



IDA's Compilation of CRPD Committee's Concluding Observations

*Article 20 CRPD
(Personal mobility)*

October 2022

Article 20 - Personal mobility

States Parties shall take effective measures to ensure personal mobility with the greatest possible independence for persons with disabilities, including by:

- a) Facilitating the personal mobility of persons with disabilities in the manner and at the time of their choice, and at affordable cost;*
- b) Facilitating access by persons with disabilities to quality mobility aids, devices, assistive technologies and forms of live assistance and intermediaries, including by making them available at affordable cost;*
- c) Providing training in mobility skills to persons with disabilities and to specialist staff working with persons with disabilities;*
- d) Encouraging entities that produce mobility aids, devices and assistive technologies to take into account all aspects of mobility for persons with disabilities.*

**Bangladesh
Indonesia
Japan
Lao People's Democratic Republic
New Zealand
Hungary
Jamaica
Djibouti
France
Estonia
Albania
Australia
El Salvador
Greece
India
Iraq
Kuwait
Myanmar
Niger
Rwanda
Saudi Arabia
Senegal
Vanuatu
Algeria
Bulgaria
Philippines
Poland
South Africa
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Nepal
Oman
Russian Federation
Seychelles
Slovenia
Sudan
Latvia
Montenegro
Morocco
Armenia
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Jordan
Republic of Moldova
Serbia
Slovakia
Uganda
European Union
Gabon
Mongolia
El Salvador
Paraguay**

Please note there are no recommendations in the Concluding Observations on Art. 20 on China, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Cuba, Norway, Spain, Turkey, Bulgaria, Haiti,

Luxembourg, Panama, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, Cyprus, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Bolivia, Colombia, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Italy, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Chile, Lithuania, Portugal, Thailand, Brazil, Kenya, Mauritius, Qatar, Ukraine, Cook Islands, Croatia, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Germany, Turkmenistan, Belgium, Denmark, Ecuador, Mexico, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Azerbaijan, Costa Rica, Australia, Austria, Argentina, China, Hungary, Peru, Spain, Tunisia, Mexico, Switzerland, Venezuela, China, Hong Kong, Macao and the Republic of Korea.

Bangladesh

41. The Committee is concerned about the barriers often experienced by persons with disabilities, especially women and children with disabilities, in obtaining, using and maintaining mobility aids, assistive devices and assistive technologies and services, including accessible transportation and infrastructure, necessary for their personal mobility, particularly in rural areas.

42. The Committee recommends that the State party eliminate all barriers in the way of persons with disabilities acquiring affordable and quality mobility aids and assistive devices, assistive technologies and services, including accessible transportation and infrastructure, to aid their personal mobility, and provide necessary information and training on their usage and maintenance. It further recommends that the State party create an enabling environment whereby persons with disabilities can procure these devices through reduced customs tariffs from overseas and, in consultation with representative organisations of persons with disabilities, continue developing the means to manufacture and repair such devices at affordable cost.

Indonesia

46. The Committee notes the lack of access to quality mobility aids and assistive devices and technologies that are available at an affordable cost, and the lack of locally made aids and devices which leads to importation with high prices and the imposition by the State Party of additional taxes.

47. The Committee recommends that the State party ensure affordability of assistive devices, including by adopting tax and customs exemptions for the purchase of mobility aids and assistive devices and technologies, and provide financial and capacity support for local enterprises to manufacture aids for the local market.

Japan

43. The Committee is concerned that:

- (a) Legal restrictions do not allow using community living support services for purposes such as commuting to and from work or school, or for an extended period;
- (b) Insufficient access to quality mobility aids, devices, assistive technologies and forms of life assistance and intermediaries for persons with disabilities, in particular, in regions outside of major cities.

