránsito y destino de la trata de personas, en particular mujeres y niñas, ignorándose cuántas mujeres y niñas con discapacidad son víctimas de este delito;

b) Se cuente con información de que se le ha negado el regreso al Estado parte a varios nacionales nicaragüenses, entre los cuales podría haber personas con discapacidad;

c) Que la Ley General de Migración y Extranjería (Ley no. 761) carece de medidas específicas que impidan la detención de migrantes con discapacidad;

d) La persistencia del uso de la fuerza por miembros de los cuerpos de seguridad militares y de la policía al tratar con migrantes, incluidos aquellos con discapacidad.

37. En consonancia con la meta 10.7 de los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible, el Comité recomienda al Estado parte que:

a) Revise urgentemente las razones por las que está siendo un país de origen, tránsito y destino de la trata de personas, en particular mujeres y niñas, investigando cuántas mujeres y niñas con discapacidad son víctimas de este delito;

b) Evitar la denegación de la entrada o salida de connacionales al Estado parte e investigue cuantos de los señalados son personas con discapacidad;

c) Modifique la Ley General de Migración y Extranjería (Ley núm. 761) para que contemple en su reglamento medidas claras para eliminar la detención de migrantes con discapacidad;
d) Prohíba y sancione el uso de la fuerza por miembros de los cuerpos de seguridad militares y de la policía al tratar con migrantes, particularmente aquellos con discapacidad.

<u>Sweden (2024)</u>

41. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) The negative impact of the Tidö-agreement on migrants with disabilities and their access to all forms of welfare including healthcare, personal assistance and housing, and proposals to limit access to citizenship to those who can support themselves for 8 years;

(b) The lack of uniform application of legislation on provision of support services in different regions and municipalities, resulting in loss of some support services when moving from one municipality to another.

42. The Committee recommends that the State party take all legislative, administrative and other measures to:

(a) Ensure access to all forms of welfare and essential supports, including disability-specific supports, for migrants with disabilities is available without discrimination;

(b) Develop a national framework, in close consultation and active involvement of organisations of persons with disabilities, for ensuring mobility of support services across municipalities.

<u>Zambia (2024)</u>

35. The Committee notes with concern that some children with disabilities are still not registered at birth. It is also concerned that persons with disabilities, including migrants with disabilities still face barriers in obtaining birth certificates, nationality certificates and identity cards due to lack of accessibility to services and lack of awareness among the population about the need to register.

36. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Increase its efforts to sensitize parents and the community on the importance of birth registration for their children, including children with disabilities, and organize regular

campaigns to issue birth certificates and identity documents in close consultation and active involvement of persons with disabilities through their representative organizations;

(b) Take appropriate measures to eliminate all obstacles which prevent persons with disabilities, including those living in remote and rural areas, from enjoying their rights to a nationality, birth registration and civil status documents, in order to enable them to exercise all the rights enshrined in the Convention;

(c)Put in place measures to take account of the situation of migrants with disabilities in national programmes and to provide them with necessary documents to enable them enjoy freedom of movement.

Andorra (2023)

37.The Committee is concerned about the insufficient provision of support measures and reasonable accommodation for asylum-seekers with disabilities, refugees, and migrants with disabilities.

38. The Committee recommends that the State party redouble efforts to provide appropriate support and reasonable accommodation for asylum-seekers with disabilities, refugees and migrants with disabilities, including protocols to recognize persons with disabilities in these situations in the social security schemes and ensure that such persons have access to disability-related benefits.

<u>Austria (2023)</u>

43. The Committee is concerned about:

(a)Insufficient provision of qualified interpretation, sign language interpretation, information in Easy Read format, Plain German, Braille, and other measures to ensure the accessibility of health services for refugees with disabilities, stateless persons with disabilities, and of persons with disabilities in refugee-like situations;

(b)Insufficient accessible information about the admissions process, the content of decisions taken therein, and about appropriate service providers, for refugees with disabilities, stateless persons with disabilities, and for persons with disabilities in refugee-like situations, about deficiencies in their referral to the appropriate services providers, and about insufficient access to crucial disability support schemes;

(c)Reports that refugees and stateless persons with disabilities and persons with disabilities in refugee-like situations, including unaccompanied children with disabilities, are frequently accommodated in facilities that are not accessible or not designed for these purposes, and are not provided the support measures necessary;

(d)Insufficient targeted and regular training on the standards for the treatment and the rights of persons with disabilities under the Convention for the employees of all entities participating in the admissions process.

44. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a)Provide qualified interpretation, sign language interpretation, information in Easy Read format, Plain German, Braille and other measures to ensure the accessibility of medical examinations of refugees and stateless persons with disabilities and persons with disabilities in refugee-like situations;

(b)Provide accessible information about the admissions process, the content of decisions taken therein, and service providers for refugees and stateless persons with disabilities and persons with disabilities in refugee-like situations, and guarantee access to crucial support schemes to persons with disabilities in refugee-like situations and persons with disabilities under temporary protection;

(c)Ensure that refugees and stateless persons with disabilities and persons with disabilities in refugee-like situations, including unaccompanied children with disabilities, are accommodated in facilities that are accessible and designed for these purposes; (d)Intensify advanced training on the standards for the treatment of persons with disabilities and their rights under the Convention to all entities and their employees participating in the admissions process, as envisaged by the "Nationaler Aktionsplan Behinderung 2022 – 2030

Germany (2023)

41. The Committee is concerned about:

(a)Access to essential supports, including disability specific supports for refugees and asylum seekers with disabilities being dependent on country of origin;

(b)The lack of uniform and adequate procedures across all Länder for the identification of refugees and asylum seekers with disabilities, resulting in inconsistent and inadequate implementation of human rights law and the EU Directive 2013/33/EU;

(c)The impact of the draft law to amend the Nationality Act, which would preclude persons with disabilities in receipt of benefits from obtaining citizenship.

