



Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

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Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Second session

Summary record of the first part (public)* of the 2nd meeting

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Monday, 19 October 2009, at 3 p.m.

Chairperson: Mr. Al-Tarawneh

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Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the first and the second session of the Committee (*continued*)

* The summary record of the second part (closed) of the meeting appears as document CRPD/C/SR.2/Add.1.

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The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the first and the second session of the Committee (*continued*) (CRPD/C/2/CRP.4)

1. **Ms. Maina** said that she had attended a meeting of the Commonwealth Disability Forum in Uganda, where the role played by the Committee in implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities had been discussed. She would provide further details to the secretariat for inclusion in the report.
2. **Mr. Ben Lallahom** said that he had participated in an international seminar in Tunisia, attended by representatives of 40 countries, on the access of disabled persons to digital technology. There had been much discussion of the new Convention, on which he had also given a lecture. The discussion had focused in particular on the right of disabled persons to access to training. He had provided details of the event to the secretariat for inclusion in the report.
3. **Mr. Torres Correa** said that a workshop on the Convention and its implementation had been held in all 24 provinces of Ecuador, which had been attended by representatives of the municipal authorities and the judiciary. Implementation of the Convention was already State policy in Ecuador. In addition, the Latin American network for persons with disabilities, of which he was president, had held a meeting in El Salvador in July 2009, attended by representatives of civil society from Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador. One outcome of the meeting was a commitment to establish a regional committee of Central American countries in order to promote the objectives of the Convention and to increase the number of ratifications. Useful work could continue to be done to increase the visibility of the Convention in Central American and Caribbean countries, using existing networks.
4. **Mr. Könczei** said that he had been invited to Dublin in April 2009 and to Belfast in June 2009 to give a presentation on the content and importance of the Convention.
5. **The Chairperson** said that he had given a presentation at a recent meeting of the European Network for Accessible Tourism on the impact of accessibility on tourism for persons with disabilities and the role of the Committee in promoting such accessibility. At the meeting, he had encouraged all European Union member States to ratify the Convention. At the Vienna University of Technology, he had presented a paper on the Committee's work in the area of accessibility and had received, on behalf of the Committee, an award recognizing its outstanding work.
6. The report should also include information on the Committee's presentation of its work with children with disabilities at the event held in October 2009 to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.
7. **Ms. Cisternas Reyes** suggested that it would also be useful to include in the report examples of general events, not specifically related to persons with disabilities, at which attention had been drawn to the Convention, with the aim of increasing its visibility. For example, she had recently participated in the World Congress of Political Science, where she had introduced the subject of the rights of persons with disabilities for the first time.
8. **Mr. Ben Lallahom** said that he had presented a paper at a European Union seminar in Tunisia on how to facilitate access by persons with disabilities to justice, in which he had drawn attention to the provisions of the Convention.
9. **The Chairperson** agreed that information on all events at local, national and regional level that promoted and raised awareness of the Convention should be incorporated in the report.

10. *The report was adopted.*

The public part of the meeting rose at 3.20 p.m.