44. The Committee recommends that the State party:

- (a) Eliminate the restrictions under the Act on the Comprehensive Support for the Daily and Social Life of Persons with Disabilities to ensure unrestricted personal mobility of persons with disabilities in all regions;**
- (b) Reinforce efforts to ensure that necessary mobility aids and assistive devices and technologies are affordable for all persons with disabilities, including by promoting local repairs, providing government and tax subsidies, and waiving taxes and custom charges.**

Lao People's Democratic Republic

36. The Committee is concerned about:

- (a) Barriers faced by persons with disabilities in acquiring and maintaining the mobility aids and assistive devices, technologies and services necessary for their personal mobility, particularly in rural and remote areas;
- (b) The "good health" certificate as a requirement for driver license applications, which exclude persons with disabilities;
- (c) Limited trained personnel to impart mobility skills to persons with disabilities;
- (d) Insufficient financial support for the Centre of Medical Rehabilitation, the Orthopaedic and Rehabilitation Factory 686, and the provincial rehabilitation centres to producing and providing assistive devices.

37. The Committee recommends that the State party:

- (a) Ensure that persons with disabilities can acquire quality and affordable or free of charge mobility aids and assistive devices, technologies and services necessary for their personal mobility, as well as appropriate information on how to use and maintain them;
- (b) Remove discriminatory requirements in driving license applications that exclude persons with disabilities;
- (c) Guarantee training for orientation and mobility practitioners and teachers in the use of mobility aids and assistive devices and technologies for persons with physical disabilities and persons who are blind or partially sighted;
- (d) Increase budget allocations for the Centre of Medical Rehabilitation, the Orthopaedic and Rehabilitation Factory 686, and the provincial rehabilitation centres to meet the demand for the assistive devices.

New Zealand

41. The Committee is concerned that as a result of funding caps and the high cost of assistive devices and equipment, persons with disabilities are unable to afford the appropriate assistive devices, modification services and mobility aids.

42. The Committee recommends that the State party take measures to ensure the affordability of necessary assistive devices, modification services and mobility aids, including assistive technology for persons with disabilities.

Hungary

42. The Committee is concerned about the lack of access to quality mobility aids, devices, assistive technologies and forms of life assistance and intermediaries for persons with disabilities, resulting from their compulsory linkage with health insurance, including the lack of involvement of organizations of persons with disabilities in the licensing of measures aimed at facilitating personal mobility.

43. The Committee recommends that the State party, in close cooperation with organizations of persons with disabilities, revise the mobility aids system for persons with disabilities, including its mechanism for quality assurance, and facilitate the provision of quality mobility aids, devices and assistive technologies for all persons with disabilities, based on their individual needs, with the aim of promoting their autonomy and independent life.

Jamaica

36. The Committee notes that the Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities supports the mobility of persons with disabilities through the provision of Assistive Aid Grants, however it is concerned that the financial support only covers from 25 to 50 per cent of the total cost of some assistive devices, that only persons with disabilities who are registered with the Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities can benefit from the grants, that many of the assistive devices are not locally made and therefore depend on importation by private suppliers with high prices, and that are reported delays in the delivery of the assistive devices due to a long process for approving applications.

37. The Committee recommends that the State party:

- (a) Ensure access to quality mobility aids, devices and assistive technologies for all persons with disabilities irrespective of their registration status, in particular those who are unemployed or are low-income earners;
- (b) Increase budget allocations for the Assistive Aid Grants to meet the increased costs and demand for the assistive devices and to ease the burden on the individuals who need them;
- (c) Ensure affordability of assistive devices, including by introducing incentive measures and tax and customs exemptions for the purchase of assistive equipment and devices for persons with disabilities, and provide fiscal and capacity support for local enterprises with the interest and ability to manufacture aids for the local market.

Djibouti

35. The Committee is concerned about the limited access to mobility aids and assistive devices for persons with disabilities, especially in rural areas, and the limited availability of practitioners and teachers to train persons with disabilities on the use of available assistive aids and devices.

36. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt appropriate measures, with the support of national and international cooperation, to facilitate the access to necessary and quality mobility aids, devices and assistive technologies, especially in rural areas, at an affordable cost for all persons with disabilities.

France

42. The Committee is concerned about the lack of progress concerning measures to ensure personal mobility of persons with disabilities, including the lack of access to quality and affordable mobility devices.

43. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt measures, including regulations and programmes in metropolitan and in overseas territorial collectivities to ensure accessibility of persons with disabilities to:

- (a) Transport and public places for persons with disabilities with a guide dog;**
- (b) Free parking for holders of mobility inclusion cards;**
- (c) Quality mobility aids, devices, assistive technologies and forms of live assistance and intermediaries, including by making them free or available at affordable cost.**

Estonia

40. The Committee is concerned about the lack of access for persons with disabilities and the lack of consideration of the individual needs of persons with disabilities for quality mobility aids, devices and assistive technologies due to bureaucratic barriers, particularly for children with disabilities.

41. The Committee recommends that the State party ensure access to quality mobility aids, devices and assistive technologies for all persons with disabilities by eliminating administrative barriers and addressing individual requirements, including age-related requirements.

Albania

35. The Committee is concerned about the lack of a transparent system for providing assistive devices and aids, and training on their use, without discrimination. The Committee also notes the absence of sufficient funding to support personal mobility and to guarantee universal access to appropriate assistive devices and aids. It is also concerned that there is no comprehensive strategy, action plans or strategies to strengthen individual safety of persons with disabilities in public transport.

36. The Committee recommends that the State party:

- (a) Legislate and take any other appropriate measures to ensure the creation of a fund to support personal mobility and to guarantee universal access to appropriate assistive devices as well as to appropriate training in how to use them;**
- (b) Improve access to mobility aids, devices and other assistive technologies;**
- (c) Adopt a strategy on public transport standards and services taking into account the requirements of persons with disabilities in rural and urban areas.**

Australia

39. The Committee is concerned about the lack of locally available solutions to address, enhance and promote the use of mobility aids and equipment among persons with disabilities, especially within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and in remote areas.

40. The Committee recommends that the State party, in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons with disabilities, through their representative organizations

and in their communities, develop locally relevant solutions to address the underlying structural obstacles that can preclude the use of aids and equipment within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and in remote areas.

El Salvador

40. The Committee notes that there is no comprehensive mobility plan that includes technical aids, subsidies for the repair and maintenance of such aids and ergonomics for the individual manufacture of wheelchairs, particularly for persons who do not benefit from any social security programme or scheme.

41. The Committee recommends that the State party establish a comprehensive mobility plan, for both urban and rural areas, which takes into account the individual technical assistance requirements of persons with disabilities, including those who do not benefit from any social security programme or scheme.

Greece

30. The Committee is concerned about the lack of a transparent system for granting transport benefits and ensuring the mobility of persons with disabilities without any discrimination. It is particularly concerned about the limited and impeded access to parking space and reported instances of denial of exemption from fees and taxes for vehicles of persons with disabilities owing, inter alia, to the requirement for certification of lifelong disability under the current secondary legislation.

31. The Committee recommends that the State party take effective measures to improve the system of personal mobility support, ensuring its transparency and the equal access of all persons with disabilities to benefits and means facilitating their personal mobility. It also recommends that the State party provide specific training in mobility skills for persons with disabilities and specialized staff working with them.

India

42. The Committee is concerned about the lack of available and affordable assistive devices and related support services for all persons with disabilities, particularly in rural and remote areas, and the lack of involvement of persons with disabilities to act as experts on assistive devices and technology and to encourage the development of local manufacture.

43. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt measures to ensure the availability, equal distribution and affordability of assistive devices. It also recommends that the State party develop training on quality standards and promote the inclusion of local or indigenous manufacturers for the production, maintenance and distribution of assistive devices and appliances, ensuring the involvement of organizations of persons with disabilities at the local level and in rural areas.

Iraq

37. The Committee is concerned about the difficulties that persons with disabilities face in accessing affordable and high-quality mobility-related technical aids, appliances, equipment and medical devices.

38. The Committee recommends that the State party introduce the necessary measures to enable persons with disabilities to access high-quality personal mobility equipment and aids that are affordable or free of charge.

Kuwait

40. The Committee is concerned about:

- (a) The absence of a national policy on mobility for persons with disabilities that provides for audible signal indicators at street crossings, especially for blind persons;
- (b) The lack of personnel trained in imparting mobility skills to persons who are blind or otherwise visually impaired.