42. The Committee recommends that the State party take all legislative, administrative, and other measures to:

(a)Ensure access to essential supports, including disability specific supports, for all refugees and asylum seekers with disabilities is available without discrimination on the basis of country of origin;

(b)Implement uniform and adequate procedures across all Länder to ensure the identification of refugees and asylum seekers with disabilities and the provision of appropriate disability related supports as required by human rights law and the EU Directive 2013/33/EU;

(c)Ensure the draft law to amend the Nationality Act does not preclude persons with disabilities in receipt of benefits from obtaining citizenship.

Israel (2023)

41. The Committee is concerned about:

(a)Reports of discrimination against persons with disabilities in insurance contracts, in particular that refugees and asylum-seekers with disabilities are not eligible for national insurance services, subsidized health insurance, social security benefits, including disability allowances;

(b)The lack of a consistent registration and identification system for all refugees and asylumseekers with disabilities;

(c)Restrictions on freedom of movement in the occupied territories and the routine denial of exit permits, including for medical care or only granting permits on the basis of interrogation by Israeli security forces, preventing persons with disabilities to move freely between the West Bank, including East Jerusalem and Gaza and from accessing essential medical care, rehabilitation, employment and education.

42. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a)Review the national insurance scheme with the aim to expand its coverage to refugees and asylum-seekers with disabilities and persons with disabilities in refugee-like situations, and require financial services, in particular insurance companies to remove discriminatory provisions from insurance services and contracts;

(b)Establish a uniform registration and identification system for all refugees and asylum seeker adults and children with disabilities to ensure access to adequate humanitarian services and aid and access to essential services and disability supports;

(c)Remove restrictions on freedom of movement within and outside the occupied territories, restrict interrogation by the Israeli Security Forces to instances of legitimate security concern, in accordance with applicable international law, expedite the issuance of exit permits for persons with disabilities, including those requiring medical treatment, assistive devices and medicines, and ensure that persons with disabilities have liberty of movement, including for accessing education, medical care, including sexual and reproductive health services, rehabilitation or work and employment.

<u>Malawi (2023)</u>

37. The Committee is concerned about:

(a)Information indicating that refugees with disabilities and persons with disabilities in refugee-like situations particularly children with disabilities hosted in the Dzaleka camp, have had their freedom of movement restricted across the territory of the State party and the criminalization of persons who have left refugee camps;

(b)The impossibility of refugee persons with disabilities to seek for livelihood opportunities and to access school due to the restrictions of freedom in movement in refugee camps;

(c)The lack of measures to ensure inclusion of migrant, asylum seeking and refugee persons with disabilities in the education system, which impacts particularly children and young persons with disabilities.

38.The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a)Ensure that refugees with disabilities and persons with disabilities in refugee-like situations can exercise their right to freedom of movement and seek and choose a place to live and consider lifting the current restrictions in the Dzaleka camp;

(b)Speed-up the enforcement of the State party's commitments towards the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework ensuring that refugee and asylum-seekers persons with disabilities benefit from national development agenda plans, including their access to support, health, water and sanitation, settlement opportunities, work and employment;

(c)Adopt measures to ensure that migrants, refugees and asylum seekers with disabilities access to mainstream education in the community, by addressing prevailing barriers, such as lack of transport, limited facilities, inadequate food, unavailability of assistive devices.

Mauritania (2023)

31. The Committee notes with concern:

(a)That despite the existing legal provisions on birth registration for all, and the establishment of offices of the National Agency for the Population Registry and Secure Identity documents in the regions, the Committee is concerned that some children with disabilities, are still not registered at birth, which hinder the enjoyment of their rights and access to services, including the disability card;

(b)The limited access of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees with disabilities, in particular women and girls with disabilities, to support services and individualized accommodation.

32. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a)Increase its efforts on raising awareness among parents and the community of the importance of registering births of their children, including children with disabilities, and regularly organize mobile campaigns to issue birth certificates and identity documents, with the effective involvement of persons with disabilities;

(b)Remove all barriers for persons with disabilities, including those living in remote and rural areas, to the enjoyment of their rights to a nationality, birth registration and civil documentation, to enable them to exercise all the rights enshrined in the Convention;

(c)Adopt all measures necessary to ensure that migrants, asylum seekers and refugees with disabilities, in particular women and girls with disabilities, are granted adequate support services, including gender-sensitive and age-appropriate accommodation.

Mongolia (2023)

37.The Committee is concerned that despite the provisions of the Law on Citizenship which guarantees the liberty of movement, the Law on travel and immigration limits travelling and immigration of persons with psychosocial disabilities and persons with intellectual disabilities.

38. The Committee recommends that the State party amend the Law on travel and immigration and the Law on Legal Status of Foreign Nationals, in order to harmonize its provisions with the Convention and article 9.1.1 of the Law on Citizenship.

Paraguay (2023)

33.Al Comité le preocupa que existe un subregistro del 30% en los nacimientos en general y no se informa cuantos de ellos son de personas con discapacidad.

34.El Comité recomienda al Estado parte que intensifique las acciones del Programa Derecho a la Identidad, incluyendo las zonas rurales y remotas, que obtenga estadísticas confiables del subregistro actual de nacimientos y especificamente de personas con discapacidad.

Georgia (2023)

37. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) The lack of appropriate support measures and reasonable accommodation for asylum seekers with disabilities, particularly the scarcity of qualified sign language interpreters in immigration procedures and the limited accessibility for wheelchair users and other persons with disabilities to premises such as the Ministry of Internal Affairs' Migrant Accommodation Centre and the Integration Centre of the Internally Displaced Persons, Eco-Migrants and Livelihood Agency of the Ministry of Health;

(b) Information indicating insufficient healthcare services for migrant persons with disabilities, particularly in the Adjara district;

(c) Information indicating that disability benefits are not available for refugee persons with disabilities.

38. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Provide appropriate support measures and reasonable accommodation for asylum seekers with disabilities, establish procedural accommodation for persons with disabilities in asylum proceedings, and provide these mechanisms with sufficient financial means and personnel, particularly qualified sign language interpreters;

(b) Ensure that building premises dedicated to migrant and asylum-seeking procedures are accessible for asylum seekers and refugee persons with disabilities regardless type of impairment;

(c) Ensure that health care is provided to asylum seekers and refugee persons with disabilities, including accessible psychosocial support services in the community;

(d) Adopt measures, including protocols, to recognise persons with disabilities in refugee like situations in the social security schemes in the State party, and to ensure the possibility to have access to disability-related benefits.

Peru (2023)

36.Al Comité le preocupa:

a)La poca accesibilidad de la información, los procedimientos y los centros de atención para los migrantes, los refugiados, los solicitantes de asilo, y los desplazados internos con discapacidad y que no haya una identificación completa y sistemática de las personas migrantes y desplazadas internas con discapacidad, de sus necesidades, dificultades para acceder a opciones laborales, servicios públicos, transporte y documentación incluidos el certificado de discapacidad y el carnet de discapacidad;

b)La Política Nacional Migratoria 2017-2025 no establece medidas específicas para la atención de las personas refugiadas y migrantes con discapacidad. Además, para obtener un certificado oficial de discapacidad, estas deben estar en situación migratoria regular, lo que supone un obstáculo para que las personas con discapacidad en situación de migración irregular puedan acceder a servicios y prestaciones.

37.El Comité recomienda al Estado parte que:

a)Lleve a cabo una identificación completa y sistemática de los migrantes, refugiados, solicitantes de asilo y desplazados internos con discapacidad y sus necesidades, así como la tramitación de sus solicitudes de regularización migratoria, a fin de garantizar su acceso

a la obtención de certificados de discapacidad para recibir prestaciones y servicios de manera oportuna y garantice la accesibilidad física, a la información y la comunicación de los centros de migración;

b)Asegure que todas las normas y políticas migratorias, incluyendo la Política Nacional Migratoria 2017-2025, tengan un enfoque de discapacidad, a fin de asegurar que los derechos de este grupo sean respetados en su proceso de tránsito y al establecerse en el Estado parte como país de destino.

<u>Togo (2023)</u>

37.The Committee notes that since January 2022 the birth registration is free of charge if it is declared within 45 days from the birth. However, it is concerned that some children with disabilities, are still not registered at birth. It is also concerned that persons with disabilities still face barriers in obtaining birth certificates, nationality certificates and identity cards due to lack of accessibility to services and lack of awareness among the population about the need to register.

38. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a)Increase its efforts on raising awareness among parents and the community of the importance of registering births of their children, including children with disabilities, extend the free registration of birth beyond 45 days, and regularly organize mobile campaigns to issue birth certificates, nationality certificates and identity cards, with the effective involvement of persons with disabilities through their representative organizations;

(b)Remove all barriers for persons with disabilities, including those living in remote and rural areas, to the enjoyment of their rights to a nationality, birth registration and civil documentation, to enable them to exercise all the rights enshrined in the Convention.

<u>Tunisia (2023)</u>

31. The Committee is concerned that some persons with disabilities and in particular persons with psychosocial disabilities ty are excluded from some services provided to other persons with disabilities by the State party such as reduced fares on public transport due to difficulties in obtaining identity cards.

32. The Committee recommends that the State party:

- (a) Review the Decree No. 1477 of 2006 to simplify and facilitate the procedures related to the enjoyment by travellers with disabilities of reduced fares for international transportation;
- (b) Recognise persons with psychosocial disability in the law under drafting for tax exemption of persons with disabilities to enhance freedom of movement.

Bangladesh (2022)

37. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) The absence of civil documentation, such as official birth, marriage and death certificates of children with disabilities, particularly refugee children with disabilities belonging to the Rohingya community, and children with disabilities in remote and rural areas, leading to lack of access to services;

(b) The lack of freedom of movement of persons with disabilities, particularly refugees with disabilities belonging to the Rohingya community and impeding their access to seek medical rehabilitation outside their camps or abroad;

(c) The State party not having ratified the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol as well as the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

38. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Adopt concrete measures to ensure the availability of civil documentation for all children with disabilities, particularly refugee children with disabilities belonging to the Rohingya

community, and children with disabilities in remote and rural areas to enable them have access to all services;

(b) Take effective measures to ensure freedom of movement of persons with disabilities, particularly refugees with disabilities belonging to the Rohingya community and enable them to have access to seek medical rehabilitation outside their camps or abroad;

(c) Take necessary measures to ratify the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol as well as the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, and repeal the 1946 Foreigners Act that is targeted mainly against Rohingya Muslims.

China (2022)

37. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) The absence of civil documentation, such as official birth, marriage and death certificates of children with disabilities, particularly refugee children with disabilities belonging to the Rohingya community, and children with disabilities in remote and rural areas, leading to lack of access to services;

(b) The lack of freedom of movement of persons with disabilities, particularly refugees with disabilities belonging to the Rohingya community and impeding their access to seek medical rehabilitation outside their camps or abroad;

(c) The State party not having ratified the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol as well as the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

38. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Adopt concrete measures to ensure the availability of civil documentation for all children with disabilities, particularly refugee children with disabilities belonging to the Rohingya community, and children with disabilities in remote and rural areas to enable them have access to all services;

(b) Take effective measures to ensure freedom of movement of persons with disabilities, particularly refugees with disabilities belonging to the Rohingya community and enable them to have access to seek medical rehabilitation outside their camps or abroad;

(c) Take necessary measures to ratify the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol as well as the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, and repeal the 1946 Foreigners Act that is targeted mainly against Rohingya Muslims.

Indonesia (2022)

39. The Committee remains concerned at the lack of efforts made to repeal provisions of article 11 of the Immigration Control Act which deprives persons with disabilities, particularly persons with psychosocial disabilities, the right to enter the Republic of Korea based on their disability and of article 32 of the Act on Welfare of Persons with Disabilities , which restricts access to basic disability services for migrants with disabilities.

40. The Committee recommends that the State party takes urgent steps to repeal discriminatory provisions in order to ensure that persons with disabilities are not deprived of the right to enter the Republic of Korea on the basis of disability and to allow migrants with disabilities access to basic disability services.

