



WFD NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF

NOVEMBER 2010

INTERNATIONAL WEEK OF THE DEAF: CAMPAIGNS TO BUILD AWARENESS



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Cover picture:

International Deaf week march in Madagascar

We welcome all news, articles, letters to the editor, and other contributions. We reserve the right of acceptance or rejection and the right to edit all submissions that we publish.

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WFD, the World Federation of the Deaf, is an umbrella organisation providing a wide range of support and advocacy services for national Deaf associations. The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) was established in 1951 in Rome, Italy during the first Deaf World Congress. As an international non-governmental organisation, it has a special consultative status in the United Nations (UN) system, where it is represented at the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC); the Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); the International Labour Organization (ILO); and World Health Organization (WHO). It also has participatory status with the Council of Europe (CoE). WFD currently has 130 national associations of the Deaf as its members. WFD provides a platform for cooperation and information exchange among its members and partners. As an international organisation and through national organisations, WFD is emphasizing on improving the human rights for Deaf persons, the status of national sign languages, better education for Deaf people, and improved access to information technology and services.

WORLD-WIDE CAMPAIGNS IN *INTERNATIONAL WEEK OF THE DEAF*



Deaf march in Madagascar: a banner stating education for all, and the deaf?

The last week of September is a time when communities all over the world recognize the language, culture, and everyday experience of people who are deaf and hard of hearing. This is known as the International Week of the Deaf or Deaf Awareness Week and during these seven days, activities abounded!

Countries where celebrations were held were Belgium, Finland, Germany, Honduras, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawai, Paraguay, Uganda, USA and many others. Here are a few stories from our members how they celebrated International Week of the Deaf!

MADAGASCAR

The Deaf in Madagascar celebrated the publication of their first sign language dictionary. The Ministry of the Population honoured the celebrations by cutting the ribbon to launch the first Malagasy Dictionary Sign Language book, written in Malagasy, French, and English. There also is a small Sign Language book written in Malagasy and a DVD of Sign Language.

The Federation of the Deaf in Madagascar carnival was held at Antananarivo and there was an art show at the market, which the art work was made by the Deaf and at the same time the teacher taught sign language to hearing people. ■

Picture (top right) ↗

The Minister cutting the ribbon in the sign language dictionary publication event

Picture (right) →

The first Malagasy Dictionary Sign Language book and DVD

Source: Federation of the Deaf in Madagascar



SRI LANKA

Accordingly series of the events, organised by the Sri Lanka Central Federation of the Deaf, with the main objective was to raise awareness on the needs and rights of the deaf. By raising awareness, they held Peace walk. The main theme of the peace walk was to “Accept Sign Language to uplift the education of the Deaf children”. The Chief Minister of Southern Province also joined the peace walk with the Deaf community.

After the peace walk, the Chief Minister and the other guest speakers said that they will give their fullest support in the future to the Deaf community to obtain their rights and privileges.

We are happy to state that the cabinet of the government of Sri Lanka has approved the bill on “Recognizing Sign Language as an accepted Language” on 26th August 2010 which was submitted by the Ministry of Social Service. ■



International Day celebrations in Sri Lanka.

Source: Central Federation of the Deaf of Sri Lanka

USA

Kentucky: DeaFestival in Horse Cave, Kentucky, celebrating International Week of the Deaf (IWD)

Minnesota: “Renaissance of the Deaf” - 125th Anniversary Celebration activities sponsored by the Minnesota Association of Deaf Citizens, 24 September - 2 October 2010

New York City: “Label Us Able - Respect diversity and free the full potential of all individuals” seminar on September 22, 2010 as a side event to the United Nations General Assembly, sponsored by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, which featured an ASL rap performance by Signmark. Signmark also gave a

free performance during the “Silent Shout” public flash mob event on 23 September 2010 at Washington Square Park in New York City, NY.

California: The American Sign Language (ASL) Celebration Rally was held in California State capitol Sacramento last Thurs Sept 30 as part of the International Week of Deaf People. There were about 500 - 800 people there and different booths and speakers including from the legislation. Mr. Wayne Sinclair from Canada presented on International Congress on Education for the Deaf (ICED) New Era Accord and Ms. Roslyn Rosen presented on the behalf of WFD. ■

Source: National Association of the Deaf, USA

BILINGUAL EDUCATION

UNDER DISCUSSION AT THE UN



Convention was a milestone in international law, the first United Nations Convention of the twenty-first century on human rights.