41. The Committee recommends that the State party:

- (a) Adopt a national policy with adequate measures, in close consultation with and with the active involvement of representative organizations of persons with disabilities, to address the mobility needs of persons with disabilities, including the acquisition of mobility devices;**
- (b) Train the necessary personnel to impart mobility skills to persons who are blind or visually impaired.**

Myanmar

39. The Committee is concerned about the challenges faced by persons with disabilities in acquiring and maintaining mobility aids and assistive devices, technologies and services necessary for their personal mobility.

40. The Committee recommends that the State party ensure that persons with disabilities can acquire quality and affordable or free of charge mobility aids and assistive devices, technologies and services necessary for their personal mobility, as well as appropriate information and training on how to use and maintain them. The Committee further recommends that the State party ensure that the technology and services necessary for the repair of mobility aids and assistive devices are available locally and at an affordable cost.

Niger

33. The Committee is concerned about the absence of a policy on mobility for persons with disabilities; and the lack of trained personnel to impart mobility skills to persons who are blind or visually impaired.

34. The Committee recommends that the State party develop a policy on mobility in consultation with representative organizations of persons with disabilities that addresses the mobility requirements of persons with disabilities, including the acquisition of mobility devices at affordable cost; and train necessary personnel to impart mobility skills to persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Rwanda

37. The Committee is concerned about the insufficient access to affordable mobility aids and assistive devices for persons with disabilities, particularly in rural areas. It is also concerned about the limited availability at the local level of the necessary technology to produce appropriate assistive devices.

38. The Committee recommends that the State party take measures to ensure that the technology and services necessary for the repair and manufacturing of quality mobility aids, assistive devices, be made available locally and at an affordable cost, including through subsidies, taking into consideration individual requirements and choice.

Saudi Arabia

37. The Committee is concerned at:

- (a) Challenges faced by persons with disabilities in acquiring necessary mobility aids and assistive devices, including due to the complex nature of the administrative procedures regarding the special tax and customs exemptions for the purchase of adapted motor vehicles;**
- (b) The lack of involvement of organizations led, directed and governed by persons with disabilities in the development and allocation of mobility aids, devices, assistive technologies and forms of live assistance and intermediaries.**

38. The Committee recommends that the State party

- (a) Take all appropriate measures to ensure the affordability of necessary mobility aids and devices as well as assistive technologies, live assistance and intermediaries, and means of transportation for persons with disabilities, through government subsidies and simplification of administrative procedure;**

(b) Ensure the participation of organizations led, directed and governed by persons with disabilities in the development and allocation of mobility aids, devices, assistive technologies, forms of live assistance and intermediaries.

Senegal

35. The Committee is concerned about the challenges faced by persons with disabilities in acquiring necessary mobility aids and assistive devices, including assistive technologies, and the lack of orientation and mobility practitioners and teachers to train persons with physical disabilities and persons who are blind or visually impaired, particularly in remote and rural areas, on the use of their assistive aids and devices.

36. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Take all necessary steps in partnerships with local, national and international partners to ensure the affordability of necessary mobility aids, assistive devices and technologies for persons with disabilities, including promoting local promotion, the provision of government and tax subsidies, as well as waiving taxes and custom charges;

(b) Provide training for orientation and mobility practitioners and teachers in the use of mobility aids and assistive devices and technologies for persons with physical disabilities and persons who are blind or visually impaired, particularly in remote and rural areas.

Vanuatu

34. The Committee is concerned about the limited access to personal assistive devices for persons with disabilities, especially in rural areas. It is also concerned at the insufficient financial support for the provisions of assistive devices by the State party.

35. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Adopt measures in the framework of the Community-based rehabilitation Action Plan (2014-2024) to facilitate access to mobility aids, assistive devices and technologies, especially in rural areas, at an affordable cost for all persons with disabilities;

(b) Include persons with disabilities through their representative organizations in the development of provisions on assistive devices and continue strengthening partnerships with their organizations and provincial governments;

(c) Introduce tax and customs exemptions for the purchase of assistive equipment and devices for persons with disabilities.

Algeria

34. The Committee is concerned about the difficulties that persons with disabilities face to access free personal mobility equipment or to purchase it as well as the insufficient clarity in the eligibility criteria for persons with disabilities to benefit from personal mobility aids.

