|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | United Nations | CRPD/C/8/2 | |
|  | **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** | | Distr.: General  29 May 2013  Original: English |

**Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

Report of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on its eighth session, 17-28 September 2012

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I. States parties to the Convention and its Optional Protocol

1. As at 28 September 2012, the closing date of the eighth session of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, there were 124 States parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and 72 States parties to its Optional Protocol.
2. The lists of States parties to the Convention and the Optional Protocol are contained in annex I of the present report.

II. Opening of the eighth session of the Committee

1. The eighth session opened in a public meeting with welcoming remarks by Mr. Ronald McCallum, Chairperson of the Committee. The Chairperson highlighted the fact that the Committee was meeting for the first time in its history in a two-week session, and the importance of webcasting of the Committee’s meetings as a reasonable accommodation to enable the participation of persons with disabilities in the work of the Committee. The Chairperson congratulated the members of the Committee who were re-elected in the fifth Conference of States Parties to the Convention: Mohammed Al-Tarawneh, Maria Soledad Cisternas Reyes, Ana Pelaez Narvaez and Silvia Quan-Chang, as well as the newly elected members who would take up their functions as of 1 January 2013. He especially thanked the outgoing members of the Committee whose terms of office would end in December 2012. The Chairperson announced that the Committee would pursue its request for additional meeting time to the General Assembly, to tackle the backlog of initial reports pending to be considered.
2. The opening statement of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) was delivered by the Chief of the Groups in Focus Section, Treaties Division, Wan-Hea Lee, who briefed the Committee on the most recent developments in the treaty body strengthening process that had taken place since the Committee’s seventh session, including the release of the report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the subject, the most recent developments in the intergovernmental process on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system, and the endorsement of the Addis Ababa Guidelines on the independence and impartiality of members of the human rights treaty bodies by the Annual Meeting of Chairpersons of Human Rights Treaty Bodies. She also referred to the most important developments that had taken place in the field of human rights and disabilities, such as the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which spells out that sustainable development requires meaningful active participation of persons with disabilities.
3. The Committee reviewed and adopted the provisional agenda and tentative programme of work for the eighth session (CRPD/C/8/1).
4. The Chairperson reported on the activities undertaken between the seventh and eighth sessions of the Committee.

III. Membership of the Committee

1. The list of members of the Committee indicating the duration of their terms of office is contained in annex IV of the previous biennial report (A/66/55). All members attended the eighth session.
2. Elections of nine members whose terms of office will end in December 2016 took place on 12 September 2012, during the fifth Conference of States Parties to the Convention. The following members were re-elected for the period 2013-2016: Mr. Mohammed Al-Tarawneh (Jordan), Ms. Maria Soledad Cisternas Reyes (Chile), Ms. Ana Pelaez Narvaez (Spain) and Ms. Silvia Quan-Chang (Guatemala). The following members were elected for the same period: Mr. Martin Babu (Uganda), Mr. Monthian Buntan (Thailand), Mr. Laszlo Lovaszy (Hungary) Ms. Safak Pavey (Turkey) and Ms. Diane Mulligan (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).

IV. Working methods

1. The Committee discussed various issues related to its working methods and adopted several decisions in this regard. The Committee:

(a) Appointed a Rapporteur for the follow-up of concluding observations;

(c) Adopted a statement in support of the report of the High Commissioner of Human Rights on the strengthening of the United Nations human rights treaty body system (see annex V);

(c) Adopted the Addis Ababa Guidelines on the independence and impartiality of members of the human rights treaty bodies (A/67/222, annex I) and decided to incorporate these guidelines as an integral part of its rules of procedure (see annex VI).

(d) Appointed Working Groups and Focal Points to further streamline its methods of work.

V. Drafting of general comments

1. The Committee appointed Edah Maina as interim Chairperson of the Working Group on a general comment on equal recognition before the law (art. 12), from the period between January and April 2013.
2. The Working Group on a general comment on legal capacity (art. 12) considered a draft concept paper prepared by the Chair, and agreement was found on eight points of consensus, in particular with regard to holding consultations with State parties and other actors about their practices.  The Working Group on a general comment on accessibility (art. 9) reported back to the Committee on the progress made and challenges encountered in discharging its mandate.

VI. Days of general discussion

1. The Committee reiterated its decision to hold a half day of general discussion on women and girls with disabilities in April 2013, during its ninth session. The Committee adopted a statement (CRPD/C/8/3) underlining the importance of the half day of general discussion given the multiple forms of discrimination experienced by women and girls with disabilities, which hinder their meaningful participation on an equal basis with other individuals in all spheres of life.
2. The Committee invited all persons with disabilities and their organizations to submit their inputs to the Committee no later than 17 February 2013.

VII. Activities related to the Optional Protocol

1. The Committee established a Working Group on communications and inquiries consisting of five members, with membership to be reviewed in April 2013.
2. The Committee decided that communication No. 6/2011 *K.M.* v. *United Kingdom* (CRPD/C/8/D/6/2011) was inadmissible *ratione temporis* under the Optional Protocol. The Committee made a decision declaring admissible another communication submitted under the Optional Protocol. It also decided to accept third-party interventions under article 73, paragraph 2, of its rules of procedure, provided that there is consent of one of the parties to the communication.

