

Disability Rights Bulletin

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Global News

• IDA starts recruitment process for its Geneva Secretariat

The International Disability Alliance (IDA) is seeking two human rights officers for its new office, to be established in Geneva. One of the officers will be focused on the Human Rights Council and subsidiary bodies and the other will be focused on the work of the UN human rights treaty bodies, with particular attention to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. For detailed information and to access the application forms, please [click here](#).

• Commission on the Status of Women

The Commission on the Status of Women held its 54th Session from March 1-12, 2010. Three out of the seven resolutions adopted by the Commission include references to women with disabilities: Women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS; Women's economic empowerment; and Eliminating maternal mortality and morbidity through the empowerment of women. For detailed information on the references to women with disabilities in the resolutions and reports prepared for this session, please [click here](#). During the session, an interactive panel discussion also took place on "Cross-sectionalities of gender, disability, and development: Towards equality for women and girls with disabilities". Please [click here](#) for more information on this event.

• CRPD Ratifications Reach 85

The ratifications of the CRPD by United Arab Emirates and Maldives have increased to 85 the number of States Parties to the CRPD, while the Optional Protocol has 52 ratifications. The number of signatures to the CRPD is 144, while the Optional Protocol has 88 signatures.

Treaty Bodies

- **The 98th session of the Human Rights Committee** considered, in New York, from March 8-26, 2010, reports from New Zealand, Argentina, Mexico and Uzbekistan. To access the disability analysis of the Concluding Observations adopted by the Committee during this session, please [click here](#).

IDA prepared a number of documents (uploaded on the [Human Rights Committee website](#)) with suggested recommendations for the Concluding Observations, which were adopted by the committee in this session. Some of these recommendations have influenced the Concluding Observations of reviewed States such as Argentina, to which the Committee recommended increased attention to the users of mental health services, particularly as regards the right to be heard and to enjoy legal aid in decisions regarding their institutionalization, as well as to adapt the national legislation and practice to the international standards concerning the rights of persons with disabilities.

13th Session of the Human Rights Council

The 13th session of the Human Rights Council took place from March 1-26, 2010, in Geneva. IDA has prepared a report on this session, which includes relevant information on the rights of persons with disabilities in the Human Rights Council, as well as the activities carried out by IDA during this session. You can find this report and other information on the 13th session on the [IDA website](#).

Upcoming Meetings

The 44th session of the CESCR Committee (May 3-21) will consider reports from Algeria, Colombia, Mauritius, Kazakhstan and Afghanistan. [Click here](#) for the references to persons with disabilities in State reports, list of issues and written replies.

IDA has prepared a document with suggested recommendations for the Concluding Observations that will be adopted by the Committee during this session. [Click here](#) for this document, uploaded on the [CESCR Committee website](#).

The 44th session of the CAT Committee will take place from April 26 to May 14, in Geneva. In this session the Committee will review the following countries: Austria; Cameroon; France; Jordan; Liechtenstein; Switzerland; Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen (The second periodic report of Yemen was considered at the 43rd session in the absence of a delegation). [Click here](#) for the disability analysis of the relevant reports.

On the basis of the references to persons with disabilities found in State reports, list of issues and written replies of this session, IDA has prepared a document with suggested recommendations for the Concluding Observations that will be adopted by the Committee during its 44th session. [Click here](#) for this document, uploaded on the [CAT Committee website](#).

The UPR Working Group will hold its 8th session from May 3-14, 2010. In this session the following countries will be reviewed: Kyrgyzstan; Kiribati; Guinea; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Spain; Lesotho; Kenya; Armenia; Guinea-Bissau; Sweden; Grenada; Turkey; Guyana; Kuwait; Belarus; and Haiti (Reports of Haiti not available, UPR postponed). For an analysis of the references to persons with disabilities in the reports that will be taken into account by the UPR Working Group in this session (National reports, UN information and Stakeholders' information), please [click here](#).

On the basis of this analysis, IDA has prepared a document with suggested recommendations, which could be made by States. Please [click here](#) for this document.

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 the IDA, 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: www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org.

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