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## GLOBAL NEWS

### • CRPD ratifications reach 125

The ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and its Optional Protocol (OP) by Malta on 10 October 2012 brings a total of 125 States Parties to the CRPD, while the OP has 75 ratifications.

The number of signatories to the CRPD is 154 while the OP is 91. [List of signatories and States Parties](#)

### • 2012 OHCHR Thematic Study

IDA has presented its contribution to the [OHCHR thematic study on the work and employment of persons with disabilities](#) that the OHCHR will be presenting to the 22nd Session of the Human Rights Council (March 2013). During this session, the Council will adopt a resolution on this same topic.

### • International Day for the Eradication of Poverty 2012

On 17 October, the world celebrated the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Please click the links below to access the press release, in which IDA calls on States, the UN human rights system and other stakeholders to address the discrimination and exclusion faced by persons with disabilities in international development efforts, and to ensure that the rights of persons with disabilities are mainstreamed across all post-2015 development goals. (IDA press release in [English](#) and [Spanish](#))

### • CRPD 2012 ICT Accessibility Progress Report

The G3ict (Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs) has published the second edition of the CRPD Progress Report on ICT Accessibility, in cooperation with Disabled Peoples' International. The 2012 CRPD Progress Report, which assesses the degree of compliance of States Parties with the ICT Accessibility provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, includes the latest data on 52 countries representing

77.4 percent of the world population. The report offers a unique benchmarking tool that collects data on country's laws, policies, and programs pertaining to accessible and assistive Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) around the globe.

[PDF Version of the report](#)

## NEW YORK NEWS

### General Assembly

The 67th Session of the United Nations General Assembly began in New York the last month of September. IDA has been following resolutions out of the Third Committee, which covers human rights and humanitarian issues, to ensure that the rights of persons with disabilities are included and we are pleased to report that a growing number of resolutions tabled in the Third Committee contain disability references. Negotiations are ongoing so at this point we cannot be certain how many references to persons with disabilities will remain in the final texts.

Among these resolutions, there are two disability-specific resolutions. One is about the CRPD Committee, which made a request for two

annual pre-session working group meetings starting from 2013 and two additional weeks of session time from 2014. The second resolution is about the mainstreaming of disability in the MDG agenda, which focuses this year on statistics and data-collection. The resolution also calls for the continuation of the reporting mechanism under the World Programme of Action (WPA), to which IDA invested significant effort in objecting, as seen in the press release below.

The plenary session of the General Assembly is negotiating additionally two resolutions, which are significant from a disability perspective. One is disability specific and addresses autism and the other one is about global health and foreign policy. We will provide you a full analysis of disability references once resolutions have been adopted.

Related Documents:

- Specific-Disability reports presented to the Third Committee on the UN General Assembly: “[Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto](#)” (A/67/281) and the “[Report of the Secretary-General on 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). Ms Rashida Manjoo, UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its Causes and Consequences has also presented to the Third Committee [her report, which provides an overview of the activities of the Special Rapporteur and](#)

[discusses the issue of violence against women with disabilities \(A/67/227\)](#)

- Press Release: [IDA requests UN Member States not to adopt a resolution that undermines the CRPD](#)

### **IDA and IDDC Post-MDG Position Paper and Listserv**

The International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) and the International Disability Alliance (IDA) have recently drafted a position paper on the post-MDG framework.

In the position paper ([Make the post-MDG framework inclusive of persons with disabilities](#)), IDDC and IDA include a number of recommendations to be taken into account in order to create a more equitable and inclusive post-MDG agenda.

IDA and IDDC have also created a yahoo group, named IDA/IDDC: Post-MDGs and Persons with Disabilities, with the purpose of keeping everyone informed about their activities in this context and as a space in which to share information related to the post-MDG framework and persons with disabilities. If you want to be part of this listserv, please send an email to the following email address: [post\\_mdgs\\_and\\_pwd-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:post_mdgs_and_pwd-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

### **GENEVA NEWS**

#### **Treaty Bodies**

- The [Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#) has recently published the [list of issues for Paraguay](#) (adopted during the 8th session of the

Committee in September 2012). The list of issues is currently only available in Spanish. Paraguay will be up for review by the CRPD Committee during its 9th session (April 2013). All reports related to 8th session can be accessed on the [CRPD Committee Website](#).

- The [Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women](#) met for its 53rd session from 1 – 19 October 2012 in which it examined the reports of Chile, Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Togo and Turkmenistan and adopted Concluding Observations.