VIII. Accessibility of the Committee’s meetings

1. The Committee was informed about the preliminary findings of the accessibility assessment carried out by Microsoft, Middlesex University and AbilityNet in April 2012.

**IX. Other decisions**

1. The Committee adopted the report of its seventh session (CRPD/C/7/2).
2. The Committee took a number of other decisions, which are listed in annex III of the present report.

**X. Future sessions**

1. The ninth session of the Committee is scheduled to take place from 15 to 19 April 2013. The tenth session of the Committee will be held from 2 to 13 September 2013.
2. The Committee decided that at its next session it would review the initial report of Paraguay (CRPD/C/PRY/1), and adopt lists of issues on the initial reports of Austria (CRPD/C/AUT/1); Australia (CRPD/C/AUS/1) and El Salvador (CRPD/C/SLV/1).

XI. Cooperation with relevant bodies

A. Cooperation with United Nations organs

1. On 17 September 2012 (74th meeting), the Committee met with the representatives of the Council of Europe, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to discuss ways of cooperation, as provided for under article 38 of the Convention.

B. Cooperation with non-governmental organizations

1. Also at its 74th meeting, on 17 September 2012, the Committee was addressed by representatives of the non-governmental organizations Human Rights Watch, the International Social Service, and the International Disability Alliance.

XII. Consideration of reports submitted in accordance with article 35 of the Convention

1. During its seventh session, at its 77th and 78th meetings, held on 18 and 19 September 2012 respectively, the Committee considered the initial report of China (CRPD/C/CHN/1); at its 79th and 80th meetings, held on 19 and 20 September 2012 respectively, the Committee considered the initial report of Argentina (CRPD/C/ARG/1); and at its 81st and 82nd meetings, held on 20 and 21 September 2012 respectively, the Committee considered the initial report of Hungary (CRPD/C/HUN/1). At its 92nd meeting, the Committee adopted concluding observations on those reports (see the website for the eighth session at <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRPD/Pages/Session8.aspx>).

Annexes

Annex I

States parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and to the Optional Protocol as at 28 September 2012