Japan (2022)

39. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) The article 5 of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act that allows denial of entry to the State party to persons with intellectual or psychosocial disability;

(b) Insufficient provision of reasonable accommodation and accessibility of information at the Immigration Services Agency, including enough number of qualified interpreters.

40. The Committee recommends that the State Party:

(a) Revise Article 5, Paragraph 2 of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, which allows denial of entry to persons with psychosocial or intellectual disabilities;

(b) Ensure the provision of reasonable accommodation when required and accessibility of information at the Immigration Services Agency, including enough number of qualified interpreters.

Lao People's Democratic Republic (2022)

32. The Committee notes with concern barriers in gaining access to administrative facilities and proceedings for birth registration and civil documentation, including the inaccessibility of buildings, and communication barriers for persons with disabilities, particularly those from ethnic groups and living in remote and rural areas.

33. The Committee recommends that the State party take effective measures to remove all barriers for persons with disabilities, including those from ethnic groups and living in remote and rural areas, to the enjoyment of their rights to a nationality, birth registration and civil documentation, to enable them to exercise all the rights enshrined in the Convention.

New Zealand (2022)

37. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) The acceptable standard of health requirements applied under the immigration rules of New Zealand, which allow for discrimination in practice against persons with disabilities in immigration and some asylum procedures;

(b) The ineligibility under the acceptable standard of health medical waiver policy of persons with disabilities whose impairment requires full-time care, including care in the community;

(c) Provisions of the Immigration Act of 2009, which prevent people from lodging complaints related to immigration decisions with the New Zealand Human Rights Commission.

38. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Review and amend its immigration and asylum legislation and administrative rules, in close consultation with and with the active involvement of organizations of persons with disabilities and migrants and refugees, to ensure that persons with disabilities do not face discrimination in any of the formalities and procedures relating to immigration and asylum, in particular as a result of the application of the acceptable standard of health requirements; (b) Reverse the ineligibility under the acceptable standard of health medical waiver policy of persons with disabilities whose impairment requires full-time care;

(c) Repeal section 392, paragraphs (2) and (3), of the Immigration Act of 2009, which prohibits the lodging of immigration-related complaints to the Human Rights Commission.

Republic of Korea (2022)

37. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) The Acceptable Standard of Health (ASH) requirements applied under New Zealand's immigration rules, which allows for discrimination in practice against persons with disabilities in immigration and some asylum procedures;

(b) The ineligibility under the ASH medical waiver policy of persons with disabilities whose impairment requires full time care, including care in the community;

(c) Provisions of the Immigration Act 2009 which prevent people from lodging complaints related to immigration decisions with the New Zealand Human Rights Commission.

38. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Review and amend its immigration and asylum legislation and administrative rules, in close consultation with and active involvement of organisations of persons with disabilities and migrants and refugees, to ensure that persons with disabilities do not face discrimination in any of the formalities and procedures relating to immigration and asylum, in particular as a result of the application of the Acceptable Standard of Health (ASH) requirements;

(b) Reverse the ineligibility under the ASH medical waiver policy of persons with disabilities whose impairment requires full time care;

(c) Repeal Section 392 paras. (2) and (3) of the Immigration Act 2009, which prohibits the lodging of immigration-related complaints to the Human Rights Commission

Hungary (2022)

37. The Committee notes with concern the lack of:

(a) Procedural safeguards, accessibility and reasonable accommodation for asylum seekers and refugees with disabilities at border crossings and in reception and accommodation facilities;

(b) Accessible and understandable modes of information and communication for asylumseeking or refugee children with disabilities;

(c) Measures to end the detention of asylum seekers in closed border transit zone facilities and accommodate asylum seekers in open reception facilities;

(d) Efforts to remove restrictions on non-governmental organizations providing support to asylum seekers, including restrictions on funding from the European Union Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund;

(e) Data on asylum seekers and refugees with disabilities, disaggregated by sex, age and type of impairment.

38. The Committee recommends that the State party, in close cooperation with organizations of persons with disabilities:

(a) Assess the current status of asylum seekers and refugees with disabilities at border crossings and in reception and accommodation facilities, and ensure accessibility, reasonable accommodations and support measures for them;

(b) Ensure accessible and understandable modes of information and communication for asylum-seeking or refugee children with disabilities;

(c) End the detention of asylum seekers in closed border transit zone facilities and accommodate asylum seekers in open reception facilities;

(d) Remove restrictions on non-governmental organizations providing support to asylum seekers, including restrictions on funding from the European Union Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund;

(e) Collect data, disaggregated by sex and age, on asylum seekers and refugee persons with disabilities.

39. In the light of the growing humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, which has already pushed a large number of people into the neighbouring countries, the Committee recommends that the State party take appropriate measures to provide persons with disabilities, in particular children with disabilities, in need of international protection with all the necessary support and services, including their accommodation in foster care families.

<u>Mexico (2022)</u>

62. The Committee is concerned about the high poverty level of persons with disabilities, and about a lack of measures specifically designed for persons with disabilities in the special programme for indigenous and Afro-Mexican people for 2020–2024.

63. The Committee recommends that the State party create a national plan specifically addressing the high level of poverty among persons with disabilities, including its financing and a time schedule for its implementation; implement it; and monitor its implementation.

Switzerland (2022)

37. The Committee notes with concern:

(a) The lack of access to specialized medical care, infrastructure and facilities, communications, reasonable accommodation and qualified personnel to provide support for asylum seekers with disabilities in federal asylum centres, and the disproportionate use of force by security personnel;

(b) The lack of accessible information and procedural accommodation during asylum procedures;

(c) The requirements for financial independence under federal migration law that affects the ability of persons with disabilities to obtain and maintain residence permits or seek family reunification.

38. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Establish, as a matter of priority and in consultation with organizations of persons with disabilities, the proposed single point of contact for asylum seekers with disabilities in federal asylum centres; ensure that asylum seekers with disabilities have access to specialized medical care, infrastructure and facilities, accessible communications, reasonable accommodation and qualified support personnel; and prevent the use of force by security personnel in federal asylum centres;

(b) Finalize the guidelines for persons with "special needs" and ensure that these guidelines are based on the standards and principles of the Convention, including in the areas of access to information and the provision of procedural accommodation;

(c) Review the impact of the requirements for financial independence under federal migration law on persons with disabilities, including how disability is understood and recognized by the courts, with the aim of removing or amending this requirement.

Venezuela (2022)

34. The Committee notes with concern the lack of information on displaced or migrant persons with disabilities.

35. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Ensure that migrant persons with disabilities are able to exercise their rights on an equal footing with others;

(b) Establish monitoring and assessment mechanisms at its borders for the identification, processing and protection of migrant persons with disabilities that use information and adapted procedures in accessible formats, individual adaptations such as the facilitation of physical access and trained personnel.

Djibouti (2021)

31. The Committee is concerned about barriers for persons with disabilities to obtain official documentation as refugees, asylum seekers and persons in refugee-like situations, which hinder their enjoyment of the right to liberty of movement. It is also concerned that some children, including children with disabilities, are still not registered at birth.

32. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Adopt measures, with budget allocations, to strengthen the National Asylum Eligibility Commission so that refugees, asylum seekers, and persons in refugee-like situations with disabilities in all areas of the country have access to official documentation, on an equal basis with others;

(b) Enforce the registration of all new-born children with disabilities at birth and undertake a nationwide campaign to raise awareness among parents and the community of the importance of registering the births of their children, including those with disabilities.

France (2021)

38. The Committee notes with concern that travelers and Roma, French citizens as well as non-citizens with disabilities often face severe hardship in their living arrangements. It is also concerned that data on their situation is scarce and about the absence of policies to address these risks and protect their rights.

39. The Committee recommends that the State party systematically collect data on the living conditions of traveller and Roma persons with disabilities, citizens and non-citizens, and the fulfilment of their rights under the Convention, and ensure necessary accommodations for

travellers and Roma persons with disabilities, also in asylum-seeking and refugee situations, particularly children with disabilities.

Estonia (2021)

36. The Committee notes with concern information on the lack of accessibility, reasonable accommodations and support measures for asylum seekers and refugees with disabilities at border crossings, in reception and accommodation facilities and within the needs-identification procedures for persons with disabilities.

37. The Committee recommends that the State party make assessments of the current status of and ensure accessibility, reasonable accommodations and support measures for asylum seekers and refugees with disabilities at border crossings, in reception and accommodation facilities and within the needs-identification procedures for all persons with disabilities.

Australia (2019)

35. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) Migration and asylum legislation, such as the Migration Act 1958 and the health requirement in the Migration Regulations 1994, which allows for discrimination against persons with disabilities in asylum and migration procedures;

(b) The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 providing an exemption to certain provisions within the Migration Act 1958, which results in the exclusion of persons with disabilities;

(c) The 10-year qualifying period for migrants with a non-permanent visa to access the Age Support Pension and the Disability Support Pension;

(d) The transfer of refugees and asylum seekers with disabilities to Nauru, Papua New Guinea and other "regional processing countries".

36. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Review and amend its migration laws and policies to ensure that persons with disabilities do not face discrimination in any of the formalities and procedures relating to migration and asylum and, especially, remove the exemption in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 to certain provisions of the Migration Act 1958;

(b) Remove the 10-year qualifying period for migrants to access the Age Support Pension and the Disability Support Pension;

(c) Cease the transfer of refugees and asylum seekers, particularly persons with disabilities, to Nauru, Papua New Guinea and other "regional processing countries", as requested by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in a factsheet on the protection of so-called "legacy caseload" asylum seekers, and establish a minimum standard of health care and support for persons with disabilities held in immigration detention.

Ecuador (2019)

35. The Committee notes with concern the adoption of restrictions on entry into the country by persons with disabilities, particularly persons with disabilities who are seeking international protection. The Committee is also concerned at the lack of accessible shelters for migrants with disabilities that are staffed with personnel trained to provide information and to follow up on their applications and petitions.

36. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Ensure that migrants with disabilities, particularly those who are seeking international protection, are able to exercise their rights on an equal footing with others;

(b) Establish monitoring and assessment mechanisms at its borders for the identification, processing and protection of migrants with disabilities that use information and adapted procedures in accessible formats, individual adaptations such as the facilitation of physical access and trained personnel;

(c) Ensure that conditions at reception centres are such that they afford adequate living standards for migrants and refugees with disabilities and safeguard their physical and mental health on an equal footing with others in accordance with the Convention.

El Salvador (2019)

36. The Committee is concerned that the new Migration Law and the Passport Issuance and Revalidation Law enforce legal impediments to leaving the country for persons with hearing impairments and persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities. The Committee is also concerned at cases of some persons with disabilities still not having have access to identity documents.

37. The Committee recommends that the State party review and reform its legislation on migration to eliminate discriminatory restrictions and ensure that all persons with disabilities who wish to leave or enter the country have access to procedures on an equal basis with others. The Committee also recommends that the State party take measures to ensure that all persons with disabilities have a birth certificate or identity document.

India (2019)

38. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) The lack of registration at birth of children with disabilities, particularly deafblind children, children requiring high levels of support and intersex children at a heightened risk of neglect, the absence of disaggregated data and the insufficiency of measures to ensure the early registration of and access to unique disability identification cards by children with disabilities in remote and rural areas, those internally displaced and those in refugee camps, resulting in their lack of access to community services;

(b) The situation of persons with disabilities, including Muslim persons with disabilities, rendered stateless as a result of the registry process undertaken in the State of Assam and currently in detention camps.

39. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Adopt a programme to ensure the registry of children with disabilities immediately after birth and the disaggregation of data of the birth registry, and to facilitate the recognition of unique disability identification cards for all children with disabilities and their access to appropriate early intervention and community services;

(b) Ensure respect for and the protection of all human rights of persons with disabilities rendered stateless, including those in detention camps, urgently adopting measures to allow the reacquisition of nationality, and ratify or accede to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (1954) and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (1961).

