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GLOBAL NEWS

• CRPD ratifications reach 127

The ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) by Cambodia on 20 December 2012 brings a total of 127 States Parties to the CRPD, while the Optional Protocol (OP) has 76 ratifications.

The number of signatories to the CRPD is 155 while the OP is 91.

[List of signatories and States Parties](#)

• IASG Meeting

A meeting of the Inter-Agency Support Group for the CRPD took place in Geneva and New York via video and teleconference on 18 December 2012, hosted by the current chair of UNICEF and in Geneva by ILO. Participants included representatives from UNICEF, WHO, UNMAS, ITU, UNESCO, ECLAC, ESCAP, OHCHR, UNDP, DESA, the World Bank, the UN Regional Commissions Office in New York, UN DPI, UNFPA, IDA and IDDC, and for the first time, UN Women.

Participants provided updates since the last IASG meeting. ESCAP highlighted the Incheon Strategy adopted in November 2012. ILO informed about their recently adopted [Disability Inclusion paper](#). UNDP provided an update on the multi-donor trust fund (the UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PRPD)). Also discussed were the upcoming [High Level Meeting on Disability and Development which will take place on 23 September 2013](#), and the need to make the outcome action-oriented and participation inclusive, as well as current efforts to ensure inclusion of persons with disabilities in the post-2015 development agenda.

More information about the meeting and new resources mentioned by participants will soon be available on the [UN Enable website](#).

NEW YORK NEWS

General Assembly

The Third Committee of the 67th session of the General Assembly adopted two specific resolutions on the rights of persons with disabilities: the **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto**, (Draft, [A/C.3/67/L.25](#) PDF version); and **Realizing the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond**, (Draft, [A/C.3/67/L.10/Rev.1](#) PDF version). The Third Committee also adopted a number of resolutions with increased disability references. [Disability analysis of resolutions adopted by the Third Committee](#).

Additionally adopted during this Session of the General Assembly was a strong horizontal resolution on **Addressing the socioeconomic needs of individuals, families and societies affected by autism spectrum disorders (ASD) developmental disorders (DD) and associated disabilities** (Draft, [A/67/L.33](#) PDF version).

Related Reports:

- [Status of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto \(A/67/281\)](#)
- [Report of the Secretary-General: Realization of the Millennium Development Goals and internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond \(A/67/211\)](#)

Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review

On 14 December, the UN General Assembly adopted the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR) with disability-specific language. The QCPR is a key guiding document for the work of the UN agencies that are active in the area of development; it sets the framework within which the strategic plans operate for the next 4 years (2013 onward). Operative paragraph 23 directs UN agencies to take the needs of persons with disabilities into account in all operational activities for development, including in the Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). It also mandates development agencies to address the lack of adequate and reliable information about disability and development, and to strengthen coherence in this regard.

Related Documents:

- [QCPR Report \(A/67/442/Add.1\)](#)
- [IDA summary of the QCPR Report](#)

International Day of Persons with Disabilities

On 3 December 2012, the UN observed the International Day of Persons with Disabilities with three special events: the launch of the preparatory process for the 2013 High Level Meeting on disability and development; a panel discussion on “The way forward: a disability inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond”; and a UN Enable film festival. Vladimir Cuk, on behalf of IDA, was a speaker at the panel discussion which addressed the preparatory process towards the High Level Meeting on Disability and Development. IDA emphasized that the preparatory process should be CRPD-driven and includes a wide variety of stakeholders, particularly in national consultations outside New York. IDA also made a number of substantive and procedural recommendations with regard to the outcome document, a separate Q&A document and information note to help people who are new to this process, and using the sixth Conference of State Parties as an additional opportunity to solicit opinions and feedback.

Related Documents:

- [Full text of IDA’s speaking notes](#)
- [IDA’s press release on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities](#)

GENEVA NEWS

Treaty Bodies

- The [Committee against Torture](#) met for its 49th session from 29 October – 23 November in which, among others, it adopted the lists of issues on Bolivia and the UK.