A. States parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

| *Participant* | *Signature* | *Formal confirmation (c), accession (a), ratification* |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Afghanistan |  | 18 September 2012 |
| Albania | 22 December 2009 |  |
| Algeria | 30 March 2007 | 4 December 2009 |
| Andorra | 27 April 2007 |  |
| Antigua and Barbuda | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Argentina | 30 March 2007 | 2 September 2008 |
| [Armenia](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 22 September 2010 |
| [Australia](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 17 July 2008 |
| [Austria](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 26 September 2008 |
| [Azerbaijan](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 9 January 2008 | 28 January 2009 |
| Bahrain | 25 June 2007 | 22 September 2011 |
| Bangladesh | 9 May 2007 | 30 November 2007 |
| Barbados | 19 July 2007 |  |
| [Belgium](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 2 July 2009 |
| Belize | 9 May 2011 | 2 June 2011 |
| Benin | 8 February 2008 | 5 July 2012 |
| Bhutan | 21 September 2010 |  |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of) | 13 August 2007 | 16 November 2009 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 29 July 2009 | 12 March 2010 |
| Brazil | 30 March 2007 | 1 August 2008 |
| Brunei Darussalam | 18 December 2007 |  |
| Bulgaria | 27 September 2007 | 22 March 2012 |
| Burkina Faso | 23 May 2007 | 23 July 2009 |
| Burundi | 26 April 2007 |  |
| Cambodia | 1 October 2007 |  |
| Cameroon | 1 October 2008 |  |
| [Canada](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 11 March 2010 |
| Cape Verde | 30 March 2007 | 10 October 2011 |
| Central African Republic | 9 May 2007 |  |
| Chile | 30 March 2007 | 29 July 2008 |
| China | 30 March 2007 | 1 August 2008 |
| Colombia | 30 Mar 2007 | 10 May 2011 |
| Comoros | 26 September 2007 |  |
| Congo | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Cook Islands |  | 8 May 2009 (a) |
| Costa Rica | 30 March 2007 | 1 October 2008 |
| Côte d’Ivoire | 7 June 2007 |  |
| Croatia | 30 March 2007 | 15 August 2007 |
| Cuba | 26 April 2007 | 6 September 2007 |
| Cyprus | 30 March 2007 | 27 June 2011 |
| [Czech Republic](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 28 September 2009 |
| Denmark | 30 March 2007 | 24 July 2009 |
| Djibouti |  | 18 June 2012 |
| Dominica | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Dominican Republic | 30 March 2007 | 18 August 2009 |
| Ecuador | 30 March 2007 | 3 April 2008 |
| [Egypt](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 4 April 2007 | 14 April 2008 |
| El Salvador | 30 March 2007 | 14 December 2007 |
| Estonia | 25 September 2007 | 30 May 2012 |
| Ethiopia | 30 March 2007 | 7 July 2010 |
| [European Union](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 23 December 2010 (c) |
| Fiji | 2 June 2010 |  |
| Finland | 30 March 2007 |  |
| [France](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 18 February 2010 |
| Gabon | 30 March 2007 | 1 October 2007 |
| Georgia | 10 July 2009 |  |
| [Germany](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 24 February 2009 |
| Ghana | 30 March 2007 | 31 July 2012 |
| Greece | 30 March 2007 | 31 May 2012 |
| Grenada | 12 July 2010 |  |
| Guatemala | 30 March 2007 | 7 April 2009 |
| Guinea | 16 May 2007 | 8 February 2008 |
| Guyana | 11 April 2007 |  |
| Haiti |  | 23 July 2009 (a) |
| Honduras | 30 March 2007 | 14 April 2008 |
| Hungary | 30 March 2007 | 20 July 2007 |
| Iceland | 30 March 2007 |  |
| India | 30 March 2007 | 1 October 2007 |
| Indonesia | 30 March 2007 | 30 November 2011 |
| Iran (Islamic Republic of) |  | 23 October 2009 (a) |
| Ireland | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Israel | 30 March 2007 | 28 September 2012 |
| Italy | 30 March 2007 | 15 May 2009 |
| Jamaica | 30 March 2007 | 30 March 2007 |
| Japan | 28 September 2007 |  |
| Jordan | 30 March 2007 | 31 March 2008 |
| Kazakhstan | 11 December 2008 |  |
| Kenya | 30 March 2007 | 19 May 2008 |
| Kyrgyzstan | 21 September 2011 |  |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic | 15 January 2008 | 25 September 2009 |
| [Latvia](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 18 July 2008 | 1 March 2010 |
| Lebanon | 14 June 2007 |  |
| Lesotho |  | 2 December 2008 (a) |
| Liberia | 30 March 2007 | 26 July 2012 |
| Libya | 1 May 2008 |  |
| [Lithuania](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 18 August 2010 |
| Luxembourg | 30 March 2007 | 26 September 2011 |
| Madagascar | 25 September 2007 |  |
| Malawi | 27 September 2007 | 27 August 2009 |
| [Malaysia](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 8 April 2008 | 19 July 2010 |
| Maldives | 2 October 2007 | 5 April 2010 |
| Mali | 15 May 2007 | 7 April 2008 |
| [Malta](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Mauritania |  | 3 April 2012 (a) |
| [Mauritius](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 25 September 2007 | 8 January 2010 |
| [Mexico](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 17 December 2007 |
| Micronesia (Federated States of) | 23 September 2011 |  |
| [Monaco](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 23 September 2009 |  |
| Mongolia |  | 13 May 2009 (a) |
| Montenegro | 27 September 2007 | 2 November 2009 |
| Morocco | 30 March 2007 | 8 April 2009 |
| Mozambique | 30 March 2007 | 30 January 2012 |
| Myanmar |  | 7 December 2011 (a) |
| Namibia | 25 April 2007 | 4 December 2007 |
| Nauru |  | 27 June 2012 (a) |
| Nepal | 3 January 2008 | 7 May 2010 |
| [Netherlands](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 |  |
| New Zealand | 30 March 2007 | 25 September 2008 |
| Nicaragua | 30 March 2007 | 7 December 2007 |
| Niger | 30 March 2007 | 24 June 2008 |
| Nigeria | 30 March 2007 | 24 September 2010 |
| Norway | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Oman | 17 March 2008 | 6 January 2009 |
| Pakistan | 25 September 2008 | 5 July 2011 |
| Palau | 20 September 2011 |  |
| Panama | 30 March 2007 | 7 August 2007 |
| Papua New Guinea | 2 June 2011 |  |
| Paraguay | 30 March 2007 | 3 September 2008 |
| Peru | 30 March 2007 | 30 January 2008 |
| Philippines | 25 September 2007 | 15 April 2008 |
| [Poland](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 25 September 2012 |
| [Portugal](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 23 September 2009 |
| Qatar | 9 July 2007 | 13 May 2008 |
| [Republic of Korea](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 11 December 2008 |
| Republic of Moldova | 30 March 2007 | 21 September 2010 |
| Romania | 26 September 2007 | 31 January 2011 |
| Russian Federation | 24 September 2008 | 25 September 2012 |
| Rwanda |  | 15 December 2008 (a) |
| San Marino | 30 March 2007 | 22 February 2008 |
| Saudi Arabia |  | 24 June 2008 (a) |
| Senegal | 25 April 2007 | 7 September 2010 |
| Serbia | 17 December 2007 | 31 July 2009 |
| Seychelles | 30 March 2007 | 2 October 2009 |
| Sierra Leone | 30 March 2007 | 4 October 2010 |
| [Slovakia](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 26 September 2007 | 26 May 2010 |
| Slovenia | 30 March 2007 | 24 April 2008 |
| Solomon Islands | 23 September 2008 |  |
| South Africa | 30 March 2007 | 30 November 2007 |
| [Spain](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 3 December 2007 |
| Sri Lanka | 30 March 2007 |  |
| St. Lucia | 22 September 2011 |  |
| St. Vincent and the Grenadines |  | 29 October 2010 (a) |
| Sudan | 30 March 2007 | 24 April 2009 |
| Suriname | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Swaziland | 25 September 2007 | 24 September 2012 |
| [Sweden](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 15 December 2008 |
| [Syrian Arab Republic](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 10 July 2009 |
| [Thailand](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 29 July 2008 |
| The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | 30 March 2007 | 29 December 2011 |
| Togo | 23 September 2008 | 1 March 2011 |
| Tonga | 15 November 2007 |  |
| Trinidad and Tobago | 27 September 2007 |  |
| Tunisia | 30 March 2007 | 2 April 2008 |
| Turkey | 30 March 2007 | 28 September 2009 |
| Turkmenistan |  | 4 September 2008 (a) |
| Uganda | 30 March 2007 | 25 September 2008 |
| Ukraine | 24 September 2008 | 4 February 2010 |
| United Arab Emirates | 8 February 2008 | 19 March 2010 |
| [United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 8 June 2009 |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 30 March 2007 | 10 November 2009 |
| United States of America | 30 July 2009 |  |
| Uruguay | 3 April 2007 | 11 February 2009 |
| Uzbekistan | 27 February 2009 |  |
| Vanuatu | 17 May 2007 | 23 October 2008 |
| Viet Nam | 22 October 2007 |  |
| Yemen | 30 March 2007 | 26 March 2009 |
| Zambia | 9 May 2008 | 1 February 2010 |