CRPD COMMITTEE CONTINUES WITHOUT A DEAF REPRESENTATIVE

The meeting elected new members to the Committee of the Convention. As the total number of ratifications has passed 80, the membership of the Committee increased by six to a total of 18 members. Additional elections was held for the six members whose term expires in 2010. Unfortunately, neither of the two deaf candidates running to the CRPD Committee, **Ms Berta Luz Pascual** Melara from El Salvador or **Mr Alpha Boubacar Diop** from Guinea, were elected, therefore, the Committee continues without a Deaf representative.

WFD SIDE EVENT

During the lunch break of the UN meeting, WFD held a side event under the theme “Towards barrier-free education for Deaf children: Understanding the concept of bilingual education”. Presentations were delivered by UN Special Rapporteur on Disability **Mr Shuaib Chalklen**, Associate Professor **Dr Joseph Murray** and WFD President **Markku Jokinen**. The side event raised active discussion among participants on key issues concerning Deaf education and other specific issues that relate to the human and linguistic rights of Deaf people.

The next Conference will be held on 7 - 9 September 2011. ■



More information: <http://www.un.org/disabilities/>

The Third Conference of States Parties of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities had its three-day meeting at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 1 to 3 September, under the theme “Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities through the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities”. Participants — including States bound by the Convention, along with observers and civil society organizations — were expected to hold round table discussions on the themes of “Inclusion and the right to education” and “Inclusion and living in the community”.

Mr Markku Jokinen, President of the World Federation of the Deaf was invited to deliver a presentation at the round table on Inclusion and the right to education (article 24). In his presentation, he emphasised the importance of bilingual approach in Deaf education and urged countries to apply appropriate measures to ensure high quality education of deaf children. Securing high quality education for deaf children required early identification of deaf infants, full and equal access to education in sign language environment, resources to sign language programmes, support for employment programmes and sign language research.

Mr Adam Kosa, Member of European Parliament, moderated a roundtable on Inclusion and living in the community. Opening the panel, Mr. Kosa discussed the implementation of article 19 in Hungary, saying “we have a long way to go”. In recent years, huge institutions, instead of being dismantled, had been “redecorated” with limited resources. However, this summer, a new Government assumed office and was committed to the policy of deinstitutionalization, in line with the European Commission’s mandates. The

WFD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

16– 17 JULY 2010

FOR ORDINARY MEMBERS ONLY

APPROACHING DEADLINES FOR GA DOCUMENTS

WFD has sent a registered letter along with documents to all Ordinary Members on 17 June 2010 for the upcoming XVIII General Assembly, which will be held from 16 – 17 July 2011 in Durban, South Africa prior to the World Congress. The General Secretariat would like to remind Ordinary Members about the deadlines of the General Assembly documents that must be submitted to the General Secretariat in Finland.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

- **TWO (2) ORIGINAL ENTRUSTING POWER FORMS: 15 NOVEMBER 2010**
- **INCLUSIONS IN THE AGENDA AND PROPOSALS/MOTIONS: 15 NOVEMBER 2010**
- **NOMINATIONS FOR WFD BOARD POSITION: 31 DECEMBER 2010**
- **NOMINATIONS FOR WFD AWARDS: 31 DECEMBER 2010**
- **BIDS TO HOST THE XVI WORLD CONGRESS IN 2011: 31 DECEMBER 2010**

PLEASE SEND THESE DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE DEADLINE.

FINAL AGENDA AND ATTACHMENTS

WFD will send a **final agenda with attached reports and other materials in April 2011** (at three months in advance, as stated in WFD Statutes Article 28.1, prior to the General Assembly).

WORKSHOP

A workshop for the General Assembly (GA) will be held on 15 July 2011, prior to the XVIII General Assembly.

Further information about the General Assembly: Ms. Phillipa Sandholm (phillipa.sandholm@kl-deaf.fi).

REPRESENTATIVES FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

If official representatives of a deaf association in a developing country are lacking funds to cover travel related costs to the General Assembly, please inform the WFD General Secretariat as soon as possible. WFD cannot guarantee any financial assistance, thus, encourages its members to start negotiating for financial assistance with relevant partners. However, WFD would like to compile a list of those members that are lacking financial resources to attend the meeting.