Iraq (2019)

33. The Committee is concerned that not all children with disabilities are registered at birth and are thus at risk of being stateless, particularly children born in the State party to foreign nationals, children born to unknown parents and children born in regions that have been affected by armed conflict.

34. The Committee recommends that the State party allocate the human, technical and financial resources necessary to continue its efforts to register all children with disabilities and to prevent their statelessness.

Kuwait (2019)

36. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) The lack of information on the appropriate support and individualized accommodations available to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers with disabilities in immigration proceedings;

(b) The lack of information on the nationality status of Bidoons with disabilities, on the registration of the births of Bidoon children with disabilities and on the extent to which such children are able to enjoy their rights and access services.

37. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Strengthen the support and individualized accommodations available to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers with disabilities in immigration proceedings;

(b) Ensure that all Bidoons with disabilities, including children, enjoy the right to acquire a nationality and that they are registered immediately after birth, have access to services and are able to exercise the rights under the Convention.

Myanmar (2019)

35. The Committee is concerned that the Child Rights Law of 2019 does not guarantee the right to a nationality to children belonging to ethnic minority groups and those who are internally displaced, including children with disabilities, which hinders their access to education, health care and other public services. The Committee is also concerned about barriers to access administrative facilities and proceedings for birth registration, civil documentation and citizenship, including inaccessibility of buildings, official and unofficial fees, and communication barriers for persons with disabilities from ethnic minority groups.

36. The Committee recommends that the State party take the legal and other measures necessary to guarantee the right to a nationality without discrimination, and take effective policy measures to remove all barriers for persons with disabilities, including those from ethnic minority groups, to the enjoyment of their rights to a nationality, birth registration and civil documentation, to be able to exercise all the rights enshrined in the Convention.

<u>Rwanda (2019)</u>

33. The Committee is concerned about barriers for persons with disabilities to obtain official documentation as refugees, which hinder their enjoyment of the right to liberty of movement. It is also concerned that some children, including children with disabilities are still not registered at birth.

34. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Strengthen the registration programme to implement Law No. 13 ter/2014 Relating to Refugees and ensure that refugees with disabilities in all areas of the country have access to official documentation on an equal basis with others;

(b) Enforce the registration of all new born children with disabilities at birth and conduct a countrywide campaign to sensitize parents and the community on the importance of registering the birth of their children including those with disabilities.

Saudi Arabia (2019)

33. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) Discriminatory provisions, including in the Nationality Act, limiting the rights of women with disabilities to pass on their nationality to their spouses and children;

(b) The fact that women with disabilities are obliged to request the permission of a guardian to travel, including when travelling abroad;

(c) Persons with disabilities belonging to ethnic minorities, including *bedouins*, facing obstacles in the access to citizenship and social services;

(d) The limited access of migrants, asylum seekers, and refugee persons with disabilities to support services and individualized accommodation.

34. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Repeal all discriminatory provisions, including in the Nationality Act, limiting the rights of women with disabilities to pass on their nationality to their spouses and children;

(b) Take all necessary measures, in law and in practice, to ensure that women with disabilities may exercise their right to liberty of movement independently of the permission of a guardian;

(c) Ensure that persons with disabilities belonging to ethnic, linguistic and/or religious minorities and living in rural and remote areas, including *bedouins*, have access to identity documents, Saudi citizenship and social services, and guarantee that their rights under the Convention are protected;

(d) Adopt all necessary measures to ensure that migrants, asylum seekers and refugee persons with disabilities are granted with adequate support services, including gender-sensitive and age-appropriate accommodation.

Senegal (2019)

31. The Committee is concerned about children with disabilities not being registered after birth and therefore lacking birth certificates without which the social equality card or other social programmes remain inaccessible to them.

32. The Committee recommends that the State party ensure the registration of children with disabilities after birth and grant them the legal documents necessary for enjoyment of their rights.

<u>Spain (2019)</u>

35. The Committee is concerned about the precarious situation of refugees and asylumseeking persons with disabilities in the State party and also notes with concern that refugee status determination procedures are not accessible. The Committee is also concerned about the lack of a gender perspective in policies and measures for refugees and asylum-seeking persons with disabilities and general lack of knowledge by professionals working in the reception centres of their rights.

36. The Committee recommends that the State party ensure that all refugee status determination procedures and social protection programs, including disability support schemes, are accessible and do not discriminate in law and in practice, for all non-nationals with disabilities residing in the State party. The Committee further recommends that the State party elaborate specific gender sensitive policies and ensure full accessibility in reception centres. It further recommends that it provide training for professionals and civil servants working in the reception centres on the rights of persons with disabilities.

<u> Türkiye (2019)</u>

38. The Committee is concerned about the limited information relating to:

(a) The proportion and situation of migrant workers, asylum seekers and refugees with disabilities in the State party;

(b) Procedural accommodation and support available to persons with disabilities throughout immigration or asylum seeking procedures, including prior to resettlement, and training provided to personnel in charge of migration and determination of refugee status;

(c) Public policies and programmes addressing the rights of migrant workers, asylum seekers and refugees with disabilities, and on the involvement of civil society organizations, including organizations of persons with disabilities, in identifying support requirements by refugees with disabilities.

39. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Carry out research and data collection to assess the situation of persons with disabilities on the move in the State party, including migrant workers, asylum seekers and refugees with disabilities disaggregated by, *inter alia*, gender, age and ethnic background and establish a multi-stakeholder mechanism, including organizations of persons with disabilities, aimed at informing public policies and programmes.

(b) Adopt a protocol on the provision of procedural accommodation and support during immigration, refugee status determination procedures and resettlement, and provide persons with disabilities with information on accommodations and support available, in accessible formats, Easy Read and in native languages of the main migrant, asylum-seeking

and refugee communities, and ensure training of officials working at protection desks on the rights of persons with disabilities under the Convention;

(c) Ensure that public policies and programmes recognise migrant workers, asylum seekers, and refugees with disabilities, and allocate the human, financial, and technical resources to ensure the accessibility, reasonable accommodation and support they may require, in particular refugee women with disabilities.