B. States parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

| *Participant* | *Signature* | *Formal confirmation (c), accession (a), ratification* |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Afghanistan |  | 18 September 2012 (a) |
| Algeria | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Andorra | 27 April 2007 |  |
| Antigua and Barbuda | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Argentina | 30 March 2007 | 2 September 2008 |
| Armenia | 30 March 2007 |  |
| [Australia](#RANGE!EndDec#RANGE!EndDec) |  | 21 August 2009 (a) |
| [Austria](#RANGE!EndDec#RANGE!EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 26 September 2008 |
| [Azerbaijan](#RANGE!EndDec#RANGE!EndDec) | 9 January 2008 | 28 January 2009 |
| Bangladesh |  | 12 May 2008 (a) |
| [Belgium](#RANGE!EndDec#RANGE!EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 2 July 2009 |
| Benin | 8 February 2008 | 5 July 2012 |
| [Bolivia (Plurinational State of)](#RANGE!1#RANGE!1) | 13 August 2007 | 16 November 2009 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 29 July 2009 | 12 March 2010 |
| Brazil | 30 March 2007 | 1 August 2008 |
| Bulgaria | 18 December 2008 |  |
| Burkina Faso | 23 May 2007 | 23 July 2009 |
| Burundi | 26 April 2007 |  |
| Cambodia | 1 October 2007 |  |
| Cameroon | 1 October 2008 |  |
| Central African Republic | 9 May 2007 |  |
| Chile | 30 March 2007 | 29 July 2008 |
| Congo | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Cook Islands |  | 8 May 2009 (a) |
| Costa Rica | 30 March 2007 | 1 October 2008 |
| Côte d’Ivoire | 7 June 2007 |  |
| Croatia | 30 March 2007 | 15 August 2007 |
| Cyprus | 30 March 2007 | 27 June 2011 |
| Czech Republic | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Djibouti |  | 18 June 2012 (a) |
| Dominican Republic | 30 March 2007 | 18 August 2009 |
| Ecuador | 30 March 2007 | 3 April 2008 |
| [El Salvador](#RANGE!EndDec#RANGE!EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 14 December 2007 |
| Estonia |  | 30 May 2012 (a) |
| Fiji | 2 June 2010 |  |
| Finland | 30 March 2007 |  |
| France | 23 September 2008 | 18 February 2010 |
| Gabon | 25 September 2007 |  |
| Georgia | 10 July 2009 |  |
| Germany | 30 March 2007 | 24 February 2009 |
| Ghana | 30 March 2007 | 31 July 2012 |
| Greece | 27 September 2007 | 31 May 2012 |
| [Guatemala](#RANGE!3#RANGE!3) | 30 March 2007 | 7 April 2009 |
| Guinea | 31 August 2007 | 8 February 2008 |
| Haiti |  | 23 July 2009 (a) |
| Honduras | 23 August 2007 | 16 August 2010 |
| Hungary | 30 March 2007 | 20 July 2007 |
| Iceland | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Italy | 30 March 2007 | 15 May 2009 |
| Jamaica | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Jordan | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Kazakhstan | 11 December 2008 |  |
| Latvia | 22 January 2010 | 31 August 2010 |
| Lebanon | 14 June 2007 |  |
| Liberia | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Lithuania | 30 March 2007 | 18 August 2010 |
| Luxembourg | 30 March 2007 | 26 September 2011 |
| Madagascar | 25 September 2007 |  |
| Mali | 15 May 2007 | 7 April 2008 |
| [Malta](#RANGE!EndDec#RANGE!EndDec) | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Mauritania |  | 3 April 2012 (a) |
| [Mauritius](#RANGE!EndDec#RANGE!EndDec) | 25 September 2007 |  |
| [Mexico](#RANGE!EndDec#RANGE!EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 17 December 2007 |
| Mongolia |  | 13 May 2009 (a) |
| Montenegro | 27 September 2007 | 2 November 2009 |
| Morocco |  | 8 April 2009 (a) |
| Mozambique |  | 30 January 2012 (a) |
| Namibia | 25 April 2007 | 4 December 2007 |
| Nepal | 3 January 2008 | 7 May 2010 |
| Nicaragua | 21 October 2008 | 2 February 2010 |
| Niger | 2 August 2007 | 24 June 2008 |
| Nigeria | 30 March 2007 | 24 September 2010 |
| Panama | 30 March 2007 | 7 August 2007 |
| Paraguay | 30 March 2007 | 3 September 2008 |
| Peru | 30 March 2007 | 30 January 2008 |
| [Portugal](#RANGE!EndDec#RANGE!EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 23 September 2009 |
| Qatar | 9 July 2007 |  |
| Romania | 25 September 2008 |  |
| Rwanda |  | 15 December 2008 (a) |
| San Marino | 30 March 2007 | 22 February 2008 |
| Saudi Arabia |  | 24 June 2008 (a) |
| Senegal | 25 April 2007 |  |
| Serbia | 17 December 2007 | 31 July 2009 |
| Seychelles | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Sierra Leone | 30 March 2007 |  |
| Slovakia | 26 September 2007 | 26 May 2010 |
| Slovenia | 30 March 2007 | 24 April 2008 |
| Solomon Islands | 24 September 2009 |  |
| South Africa | 30 March 2007 | 30 November 2007 |
| [Spain](#RANGE!EndDec#RANGE!EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 3 December 2007 |
| St. Vincent and the Grenadines |  | 29 October 2010 (a) |
| Sudan |  | 24 April 2009 (a) |
| Swaziland | 25 September 2007 | 24 September 2012 |
| [Sweden](#RANGE!EndDec#RANGE!EndDec) | 30 March 2007 | 15 December 2008 |
| [Syrian Arab Republic](#RANGE!EndDec#RANGE!EndDec) |  | 10 July 2009 (a) |
| The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | 29 July 2009 | 29 December 2011 |
| Togo | 23 September 2008 | 1 March 2011 |
| Tunisia | 30 March 2007 | 2 April 2008 |
| Turkey | 28 September 2009 |  |
| Turkmenistan |  | 10 November 2010 (a) |
| Uganda | 30 March 2007 | 25 September 2008 |
| Ukraine | 24 September 2008 | 4 February 2010 |
| United Arab Emirates | 12 February 2008 |  |
| [United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland](#RANGE!EndDec#RANGE!EndDec) | 26 February 2009 | 7 August 2009 |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 29 September 2008 | 10 November 2009 |
| Uruguay |  | 28 October 2011 (a) |
| Yemen | 11 April 2007 | 26 March 2009 |
| Zambia | 29 September 2008 |  |