WFD BOARD MEETING

The 95th Board Meeting was held from 9 to 11 September 2010 in Seoul, South Korea. The Board planned future action plan and discussed statutes amendments and the World Congress preparations, which are progressing well. The meeting also approved a new Ordinary Member, Mali Association of the Deaf. This increases the total number of WFD Ordinary Members into 131. The Board of the World Federation of the Deaf would like to thank the host, Korean Association of the Deaf, for its hospitality and all arrangements related to the Board Meeting.

The 96th WFD Board meeting will be held in San Jose, Costa Rica hosted by the National Association of the Deaf of Costa Rica from 26 – 28 January 2011.

At this meeting, the WFD Board will discuss about the upcoming XVII WFD General Assembly.

The WFD General Secretariat will send out the final documents to all WFD Ordinary Members, three months before the WFD General Assembly in April 2011. ■

NEW MEMBER TO WFD

WFD warmly welcomes new Ordinary Member, Mali Association of the Deaf (A.MA.Sourds), admitted as the 131st Ordinary Member by the WFD Board at its 95th Board meeting in Seoul, South Korea on 11th September 2010. ■

XVI WORLD CONGRESS OF THE WFD



The XVI WFD World Congress is from 18 – 24 July 2011 in Durban, South Africa. The program of the World Congress ranges from presentations, special interest groups, workshops and training to cultural and theatre presentations, exhibitions and related events for people of any ages from all over the world. For further information on programs of the Congress, do click on this website address: <http://www.wfd2011.com/events/programme.html>

FOCUS ON FOUR THEMES

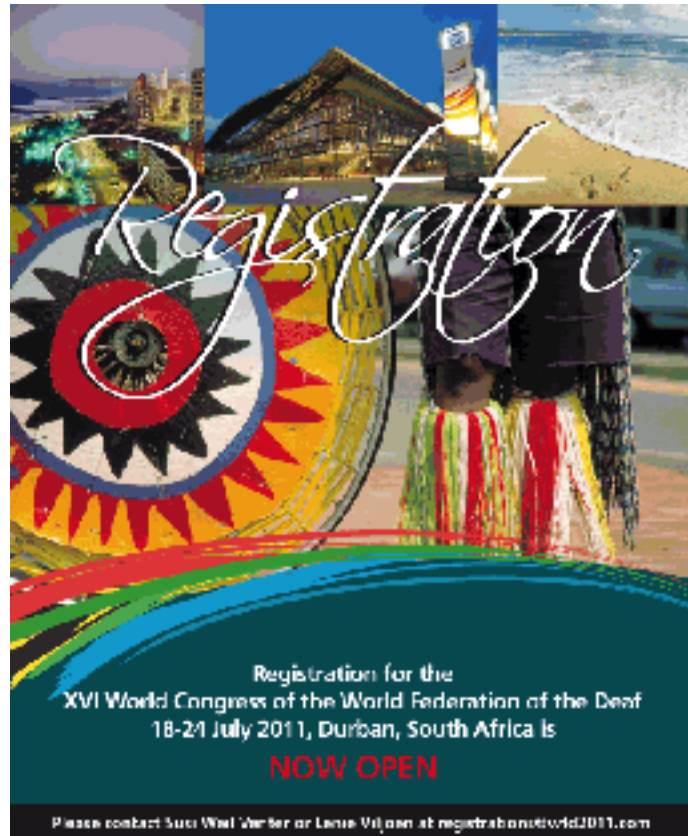
This Congress is to focus on the XVI World Congress of the WFD theme “Global Deaf Renaissance” from birth to adulthood on the following sub-themes:

- **DEAF EDUCATION** – Equal access to Education and Becoming Multilingual
- **SIGN LANGUAGES AND DEAF STUDIES** – Achieving Legal Recognition of Sign Language and Why Deaf?
- **DEVELOPING COUNTRIES** – Intelligent Conflict Management and Social and Economic Empowerment
- **HUMAN RIGHTS**

Special Interest Groups topics will cover: Deaf Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Bisexual People (LGBT), Deaf Ethnic Groups, CODAs – Children of Deaf Adults, Deafblind, Deaf Mental Health, Sign Language Interpreters, Families and Technology

NEWS FOR EXHIBITION

If you would like to have an exhibition space at the WFD World Congress, it is possible to register your space online at www.wfd2011.com or contact Ms. Alison Swannack at exhibitions@wfd2011.com



Registration for the XVI World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf 18-24 July 2011, Durban, South Africa is NOW OPEN