Related documents:

- [IDA’s disability analysis of the Concluding Observations](#)
- [IDA’s proposed recommendations for the Concluding Observations](#)
- [IDA’s disability analysis of state reports](#)

The CEDAW Committee also adopted lists of issues on Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cape Verde, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic and United Kingdom.

Related documents:

- [IDA’s disability analysis of the List of Issues](#)
- [IDA’s proposed recommendations for the List of Issues](#)
- [IDA’s disability analysis of state reports](#)

- The [Human Rights Committee](#) held its 106th session from 15 October – 2 November 2012 in which it examined the reports of Bosnia & Herzegovina, Côte d’Ivoire (in the absence of a report), Germany, Philippines, Portugal and Turkey,

as well as adopted lists of issues on Albania, Belize (in the absence of a report) Finland, Hong Kong, Ukraine, and the list of issues prior to reporting on Australia. The list of issues adopted during this session will shortly be available on the [Committee's website](#).

Related documents:

- [IDA's disability analysis of the Concluding Observations](#)
- [IDA's proposed recommendations for the Concluding Observations](#)
- [Joint submission by the Philippine Coalition on the CRPD & IDA on the Philippines](#)
- [Joint submission by ISL, DPI & IDA on Germany](#)
- [IDA's disability analysis of state reports on Bosnia & Herzegovina, Côte d'Ivoire, Germany, Philippines, Portugal and Turkey](#)
- [IDA's proposed questions for the list of issues](#)
- [Joint submission by FDF, EDF & IDA on Finland](#)
- [Joint submission by PWDA, AFDO, WWDA, PDF, DPI & IDA on Australia](#)
- [IDA's disability analysis state reports of Albania, Finland, Hong Kong, Ukraine](#)

The Human Rights Committee held a half day of general discussion in preparation for a General Comment on Article 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (right to liberty and security) on 25 October 2012. Several NGOs were present, including IDA on behalf of WNUSP, II, & DSI. The Committee aims to have a first draft of the General Comment by their next session in March 2013.

Related documents & links:

- The [note](#) adopted by the Committee which identifies issues to be addressed in the General Comment

- Further information available on the [Committee's website](#)

- [Joint submission by WNUSP, II, DSI & IDA on the right to liberty](#): the application of Article 9 of the ICCPR to disability-based detention and institutionalisation, as informed by related provisions in the CRPD

- The [Committee against Torture](#) is holding its 49th session from 29 October- 23 November 2012 in which it is examining the reports of Gabon, Mexico, Norway, Peru, Qatar, Russia, Senegal, Tajikistan, and Togo. It will also adopt lists of issues on Bolivia, UK and Uzbekistan.

Related documents:

- [IDA's proposed recommendations for the Concluding Observations](#)
- [Joint WSO, ENUSP, WNUSP and IDA submission on Norway](#)
- [IDA's disability analysis of the state reports under review](#)
- [IDA's proposed questions for the list of issues](#)
- [IDA's disability analysis of state reports](#)

### **Universal Periodic Review**

The Universal Periodic Review's fourteenth session took place from 22 October - 5 November 2012. Countries reviewed in this session include Argentina, Benin, Czech Republic, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Japan, Pakistan, Peru, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Ukraine and Zambia.

A number of good recommendations on the rights of persons with disabilities have been made in this session and many have already been accepted by the countries under review.

Related Documents:

- [Information on recommendations made during this session and their status](#)
- [IDA's recommendations to the States reviewed and disability analysis of the reports that were presented to this session](#)

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

#### **Treaty Bodies**

- The [Committee on the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights](#) will hold its 49th session from 12- 30 November 2012 in which it will examine the reports of Bulgaria, Ecuador, Iceland, Mauritania, United Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Congo and Equatorial Guinea, the latter two in the absence of a state report. It will also adopt lists of issues on Albania, Denmark, Kuwait, Lithuania, Rwanda, Togo, and Niger in the absence of a state report.

Related documents:

- [IDA's proposed recommendations for the Concluding Observations](#)
- [Joint OBI, EDF & IDA submission on Iceland](#)
- [IDA's disability analysis of state reports under review](#)
- [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](#)

- The **Subcommittee for the Prevention of Torture** will hold its 18th session from 12- 16 November 2012. The SPT has conducted visits to Argentina, Moldova, Kyrgyzstan, Honduras, and will conduct visits to Gabon and Senegal in the remainder of the year.

***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:  
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