40. The Committee is concerned about information indicating that persons with physical disabilities require medical reports as a pre-condition for air travel, and that persons with intellectual or psychosocial diabilities require approval from their guardians to travel abroad.

41. The Committee recommends that the State party abolish the discriminatory requirements of medical reports and third party authorization preventing the freedom of movement of persons with disabilities within and outside the territory of the State party.

<u>Haiti (2018)</u>

34. The Committee is concerned that the registration of the births of all new-borns with disabilities is not widespread throughout the territory. It is also concerned by the difficulties experienced by persons with disabilities to obtain identification documents, especially in rural and remote areas, and given the price of the national identity card. It notes that campaigns to register the population are inaccessible to persons with disabilities.

35. The Committee recommends that the State party strengthen the birth registration system so that all new-borns with disabilities in the State party are registered immediately after birth at no cost. It also recommends that the State party increase the accessibility of campaigns to obtain identity documents, especially in remote and rural areas and to ensure that all persons with disabilities possess at least one identity document. The Committee recommends that the State party consider the issuance of free national identification cards for persons with disabilities.

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Seychelles (2018)

29. The Committee in concerned about the lack of appropriate social and health care services for migrant, asylum seeking and refugee persons with disabilities, in particular children with disabilities.

30. The Committee recommends that the State party mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities in its migration, asylum seeking and refugee policies and programs and take measures to provide health and other support services to persons with disabilities who are applicants for international refugee protection.

Slovenia (2018)

29. The Committee in concerned about the lack of appropriate social and health care services for migrant, asylum seeking and refugee persons with disabilities, in particular children with disabilities.

30. The Committee recommends that the State party mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities in its migration, asylum seeking and refugee policies and programs and take measures to provide health and other support services to persons with disabilities who are applicants for international refugee protection.

Sudan (2018)

37. The Committee is concerned about restrictions imposed on persons with disabilities limiting their freedom of movement, whereby persons with physical disabilities require medical reports as a pre-condition for travelling by air and persons with psychosocial and/or intellectual disabilities require approval from their guardians if they wish to travel.

38. The Committee recommends that the State party abolishes the requirements that impede the freedom of movement of persons with disabilities within and outside its the territory.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (2017)

42. The Committee is concerned that the State party maintains its reservation to article 18 of the Convention.

43. The Committee recommends that the State party withdraw its reservation to article 18 of the Convention.

Armenia (2017)

29. The Committee is concerned about structural barriers preventing persons with disabilities from obtaining passports and identity cards on an equal basis with others.

30. The Committee recommends that the State party take all measures necessary to ensure that persons with disabilities can obtain passports and identity cards on an equal basis with others, including by providing reasonable accommodation to facilitate access to public offices and passport delivery procedures.

Iran (Islamic Republic of) (2017)

38. The Committee notes with concern the absence of information about how persons with disabilities belonging to ethnic minorities access services and receive protection of their rights under the Convention. It is further concerned about the absence of measures to guarantee that migrants, asylum seekers, and refugee persons with disabilities are provided with appropriate support and reasonable accommodation in immigration proceedings.

39. The Committee recommends that the State party ensure that persons with disabilities belonging to ethnic, linguistic and/or religious minorities, including those living in rural and remote areas, have access to identity documents and can access to services and protection of their rights under the Convention.

Bolivia (2016)

47. The Committee is concerned that universal registration of all persons with disabilities is not guaranteed and that newborns with disabilities are less likely to receive identity documents, which impedes their access to basic services. It is also concerned that not enough information is provided to families in this regard.

48. The Committee urges the State party to guarantee all persons with disabilities the right to be registered, and to train the staff of official institutions to register all persons with disabilities, particularly in indigenous communities and in remote and rural areas.

Ethiopia (2016)

41. The Committee is concerned that the process of birth registration of all newborn children with disabilities across all territories, including refugee camps, is not carried out to its fullest extent.

42. The Committee recommends that the State party strengthen the birth registration system to ensure that every newborn child with disabilities in all areas of the country, in particular those living in remote and rural areas and those living in refugee camps, are registered immediately upon birth.

Guatemala (2016)

51. The Committee notes that the steps taken by the State party to promote the civil registration of children have not led to the universal registration of children with disabilities and that many such children have no name.

52. The Committee urges the State party to ensure that all children with disabilities are immediately registered after birth, that an identity document is provided and that the National Registry Office properly registers all children with disabilities.

United Arab Emirates (2016)

35. The Committee is concerned about the lack of information on:

(a) The conditions in deportation and detention centres, including on accessibility and reasonable accommodation in those centres for migrant workers with disabilities;

(b) Applications made by persons with disabilities for naturalization and whether the naturalization procedure is accessible to them on an equal basis with others and without restrictions;

(c) The nationality status of Bidouns with disabilities and birth registration of Bidoun children with disabilities and the extent to which they are able to enjoy their rights and gain access to services.

36. The Committee recommends that the State party ensure that:

(a) Detention and deportation centres are accessible to migrant workers with disabilities and that migrant workers with disabilities are provided with reasonable accommodation;

(b) Naturalization procedures are fully accessible to persons with disabilities and that any person with a disability can choose to apply for nationality of the United Arab Emirates on an equal basis with others;

(c) All Bidouns with disabilities enjoy the right to a nationality and have access to services and that all Bidoun children with disabilities have a birth certificate and are able to exercise all the rights enshrined in the Convention.

Slovakia (2016)

53. The Committee notes with deep concern the precarious situation of persons with disabilities in the current migrant crisis on the national borders of the State party. The Committee is concerned that the migration decision-making procedures are not accessible for all persons with disabilities and that information and communication are not provided in accessible formats.

54. The Committee recommends that the State party mainstream disability in all its migration policies. It also recommends that persons with disabilities are permitted free movement across the State party borders on an equal basis with others.