REGISTRATION

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION IS OPEN UNTIL 15 APRIL 2011. For further information, check on WFD Congress website: www.wfd2011.com The WFD Congress Registration is available now online. For fees and registration, please visit: <http://www.wfd2011.com> <http://wfd2011.com/registration>



WFD GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Mr. Jonathan McMillan, a WFD intern from Gallaudet University, USA worked with the WFD General Secretariat for 6 weeks from May to June 2010. He did mostly worked with WFDYS on preparation for the WFD Youth Section (WFDYS) Children's camp and also helped to do the signing and filming for the new WFD website. The WFD General Secretariat and WFDYS would like to thank him for his work. We wish him the best for the future.

At the moment, the WFD General Secretariat has a volunteer, Ms. Erica Hossler from USA working with us for over a month. WFD office is thankful for all the extra resources it has received to carry out its activities.



ICED PETITION – TAKE ACTION!

World Federation of the Deaf is calling individuals to sign an online petition, New Era Document, which rejects the resolutions of the 1880 Milan Congress that banned the use of sign language from educational programmes for deaf children. This is a call upon all nations and people of the world to remember history and ensure that educational programmes accept and respect all languages, including sign languages. The New Era Document was first presented and signed by hundreds of people in the 21st International Congress on the Education of the Deaf (ICED) in Vancouver, Canada in July 2010.

TO SIGN THE PETITION, PLEASE VISIT:

www.petitions24.com/wfd

WFD INVITES BIDS TO HOST 2013 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

FOR WFD ORDINARY, INTERNATIONAL AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ONLY:

World Federation of the Deaf is inviting bids to host an International Conference in 2013. International Conference is arranged between World Congresses and it may be organized by an Ordinary, International or Associate Member of the World Federation of the Deaf. It is smaller in scale than the World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf and more select in character aiming to facilitate exchange of information on the selected topic.

NOTE: THE DEADLINE FOR SENDING THE CONFERENCE BIDS IS 31 DECEMBER 2010.

MAKE YOUR PLANS AND SUBMIT YOUR BID

All received bids will be reviewed by the WFD Board. Thus, if your association is considering submitting a bid to arrange the WFD conference of 2013, it is now time to start preparing your plans and negotiate with partners for financial support.

The organiser hosting the international conference shall submit a proposed theme, application and financial plan to the Board for approval. The host has all financial responsibilities for the conference arrangements.

If your organisation is interested to host a WFD conference in 2013, you are welcome to request any further information about the conference or to send the bid to WFD General Secretariat.

We apologise for the mistake concerning the deadline for sending the conference bids in the last issue of the newsletter of September 2010. Please note the correct deadline: 31 December 2010. If you would like further information about the conference bids, please contact Ms. Phillipa Sandholm, WFD Administrative Secretary by email: phillipa.sandholm@kl-deaf.fi

ABOUT WFD

THE WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF is an international organisation representing and promoting the human rights of approximately **70 million** people worldwide.

Location: Helsinki, Finland

130 ordinary members

7 regional secretariats worldwide

WFD has a consultative status in the Union Nation including:

-Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

-UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

-International Labour Organization (ILO)

-World Health Organization (WHO)

World Federation of the Deaf

Full Equality & Quality of Life For All Deaf People



WFD HAS PARTICIPATED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS OF THE FIRST HUMAN RIGHTS TREATY OF THE 21ST CENTURY; THE FIRST BINDING TREATY SPECIFICALLY PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN ALL AREAS OF LIFE.



The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities will have a great impact on many Deaf people's lives after it has been ratified.

The Convention acknowledges recognition of: sign language, deaf culture and linguistic and cultural identity, quality education in sign language, professional sign language interpreting and acceptance and facilitation the use of sign language.

With your help and support, we can continue to make a difference!



www.wfdeaf.org

**SUPPORT
WFD'S WORK
FOR HUMAN
RIGHTS!**

DONATE NOW
Any amount you can give will make a difference.

**MONTHLY
GIVING**

What an easy way to support our work on a monthly basis!

WFD SHOP
T-shirts, pins, Country Name Sign book, and much more!
www.wfdeaf.org

JOIN US!

To become an individual member, you will receive a member bulletin 6 times per year and the latest news from our e-mail service.

You also will be able to buy a cheaper ticket to WFD's Congress, which is held from 18 to 24 July 2011 in Durban, South Africa.