Annex II

Submission of reports by States parties under article 35 of the Convention, as at 28 September 2012

| *State party* | *Entry into force (date of ratification+30 days)* | *Date due* | *Date received* | *Date examined* |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Algeria | 4 January 2010 | 4 January 2012 |  |  |
| Argentina | 2 October 2008 | 2 October 2010 | 6 October 2010 | 19 September 2012 |
| [Armenia](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 22 October 2010 | 22 October 2012 |  |  |
| [Australia](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 17 August 2008 | 17 August 2010 | 3 December 2010 |  |
| [Austria](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 26 October 2008 | 26 October 2010 | 2 November 2010 |  |
| [Azerbaijan](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 27 February 2009 | 27 February 2011 | 16 February 2011 |  |
| Bahrain  Bangladesh | 22 October 2011  30 December 2007 | 22 October 2013  30 December 2009 |  |  |
| [Belgium](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 2 August 2009 | 2 August 2011 | 28 July 2011 |  |
| Belize | 2 July 2011 | 2 July 2013 |  |  |
| Benin | 5 August 2012 | 5 August 2014 |  |  |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of) | 16 December 2009 | 16 December 2011 |  |  |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 12 April 2010 | 12 April 2012 |  |  |
| Brazil | 1 September 2008 | 1 September 2010 | 25 May 2012 |  |
| Bulgaria | 22 April 2012 | 22 April 2014 |  |  |
| Burkina Faso | 23 August 2009 | 23 August 2011 |  |  |
| [Canada](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 11 April 2010 | 11 April 2012 |  |  |
| Cape Verde | 10 November 2011 | 10 November 2012 |  |  |
| Chile | 29 August 2008 | 29 August 2010 | 14 August 2012 |  |
| China | 1 September 2008 | 1 September 2010 | 30 August 2010 | 18 September 2012 |
| Colombia | 10 June 2011 | 10 June 2013 |  |  |
| Cook Islands | 8 June 2009 | 8 June 2011 | 9 December 2011 |  |
| Costa Rica | 1 November 2008 | 1 November 2010 | 29 March 2011 |  |
| Croatia | 15 September 2007 | 15 September 2009 | 27 October 2011 |  |
| Cuba | 6 October 2007 | 6 October 2009 |  |  |
| Cyprus | 27 July 2011 | 27 July 2013 |  |  |
| [Czech Republic](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 28 October 2009 | 28 October 2011 | 1 November 2011 |  |
| Denmark | 24 August 2009 | 24 August 2011 | 24 August 2011 |  |
| Djibouti | 18 July 2012 | 18 July 2014 |  |  |
| Dominican Republic | 18 September 2009 | 18 September 2011 | 5 December 2011 |  |
| Ecuador | 3 May 2008 | 3 May 2010 | 8 September 2011 |  |
| [Egypt](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 14 May 2008 | 14 May 2010 |  |  |
| El Salvador | 14 January 2008 | 14 January 2010 | 5 January 2011 |  |
| Estonia | 30 June 2012 | 30 June 2014 |  |  |
| Ethiopia | 7 August 2010 | 7 August 2012 |  |  |
| European Union | 23 January 2011 | 23 January 2013 |  |  |
| [France](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 18 March 2010 | 18 March 2012 |  |  |
| Gabon | 1 November 2007 | 1 November 2009 |  |  |
| [Germany](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 24 March 2009 | 24 March 2011 | 19 September 2011 |  |
| Ghana | 31 August 2012 | 31 August 2014 |  |  |
| Greece | 30 June 2012 | 30 June 2014 |  |  |
| Guatemala | 7 March 2009 | 7 March 2011 |  |  |
| Guinea | 8 March 2008 | 8 March 2010 |  |  |
| Haiti | 23 August 209 | 23 August 2011 |  |  |
| Honduras | 14 March 2008 | 14 March 2010 |  |  |
| Hungary | 20 August 2007 | 20 August 2009 | 14 October 2010 | 20 September 2012 |
| India | 1 November 2007 | 1 November 2009 |  |  |
| Indonesia | 30 December 2011 | 30 December 2013 |  |  |
| Iran (Islamic Republic of) | 23 November 2009 | 23 November 2011 |  |  |
| Israel | 28 October 2012 | 28 October 2014 |  |  |
| Italy | 15 June 2009 | 15 June 2011 |  |  |
| Jamaica | 30 April 2007 | 30 April 2009 |  |  |
| Jordan | 30 April 2008 | 30 April 2010 | 3 October 2012 |  |
| Kenya | 19 June 2008 | 19 June 2010 | 3 April 2012 |  |
| Lao People’s Democratic Republic | 25 October 2009 | 25 October 2011 |  |  |
| [Latvia](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 1 April 2010 | 1 April 2012 |  |  |
| Lesotho | 2 January 2009 | 2 January 2011 |  |  |
| Liberia | 26 August 2012 | 26 August 2014 |  |  |
| [Lithuania](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 18 September 2010 | 18 September 2012 | 18 September 2012 |  |