35. The Committee recommends that the State party introduce the necessary measures to facilitate the access of persons with disabilities to personal mobility equipment and aids that are affordable or free of charge.

Bulgaria

41. The Committee notes with concern that persons with disabilities still face challenges in accessing mobility related, affordable technical aids, appliances, equipment and medical devices they require.

42. The Committee recommends that the State party intensify its efforts to enhance personal mobility and enable persons with disabilities to access mobility related technical aids, appliances, equipment and medical devices that are affordable and/or free, including by increasing resources for it.

Philippines

36. The Committee is concerned about the absence of a non-discriminatory and systematic framework with adequate public budgets dedicated to the acquisition of mobility aids and assistive technologies, which are crucial in ensuring the unrestricted personal mobility of persons with disabilities.

37. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt a policy framework including fixed and sufficient human, technical and financial resources to ensure that persons with disabilities acquire quality and affordable mobility aids and assistive devices, technologies and services necessary for their personal mobility. It also recommends that the State party establishes targets to provide universal access to appropriate orthopedic, technological and other assistive devices as well as appropriate information and training on how to use them.

Poland

34. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) Barriers that persons with disabilities face when applying for driving license because of lack of accommodation, including sign language interpretation, at the examination;

(b) The lack of support for persons with disabilities for purchasing adapted vehicles and means of transportation;

(c) Undue restrictions imposed on blind persons using a guide dog in accessing public buildings, transport and services for persons with disabilities;

35. The Committee recommends that the State Party ensure:

(a) Full availability of accommodation measures for persons with disabilities at driving examination centers;

(b) Relevant support for persons with disabilities for purchasing adapted vehicles and means of transportation, or for adding adaptive equipment to a vehicle;

(c) Access to buildings, transport and services opened to the public for blind persons using a guide dog.

South Africa

36. The Committee notes with concern:

(a) The significant and increasing challenges faced by persons with disabilities, particularly those with mobility impairments, blind and visually impaired persons, in accessing quality and affordable mobility and assistive technologies, live assistance and intermediaries, especially in remote and rural areas;

(b) The lack of orientation and mobility practitioners as well as teachers to train persons with motor impairment, blind and visually impaired persons, particularly in remote and rural areas, on the use of their assistive technologies that will enhance their dignity and respect in society.

37. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Adopt measures to facilitate the acquisition of necessary mobility and assistive technologies, live assistance and intermediaries, particularly for persons with motor impairments, blind and visually impaired persons, especially in remote and rural areas;

(b) Adopt an effective national strategy for the training and retraining of orientation and mobility practitioners and teachers in the use of devices for motor impaired, blind and visually impaired persons, particularly in remote and rural areas.

The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

36. The Committee notes the efforts taken by the State party to promote access to assistive devices for persons with disabilities. However it is concerned about cost of participation for orthopedic and other mobility aids which makes them unaffordable for persons with disabilities.

37. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt measures to ensure the provision of mobility and assistive devices, including assistance technologies, at affordable costs, for persons with disabilities.

Nepal

31. The Committee is concerned that a majority of public infrastructure, including, government offices, hospitals, schools, colleges, banks, roads, public buildings and public transportation are not easily accessible for persons with disabilities. The Committee is also concerned that streets are not paved to accommodate users of crutches and wheelchairs. The Committee is further concerned that the situation is even worse in cases where houses, schools and health facilities are located in mountainous and hilly regions where wheelchairs and other devices cannot be used.

32. The Committee urges the State party to adopt appropriate measures to ensure mobility of all persons with disabilities in order to facilitate their participation, inclusion in community in general and in particular, to engage in education and livelihood activities, including access to quality and affordable mobility aids and assistive devices, technologies and services necessary for their unrestricted personal mobility.

Oman

37. The Committee is concerned about:

(a) The absence of a national policy on mobility for persons with disabilities that recognises the provision of audible signal indicators at street crossings for accessibility, especially for persons who are blind;

(b) The non-inclusion of persons with disabilities in the Transportation and Communication Subcommittee under the National Committee for the Care and Rehabilitation of the Disabled;

(c) The absence of trained personnel to impart mobility skills to persons who are blind and visually impaired.

38. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Adopt a national policy with adequate measures to address the mobility needs of persons with disabilities, including the acquisition of mobility devices;

(b) Include persons with disabilities in the Transportation and Communication Subcommittee under the Care and Rehabilitation of the Disabled to give them an opportunity to contribute to the development of a national policy on mobility for persons with disabilities;

(c) Train necessary personnel to impart mobility skills to persons who are blind and visually impaired.

Russian Federation

42. The Committee is concerned that there is no equal access to technical and other means and quality equipment for individualized process of rehabilitation for persons with disabilities living in different regions based on the Technical Means of Rehabilitation system.

43. The Committee urges the State party to revise the current legislation and practice in order to provide equal access to rehabilitation based on services and to quality products provided by the public and regional funds.

Seychelles

33. The Committee is concerned about the lack of sufficient quality mobility aids available for persons with disabilities and the insufficient support for the acquisition of quality mobility aids and assistive technologies.

34. The Committee recommends that the State party ensure the availability and support for the acquisition of quality mobility aids and assistive technologies, tailored to individual requirements.

Slovenia

33. The Committee is concerned about the lack of sufficient quality mobility aids available for persons with disabilities and the insufficient support for the acquisition of quality mobility aids and assistive technologies.

34. The Committee recommends that the State party ensure the availability and support for the acquisition of quality mobility aids and assistive technologies, tailored to individual requirements.

Sudan

41. The Committee notes the efforts taken by the State party to promote access to assistive devices, but is concerned about the challenges faced by persons with disabilities in acquiring necessary mobility aids and assistive devices including assistance technologies, as their cost remain prohibitive.

42. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt measures to ensure the provision of mobility and assistive devices, including assistance technologies, at affordable costs, for persons with disabilities.

Latvia

32. The Committee is concerned about the lack of availability and support for the timely acquisition of quality mobility aids, devices and adaptations in accordance with the individual needs of persons with disabilities, particularly for women and children with disabilities.

33. The Committee recommends that the State party facilitate access to quality mobility aids, assistive equipment, devices and technologies for all persons with disabilities, including women and children with disabilities, in accordance with the needs of the individuals concerned.

Montenegro

38. The Committee is concerned that the distribution of mobility aids is not universal and notes that there are insufficient measures to ensure personal mobility.

39. The Committee recommends that the State party improve transparent access to assistive devices and technologies and ensure accessible and fair reimbursement schemes in order to prevent any additional costs and/or administrative burden for persons with disabilities.

Morocco

40. The Committee notes with concern the challenges faced by persons with disabilities in acquiring necessary mobility aids and assistive devices, including assistance technologies, and live assistance and intermediaries, as well as the complex nature of the administrative procedures regarding the special tax and customs exemptions granted for the purchase of adapted motor vehicles.

41. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt measures to facilitate the acquisition of necessary mobility aids and devices, including assistance technologies, and live assistance and intermediaries, and establish concrete measures to simplify the administrative procedures regarding the special tax and customs exemptions granted for the purchase of adapted motor vehicles.

Armenia

33. The Committee is concerned about the lack of availability of and support for mobility aids, devices and other assistive technologies and forms of live assistance and intermediaries and about the lack of an individualized approach to their acquisition.

34. The Committee recommends that the State party create a mechanism for facilitating access to quality mobility aids, assistive equipment, devices and technologies at an affordable cost for all persons with disabilities, taking into consideration their individual requirements.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

36. The Committee is concerned that a transparent and non-discriminatory system for providing assistive devices and aids is lacking.

37. The Committee recommends that the State party improve transparent access to assistive devices and technologies. It recommends that the State party legislate and take any other appropriate measures to ensure a fund for a transparent system of services to support personal mobility, including universal access to appropriate orthopaedic, typhlotechnical and other assistive devices as well as to appropriate training in how to use them.

Jordan

39. The Committee notes the absence of a systematic framework and public budget dedicated to the acquisition of mobility aids and assistive technologies necessary for the unrestricted personal mobility of persons with disabilities.

40. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt a dedicated systematic framework and budget to ensure that persons with disabilities can acquire quality and affordable mobility aids and assistive devices, technologies and services necessary for their unrestricted personal mobility.

Republic of Moldova

38. The Committee is concerned about the lack of availability and support for the acquisition of quality mobility aids, devices and adaptations, including driver's licences and vehicle equipment for persons with disabilities. It is also concerned that persons with visual impairments are excluded from programmes that offer assistive equipment.

39. The Committee recommends that the State party establish a mechanism for facilitating access to quality mobility aids, assistive equipment, devices and technologies at an affordable cost for all persons with disabilities, in consultation with organizations of persons with disabilities. It also recommends regular training and capacity-building for staff working on personal mobility.

Serbia

41. The Committee is concerned that taking part in driving lessons and passing exams with the use of sign language is still limited and that medical assessments of persons who are deaf or hard of hearing for driving courses is not transparently standardised and applied. The Committee is further concerned that, despite the recent adoption of the Guide Dog Assistance Law (2015), there is a lack of trained guide dogs for blind or vision-impaired persons and insufficient availability of training centres for guide dogs.

42. The Committee urges the State party to adopt universally applied measures and harmonise the practice of courses for the deaf and hard of hearing persons using sign language, and to prevent them from being denied driving licences on the basis of their impairment. It further recommends the State party increase its efforts to improve access to trained guide dogs for blind or vision-impaired persons.

Slovakia

59. The Committee is concerned about the insufficient affordability of aids and adaptations and the difficulties encountered in the process of granting allowances to receive assistive devices, in particular for people with complex physical disabilities.

60. The Committee recommends that all aids, adaptations and assistive devices be available, affordable and of good quality for all persons with disabilities, in particular for people with complex physical disabilities.

Uganda

40. The Committee is concerned about barriers hindering personal mobility of persons with disabilities.

41. The Committee recommends that the State party expedite the enactment of the draft rehabilitation and health-care policy on disability, in line with the Convention, and ensure all appropriate provisions and a public budget for mobility requirements of persons with disabilities.

European Union

52. The Committee is concerned about the varied practice of different National Enforcement Bodies in charge of implementing the rights of passengers with disabilities in different European Union Member States, which may lead to unequal treatment and restricts the enjoyment of rights of passengers with disabilities.

53. The Committee recommends that the European Union strengthen the monitoring of the implementation of passenger rights' legislation and to harmonise the work of the National Enforcement Bodies in order to ensure the effective and equal enjoyment of rights of all passengers with disabilities across the European Union, including the implementation of the European Mobility Card. It further recommends that the European Union harmonise its existing passenger rights' legislation to be in line with regulations concerning maritime passengers' rights.

Gabon

46. The Committee is concerned about the lack of affordable assistive devices available to persons with disabilities.

47. The Committee recommends that the State party establish, for all persons with disabilities, the mandatory provision and maintenance of assistive devices which are affordable or free of charge according to those persons' means.

Mongolia

33. The Committee is concerned about the quality of subsidised mobility and assistive devices and the amount of subsidies which do not reflect today's market prices.

34. The Committee recommends that quality assistive devices and technologies, services (including for repair and manufacturing) are made available through increased subsidies, and to permit persons with disabilities to make their own choices in this regard.

El Salvador

43. The Committee is concerned that the distribution of mobility aids is not universal and notes that measures ensuring personal mobility are either insufficient or non-existent.

44. The Committee recommends that the State party ensure access to equipment and various other forms of mobility aids, technical aids, live assistance and support technologies for all persons with disabilities, including those living in rural areas and those who do not benefit from any specific social security or insurance.

Paraguay

51. The Committee is concerned at the lack of any comprehensive strategy for the provision of mobility equipment and aids for persons with disabilities, and including the development of low-cost universal-design appliances.

52. The Committee urges the State party to ensure that persons with disabilities have ready access to the high-quality equipment and aids they need in order to exercise their right to mobility and freedom of movement autonomously and independently. The Committee also urges the State party to encourage research and development into low-cost mobility appliances.