Thailand (2016)

37. The Committee is concerned that the rules governing section 19 of the Persons with Disabilities Empowerment Act limit the application for disability identity cards to persons with disabilities who hold Thai citizenship only. It is concerned that this excludes non-Thai persons with disabilities and those who are not registered in the civil registry from benefiting from services and entitlements. It is also concerned about the fact that many children and adults with disabilities are not registered due to the widespread stigma of being identified as a person with disability.

38. The Committee recommends that the rules governing section 19 of the Persons with Disabilities Empowerment Act be amended to ensure that all persons with disabilities, regardless of nationality, including persons from different ethnic and indigenous backgrounds, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, can benefit from available services and entitlements. It also recommends that concrete steps be taken to provide information and conduct awareness-raising on registration to gain access to services.

<u>Uganda (2016)</u>

36. The Committee expresses concern about the legislation on immigration that denies persons with psychosocial and/or intellectual disabilities acquisition of dual citizenship. It is also concerned about the low level of registration of children with disabilities at birth.

37. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Repeal provisions in the Uganda Citizenship and Immigration Control Act (2009) and the Immigration Act (1970) that restrict the right to movement and liberty and acquisition of citizenship of persons with disabilities, particularly persons with psychosocial and intellectual disabilities;

(b) Ensure registration of all children with disabilities at birth.

European Union (2015)

48. The Committee is concerned at the barriers faced by persons with disabilities and workers with family members who have disabilities when moving to live or work in another European Union Member State, irrespective of the length of the stay.

49. The Committee recommends that the European Union take immediate action to ensure that all persons with disabilities and their families can enjoy their right to freedom of movement on an equal basis with others, including the portability of social security benefits in a coordinated manner across its Member States.

Gabon (2015)

42. The Committee is concerned by the absence of data on the number of children with disabilities whose birth is not registered and may not have identity documents, in particular girls.

43. The Committee strongly recommends that the State party establish records to ensure that the birth of all children with disabilities is recorded and that it promptly initiate programmes to provide identity documents to all persons with disabilities.

Kenya (2015)

35. The Committee express concern about the lack of registration of children with disabilities upon their birth, in particular children in situation of internal displacement and those living in refugee camps.

36. The Committee recommends that the State party strengthen the registration programme with necessary budget and personal resources to ensure that persons with disabilities in all areas of the country, including persons in refugee camps access to identification documents.

<u>Qatar (2015)</u>

35. The Committee is concerned by the conditions in deportation and detention centres and the lack of accessibility and reasonable accommodation in those centres for migrant workers with disabilities.

36. The Committee strongly recommends that the State party improve conditions in detention and deportation centres and ensure that they are accessible to migrant workers with disabilities and that migrant workers with disabilities are provided reasonable accommodation.

Cook Islands (2015)

37. The Committee is concerned about persons with disabilities being denied entry into the State party on the basis of disability.

38. The Committee recommends the State party to amend the law to allow all persons with disabilities entry to the State party on an equal basis with others.

Dominican Republic (2015)

36. The Committee is deeply concerned at the restrictions on access to community inclusion services for persons with disabilities of Haitian descent, as a consequence of the legislation restricting their rights to nationality.

37. The Committee recommends that the State party speed up the restoration of all the rights of persons with disabilities of Haitian origin or descent, so as to enable them to use all services and programmes for persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others.

Republic of Korea (2014)

35. The Committee is concerned about the provisions of article 11 of the Immigration Control Act pursuant to which entry to the State party is denied to persons with psychosocial disabilities "who lack reason and are not accompanied by an assistant for their sojourn", and of article 32 of the Welfare of Persons with Disabilities Act, which restrict basic disability services for migrants with disabilities.

36. The Committee recommends that the State party repeal article 11 of the Immigration Control Act and article 32 of the Welfare of Persons with Disabilities Act in order to ensure that persons with disabilities are not deprived of the right to enter the Republic of Korea on the basis of disability and to free migrants with disabilities from restrictions on basic disability services.

Ecuador (2014)

32. The Committee is concerned that article 7 of the Naturalization Act still provides that Ecuadorian nationality may not be granted to persons with a "chronic illness". Given the close link between so-called "chronic illnesses" and disabilities, this article is overtly discriminatory and contrary to article 18 of the Convention.

33. The Committee recommends that the State party repeal article 7 of the Naturalization Act so that any person with disabilities can choose to apply for Ecuadorian nationality on an equal basis with others.

Mexico (2014)

39. The Committee is concerned that migrants with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities are detained in migrant holding centres, that the authorities set stricter requirements for entry into the country for persons with disabilities and that persons injured as a result of falling from the train known as "La Bestia" ("The Beast") receive inadequate care.

40. The Committee urges the State party to:

(a) Designate appropriate and accessible areas and appoint trained staff to assist persons with disabilities in migrant holding centres;

(b) Review and harmonize the operational guidelines under the Migration Act to ensure that persons with disabilities are treated equally in the issuance of visas and entry permits;

(c)Review and harmonize care protocols for migrants who are injured while in transit in Mexico, so that they are provided with not only emergency medical care but also sufficient recovery time and basic rehabilitation.

41. The Committee notes that the steps taken to promote the registration of children with the civil registry have not led to the universal registration of children with disabilities.

42. The Committee urges the State party to ensure that all children with disabilities are immediately registered at birth and are provided with an identity document.

El Salvador (2013)

39. The Committee is concerned that children, adolescents and adults with disabilities living in rural areas remain unregistered and therefore do not have identity documents.

40. The Committee calls on the State party to ensure that children with disabilities are entered in the civil registry at birth.

Paraguay (2013)

45. The Committee is concerned that children with disabilities are not registered in the State party and that there are as yet no concrete measures to encourage the registration of children with disabilities, particularly in rural areas.

46. The Committee urges the State party to set up a programme on the civil registration of children with disabilities at birth, on an equal footing with other children, and decentralize registry procedures and ensure that they can be carried out simply, quickly and free of charge.