| Luxembourg | 26 October 2011 | 26 October 2013 |  |  |
| Malawi | 27 September 2009 | 27 September 2011 |  |  |
| [Malaysia](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 19 August 2010 | 19 August 2012 |  |  |
| Maldives | 5 May 2010 | 5 May 2012 |  |  |
| Mali | 7 May 2008 | 7 May 2010 |  |  |
| Malta | 10 November 2012 | 10 November 2014 |  |  |
| Mauritania | 3 May 2012 | 3 May 2014 |  |  |
| [Mauritius](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 8 February 2010 | 8 February 2012 |  |  |
| [Mexico](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 17 January 2008 | 17 January 2010 | 27 April 2011 |  |
| Mongolia | 13 June 2009 | 13 June 2011 | 8 December 2011 |  |
| Montenegro | 2 December 2009 | 2 December 2011 |  |  |
| Morocco | 8 May 2009 | 8 May 2011 |  |  |
| Mozambique | 28 February 2012 | 28 February 2014 |  |  |
| Namibia | 4 January 2008 | 4 January 2010 |  |  |
| Nepal | 7 June 2010 | 7 June 2012 |  |  |
| New Zealand | 25 October 2008 | 25 October 2010 | 8 May 2012 |  |
| Nicaragua | 7 January 2008 | 7 January 2010 |  |  |
| Niger | 24 July 2008 | 24 July 2010 |  |  |
| Nigeria | 24 October 2010 | 24 October 2012 |  |  |
| Oman | 6 February 2009 | 6 February 2011 |  |  |
| Pakistan  Panama | 5 August 2011  7 September 2007 | 5 August 2013  7 September 2009 |  |  |
| Paraguay | 3 October 2008 | 3 October 2010 | 21 October 2010 |  |
| Peru | 27 February 2008 | 27 February 2010 | 8 July 2010 | 17 April 2012 |
| Philippines | 15 May 2008 | 15 May 2010 |  |  |
| Poland | 25 October 2012 | 25 October 2014 |  |  |
| [Portugal](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 23 October 2009 | 23 October 2011 | 8 August 2012 |  |
| Qatar | 13 June 2008 | 13 June 2010 | 19 June 2012 |  |
| [Republic of Korea](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 11 January 2009 | 11 January 2011 | 27 June 2011 |  |
| Republic of Moldova | 21 October 2010 | 21 October 2012 |  |  |
| Romania | 27 February 2011 | 27 February 2013 |  |  |
| Russian Federation | 25 October 2012 | 25 October 2014 |  |  |
| Rwanda | 15 January 2009 | 15 January 2011 |  |  |
| San Marino | 22 March 2008 | 22 March 2010 |  |  |
| Saudi Arabia | 24 July 2008 | 24 July 2010 |  |  |
| Senegal | 7 October 2010 | 7 October 2012 |  |  |
| Serbia | 31 August 2009 | 31 August 2011 | 20 June 2012 |  |
| Seychelles | 2 November 2009 | 2 November 2011 |  |  |
| Sierra Leone | 4 November 2010 | 4 November 2012 |  |  |
| [Slovakia](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 26 June 2010 | 26 June 2012 | 26 June 2012 |  |
| Slovenia | 24 May 2008 | 24 May 2010 |  |  |
| South Africa | 30 December 2007 | 30 December 2009 |  |  |
| [Spain](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 3 January 2008 | 3 January 2010 | 3 May 2010 | 20 September 2011 |
| St. Vincent and the Grenadines | 29 November 2010 | 29 November 2012 |  |  |
| Sudan | 24 May 2009 | 24 May 2011 |  |  |
| Swaziland | 25 October 2012 | 25 October 2014 |  |  |
| [Sweden](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 15 January 2009 | 15 January 2011 | 7 February 2011 |  |
| [Syrian Arab Republic](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 10 August 2009 | 10 August 2011 |  |  |
| [Thailand](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 29 August 2008 | 29 August 2010 | 3 December 2012 |  |
| The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | 29 January 2012 | 29 January 2014 |  |  |
| Togo | 1 April 2011 | 1 April 2013 |  |  |
| Tunisia | 2 May 2008 | 2 May 2010 | 1 July 2010 | 12 April 2011 |
| Turkey | 28 October 2009 | 28 October 2011 |  |  |
| Turkmenistan | 4 October 2008 | 4 October 2010 | 5 December 2011 |  |
| Uganda | 25 October 2008 | 25 October 2010 |  |  |
| Ukraine | 4 March 2010 | 4 March 2012 | 12 April 2012 |  |
| United Arab Emirates | 19 April 2010 | 19 April 2012 |  |  |
| [United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland](http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&lang=en#EndDec#EndDec) | 8 July 2009 | 8 July 2011 | 24 November 2011 |  |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 10 December 2009 | 10 December 2011 |  |  |
| Uruguay | 11 March 2009 | 11 March 2011 |  |  |
| Vanuatu | 23 November 2008 | 23 November 2010 |  |  |
| Yemen | 26 April 2009 | 26 April 2011 |  |  |
| Zambia | 1 March 2010 | 1 March 2012 |  |  |

