

- CRPD ratifications
- International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- Treaty Bodies update
- UNPRPD MDTF
- Aid Effectiveness
- Upcoming meetings
- Other news

## Global News

### • CRPD ratifications reach 108

The ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) by Indonesia on 30 November 2011 and by Myanmar on 7 December 2011 bring a total of 108 States Parties to the CRPD, while the Optional Protocol (OP) has 63 ratifications.

The number of signatures to the CRPD is 153 while the OP has 90 signatures.

Please click the link to check the list of [Signatories and State Parties](#).

### • States Reports submitted to the CRPD Committee

Denmark and Cook Islands have recently presented their national report to the CRPD Committee. For the moment, the reports are only available in English.

Spain, Tunisia, Peru, China, Argentina, Hungary, Paraguay, Austria, Australia, El Salvador, Sweden, Azerbaijan, Costa Rica, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland were the first countries in submitting their national reports to the CRPD Committee.

Please click the link to access the [CRPD website](#) section where you can find all reports presented so far to the CRPD Committee.

### • Parallel Reports submitted to the CRPD Committee

A Coalition of organisations representing the interests of persons with disabilities in the Czech Republic has recently submitted a parallel report to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities providing

information on how the Czech Republic complies with the CRPD. The report covers the main areas of life of people with disabilities that are affected by legislation or practices that violate the respective articles of the Convention and also includes recommendations on how the situation could be improved.

Please [click here](#) to access this parallel report in pdf version.

### • UNPRPD MDTF

On 9 December 2011, UNDP, OHCHR, DESA, WHO, ILO and UNICEF jointly launched, in New York, the UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD), a Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) on disability rights to support the inclusion of the rights of persons with disabilities within the work of the UN at country level. Diane Richler, IDA Chair, was one of the speakers at this launch, which was hosted by the Australian mission, whose ambassador Gary Quinlan moderated the opening part of the event.

The launch ended with a technical session which included a detailed presentation on the future functioning of the MDTF. The Fund will have a Policy Board,

which includes the IDA Chair, and a Management Committee which will also include an IDA representative.

Please click the links to access the press release published by IDA in relation to this event ([English](#) and [Spanish](#)) and [click here](#) to see the presentation made by the IDA Chair at the launch.

#### • **Aid Effectiveness**

The **Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness** took place in Busan (Korea) from 29 November to 1 December 2011. During this Forum, donor and partner countries agreed on a Global Partnership for Development Effectiveness as a follow up to the Paris declaration for aid effectiveness (2005) and the Accra Agenda for Action (2008).

The High Level Forum included a side event on aid effectiveness and persons with disabilities, which included an IDA representative as one of its speakers. The outcome document includes international commitments on human rights and disability. IDA will now work to ensure that the rights of persons with disabilities are fully taken into account in the follow-up actions to this Forum.

Please [click here](#) to access the IDA report on the Busan High Level Forum on aid effectiveness and the related Civil Society Forum and [here](#) to access the Busan Outcome Document in pdf version.

#### • **International Day of Persons with Disabilities**

On 3 December the world celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities with the purpose of increasing awareness and understanding of the rights of persons with disabilities.

Please click the links below to access the press release prepared by IDA in relation to this Day ([English](#) and [Spanish](#)).

#### • **Human Rights Day**

On 10 December, the world also celebrated Human Rights Day.

Please click the links to read the press release (in [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [French](#)) prepared by IDA with respect to this Day.

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#### Treaty Bodies

• The **Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights** held its 47th session from 14 November – 2 December. It examined the reports of Argentina, Cameroon, Estonia, Israel and Turkmenistan. [Click here](#) to read the disability analysis of the adopted Concluding Observations, [here](#) to read IDA's recommendations for Concluding Observations, and [here](#) to read IDA's disability analysis of the State reports. Together with Argentinian DPO, REDI (Red por los derechos de las personas con discapacidad), and RIADIS, IDA made a joint submission on Argentina, [click here](#) to read it.

The **Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights** held its Pre-Sessional Working Group from 5-9 December 2011 during which it adopted Lists of Issues on Bulgaria, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Mauritania and the United Republic of Tanzania. [Click here](#) to read the disability analysis of the Lists of Issues, [here](#) to read IDA's suggested questions for the List of Issues, and [here](#) to read IDA's disability analysis of those State reports.

#### • **Adoption of new Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child establishing a complaints mechanism**

On 19 December, the UN General Assembly adopted the new Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) establishing a complaints mechanism for children. The Optional Protocol allows individual children to submit complaints regarding specific violations of their rights under the Convention and its first two optional protocols. Upon receiving a complaint, the Committee on the Rights of the Child will examine it to determine whether the Convention has been violated. The Committee will guarantee that child-sensitive procedures and safeguards are put in place to prevent the manipulation of the child by those acting on their behalf under the Protocol. The Protocol opens for signature in 2012 and will enter into force upon ratification by 10 States.

## Upcoming Meetings

- The **Committee on the Rights of the Child** will be meeting from 16 January to 3 February 2012 for its 59th session during which it will examine the reports of Azerbaijan, Cook Islands, Madagascar, Myanmar, Niue Islands, Thailand and Togo. [Click here](#) to read IDA's recommendations for Concluding Observations and [here](#) to read IDA's disability analysis of the State reports.

### ***About the IDA Disability Rights Bulletin***

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

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

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