Related documents:

- [IDA’s disability-relevant analysis of the list of issues](#)
- [IDA’s disability analysis of the state reports of Bolivia and the UK](#)

- The [Committee on the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights](#) held its Pre-sessional Working group from 3 – 7 December 2012 in which it adopted list of issues on Albania, Denmark, Kuwait, Lithuania, Rwanda and Togo.

Related documents:

- [IDA’s disability analysis of list of issues](#)
- [IDA’s proposed questions for the list of issues](#)
- [IDA’s disability analysis of state reports of Albania, Denmark, Kuwait, Lithuania, Rwanda, Togo, and Niger](#)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Treaty Bodies

- The [Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#) has announced that it will be holding a half day of general discussion on women and girls with disabilities at its upcoming session in April 2013. The discussion will take place on 17 April from 12 – 6pm. The Committee welcomes written submissions from civil society, particularly from DPOs, on strengthening the protection of human rights of women and girls with disabilities. Submissions should not exceed 10 pages and should be sent in word format no later than 17 February 2013 to crpd@ohchr.org. For further details please visit the Committee’s [website](#) where information is available in English, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic and Chinese.

The [CRPD Committee's views](#) adopted in *Kenneth McAlpine v UK* are now available on the Committee's [website](#) in English, Spanish, French, Arabic and Chinese. This is the second decision adopted by the Committee on an [individual complaint](#).

Related documents:

- [CRPD Committee's decision adopted in Kenneth McAlpine v UK](#)
- [IDA case summary of Kenneth McAlpine v UK, communication no 6/2011](#)
- [IDA factsheet on the Optional Protocol to the CRPD](#)

- The [Committee on the Rights of the Child](#) will be meeting for its 62nd session from 14 January – 1 February 2013 during which it will examine the reports of Guinea, Guyana, Malta and Niue. The Committee will continue its work on draft General Comments on the [right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health](#) (article 24); the right of the child to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities (article 31); [child rights and the business sector](#); and the joint General Comment/Recommendation being prepared with the CEDAW Committee on [harmful practices](#).

Related documents:

- [IDA's proposed recommendations for the Concluding Observations](#)
- [IDA's disability analysis of state reports](#)
- The [Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women](#) will hold a half day of general discussion on access to justice at its upcoming 54th session on 18 February 2013 at Palais des Nations, Conference Room XVI

from 10am to 1pm. The purpose of the discussion is to elaborate a General Recommendation on access to justice in order to provide appropriate and authoritative guidance to States Parties on the measures to be adopted to ensure full compliance with their obligations to protect, respect and fulfill women's human rights to access to justice. Written submissions on the theme are welcome in English or French; they must not exceed 10 pages and should be sent electronically to the Committee secretariat at rgachoud@ohchr.org no later than 1 February 2013. Registration and expressions of interest to make an oral intervention during the discussion must be communicated to the CEDAW Committee secretariat by 1 February 2013. A [concept note](#) has been drafted to provide guidelines for the discussion. For further information, please visit the Committee's [website](#).

- An [updated 2013 treaty body calendar](#) setting out the countries coming up for review and for adoption of list of issues, with deadlines for respective submissions, is now available.

Universal Periodic Review

- The fifteenth session of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) will take place in Geneva from 21 January – 1 February 2013. The countries that will be reviewed include Bahamas, Barbados, Botswana, Burundi, France, Israel, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mali, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Tonga, and United Arab Emirates. Of these, France and Israel have made reservations to the CRPD which should be

withdrawn. States under review in the 15th session of the UPR, that have not yet become parties to the CRPD, include Burundi, Barbados and Tonga (which have signed the CRPD), and Bahamas, Botswana and Liechtenstein (which have not signed it). Countries that have yet to ratify the Optional Protocol include Burundi, Romania, United Arab Emirates, (which have signed it), and Bahamas, Botswana, Israel, and Liechtenstein (which have not signed it).

Related Document:

- [IDA's disability analysis and recommendations](#)

About the IDA Disability Rights Bulletin

This bulletin is intended for experts advocating for the rights of persons with disabilities in the UN system. It is prepared by the IDA Secretariat, which also provides support to the Geneva Group of States Friends of the CRPD and to the New York informal network on States Friends of the CRPD.

*For more information about IDA and its member organisations, please visit: www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org
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