Annex III

Decisions adopted by the Committee during its eighth session

1. To adopt a statement expressing support to several proposals contained in the High Commissioner’s report on the strengthening of the United Nations treaty body system.
2. To adopt the Addis Ababa guidelines on the independence and impartiality of members of the human rights treaty bodies and to include them as an integral part of its rules of procedure.
3. To accept third party interventions under rule 73, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure provided that there is consent of one of the parties to the communication; to amend its rules of procedure to reflect this approach; to prepare a note on third party interventions.
4. To reiterate its decision to request additional meeting time from the General Assembly, subject to rule 22 of its rules of procedure.
5. To allow submissions to be presented during the half day of general discussion on women and girls with disabilities scheduled to take place in April 2013; and to adopt a statement to inform the public about the half day of general discussion.
6. To hold a meeting with States parties during its tenth session (September 2013).
7. To appoint the following members of the Committee as country rapporteurs: Sweden: Stig Langvad; Austria: Ron McCallum; Australia: Edah Maina; El Salvador: Carlos Rios Espinoza.
8. To encourage the governments of Italy and Armenia to submit their initial reports as soon as possible.
9. To split the consideration of reports into two separate days.
10. To request the secretariat to facilitate further engagement between the Committee and the Council of Europe.

Annex IV

Working groups and rapporteurs of the Committee

1. The Committeeagreed that members would serve on the following working groups:

Working group on a general comment on accessibility (article 9)

Chair: Mr. Mohammed Al-Tarawneh

Vice-chair: Mr. Damjan Tatic

Members: Ms. Jia Yang, Mr. Lotfi Ben Lallahom, Mr. Monsur A. Chowdhury,   
Mr. Gabor Gombos, Mr. Stig Langvad

Working group on a general comment on equal recognition before the law (article 12)

Chair: Mr. Gabor Gombos (until December 2012)

Members: Ms. Edah Maina, Ms. Maria Soledad Cisternas, Ms. Amna Al-Suwaidi,   
Mr. Ronald McCallum, Mr. Carlos Ríos Espinosa,   
Ms. Theresia Degener

Working group on access to public transportation and airline policies

Chair: Mr. Mohammed Al-Tarawneh

Members: Ms. Jia Yang, Mr. Lotfi Ben Lallahom, Mr. Monsur A. Chowdhury, Ms. Fatiha Hadj-Salah, Mr. Carlos Ríos Espinosa

Rapporteur on follow-up to concluding observations

Mr Carlos Ríos Espinosa

Annex V

Statement on the Report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on Strengthening the United Nations Human Rights Treaty Body System

The Committee on the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities welcomes the report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on “Strengthening the United Nations Human Rights Treaty Body System” published on 22 June 2012. It has been deeply engaged in the consultative process on which it is based and agrees with the essence of the proposals contained therein. As a new Committee that has already begun to accumulate a large backlog of reports that it cannot deal with in a timely manner due to severe resource constraints, it agrees that a comprehensive solution must be found to the concurrent problems of high levels of both compliance and non-compliance with reporting obligations, together with the issues of consistency, coherence, working methods and accessibility of the treaty bodies, as well as the resources necessary for them to perform effectively. It considers that the report of the High Commissioner constitutes an important step in this direction.

While the Committee will continue to discuss the proposals compiled in the report and pronounce itself on individual proposals in due course, it takes this opportunity to express support for some of the key measures proposed in the High Commissioner’s report, in particular:

* + - Adoption of a comprehensive reporting calendar designed to ensure compliance by all States parties on an equal basis with their reporting obligations;
    - Strict adherence to page limitations on all documents received from States parties and as prepared by the treaty bodies;
    - Use of updated common core documents;
    - Systematization of the provision of searchable, indexed and captioned webcasting in the official languages of the Committee;
    - Formulation of focused concluding observations;
    - Designation by all treaty bodies of a focal point on reprisals;
    - Review of good practices regarding the application of rules of procedure and methods of work and adoption of common guidelines with regard to individual communications and inquiries;
    - Review of follow-up procedures; and
    - Aligned consultation process for the elaboration of general comments/ recommendations

The Committee does not find merit in the establishment of a joint Working Group on individual communications.

Other proposals will need to be further examined by the Committee in greater depth before it can pronounce itself on them.

With regard to the intergovernmental process of the General Assembly on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system, the Committee concurs with the views of other treaty bodies that the intergovernmental process must respect the integrity of the respective treaty bodies, the powers of the treaty bodies to decide on their own working methods and rules of procedure, and guarantee their independence.

The Committee stresses that to mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities throughout the treaty body system, measures of reasonable accommodation and accessibility must be factored into the proposals contained in the report of the High Commissioner.

93rd meeting, 28 September 2012

Annex VI

Decision of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on the guidelines on the independence and impartiality of members of the human rights treaty bodies   
(Addis Ababa guidelines)

1. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities welcomes the guidelines on the independence and impartiality of members of the human rights treaty bodies (Addis Ababa guidelines), endorsed by the twenty-fourth meeting of the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies, which was held in Addis Ababa from 25 to 29 June 2012.
2. The Committee stresses the importance of the Addis Ababa Guidelines and considers them to be compatible with article 34 (3) of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which establishes that the members of the Committee shall serve in their personal capacities and shall be of high moral standing and recognized competence and experience in the field covered by the present Convention.
3. The Committee decides that the Addis Ababa Guidelines shall be incorporated into its rules of procedure and therefore amends the rules of procedure to this end.

93rd meeting, 28 September 2012

Annex VII

Statement on the half day of general discussion on women and girls with disabilities, adopted by the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at its eighth session (17-28 September 2012)

1. The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was established in 2009 to monitor the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities by Member States. The Committee examines reports submitted periodically by States parties on their implementation of the rights enshrined in the Convention, makes recommendations to the State party concerned and considers individual complaints about alleged violations of the rights provided for in the Convention. The Committee at its seventh session in April 2012 decided to devote its half day of general discussion (DGD), to be held in 2013, to the rights of women and girls with disabilities.
2. This decision stems from the Committee’s review of the first national reports submitted since the beginning of its work and the scarcity of information on the situation of women and girls with disabilities in those reports. Indeed, the Committee is concerned by the multiple forms of discrimination experienced by women and girls with disabilities which hinder their meaningful participation on an equal basis with other individuals in all spheres of life.

The Committee expresses concern at the violence and abuses against women and girls with disabilities, as well as the restrictions to their sexual, reproductive and maternity rights. The Committee is further concerned at the generalized absence of gender as a cross-cutting issue in the national plans for persons with disabilities and the lack of a disability perspective in gender policies in general.

1. The work of the Committee is in line with initiatives taken by other human rights mechanisms. In its resolution 17/11, the Human Rights Council requested the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to prepare a report examining the causes and manifestations of violence against women and girls with disabilities. The report was presented to the twentieth session of the Council in March 2012 (A/HRC/20/5). In its resolution 14/12, the Human Rights Council urged States to make available to women and girls with disabilities services that enable them to avoid and escape situations of violence and that prevent the recurrence of such violence. The Committee on the Rights of the Child devoted its general comment No. 9 (2006) to the rights of children with disabilities, while the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women issued general recommendation No. 18 (1991) on women with disabilities. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights held a day of general discussion in November 2010 on the right to sexual and reproductive health. The Committee also recalls the first informal consultation meetings in September 2012 to prepare for the General Assembly High-level Meeting on Disability to be held in 2013.
2. The Committee welcomes all input on strengthening the protection of human rights of women and girls with disabilities, particularly from organizations of persons with disabilities (DPOs). Submissions should be as concise as possible (not more than 10 pages) and sent to the following address in WORD format no later than 17 February 2013: [**crpd@ohchr.org**](mailto:crpd@ohchr.org). All submissions should be accompanied by a brief presentation (one paragraph) of the submitting organization’s experience in the subject matter. Submissions will subsequently be posted on a webpage dedicated to the half day of general discussion on women and girls with disabilities.