For more information, check www.wfd2011.com.

How can you join? Go to our website for Individual Membership form. You also can contact our office and we can send you the application form. Once you fill the form out and pay, we will send you a member certificate.

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LABEL US ABLE: RESPECT DIVERSITY AND FREE THE POTENTIAL OF ALL



A panel discussion was organized by the Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations as a side event to the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly, the MDG Summit on 22 Sep 2010. The seminar focused on the rights of persons with disabilities and aimed to promote tolerance and respect for equality and difference. Panelists included Alexander

Stubb, Foreign Minister of Finland and hip-hop artist Signmark, Marko Vuoriheimo, Ms. Rachael Mayanja, Assistant Secretary-General of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs and Mr. Shuaib Chalklen, Special Rapporteur on Disability. More information: <http://formin.finland.fi/Public/default.aspx?contentid=200943&nodeid=15145&contentlan=2&culture=en-US>

Minister for Foreign Affairs Alexander Stubb nominated Marko Vuoriheimo to serve as his special representative for promoting the rights of people with disability. The special representative will present the human rights issues of people with disability at various international forums. Through his music, Signmark spreads the message of tolerance and respect for equality and difference. The goal is also to link Signmark with the networks promoting the human rights of people with disability and supported by Finland. ■

3 DECEMBER 2010: INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The theme of the 2010 commemoration of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities is “Keeping the promise: Mainstreaming disability in the Millennium Development Goals towards 2015 and beyond”. The day aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. It also seeks to increase awareness of gains to be derived from the inclusion of persons with disabilities in every aspect of life. ■

More information:

<http://www.un.org/disabilities/default.asp?id=1540>.



TOOLKIT FOR LONG TERM RECOVERY “HAITI: RECONSTRUCTION FOR ALL”

The toolkit, “Haiti: Reconstruction for All” developed by the Global Partnership Disability and Development (GPDD) Working Group on Haiti Reconstruction helps to structure a more comprehensive approach to disaster management to ensure long term recovery is inclusive of persons with disabilities. ■

More information:

http://gpdd-online.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=111:toolkit-for-long-term-recovery-haiti-reconstruction-for-all-&catid=1

CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (CRPD)

5 ARTICLES REFER DIRECTLY TO SIGN LANGUAGES AND THE DEAF:

Article 2: Definitions

Article 9: Accessibility (2 e)

Article 21: Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information (b and e)

Article 24: Education (3b, 3c, 4)

Article 30: Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport (4)

BY NOW

- 95 ratifications of the Convention
- 147 signatories to the Convention

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVEN-

- 58 ratifications of the Optional Protocol
- 90 signatories to the Optional Protocol

RECENT SIGNATURES AND RATIFICATIONS:

- Sierra Leone ratified the Convention 4 October 2010
- Senegal ratified the Convention on 7 September 2010
- Nigeria ratified the Convention on 24 September 2010
- Nigeria ratified the Optional Protocol on 24 September 2010
- Moldova ratified the Convention on 21 September 2010

ALBANIA

DEVELOPING AN IN-VISION NEWS SERVICE

by Robert Skinner



In February 2008 the Albanian National Association for the Deaf (ANAD) established a six week television interpreting training project which would see Albania's first ever regular broadcast of Albanian Sign Language (AlbSL) on National television. A central feature of this project was to have Deaf

people appearing in-vision interpreting the live News broadcast.

TVSH is a government funded station and has several daily News outputs; 8am, 10am, 1pm all 10-15minutes bulletins each and 4pm, 8pm, 10pm and 11pm editions all lasting 30 minutes each. As the Albania flag ship News broadcaster their content includes national and international News, and the output of News is of a high and fast turn over pace where content is often finalised around 15-30minutes before transmission. The decision to use Deaf people as in-vision interpreters for the News came from an ANAD consultation with the Deaf community. For them it was important to see a Deaf person working on National television using their language. This portrayal was the most valuable and empowering aspect of developing this New interpreting service.

The training and provision of the News interpreting service would focus on a co-operative approach between deaf and hearing interpreters. Although the Deaf person appears on screen what is crucial to making the service successful is the co-working strategies with the planning prior to transmission, and support within the studio during transmission. Before transmission the hearing interpreter would co-work with the Deaf in-vision signer by reading through the News scripts, digesting News topics, and developing a translation. The hearing interpreter would play a necessary role with breaking down the complex technical language found in News scripts. While the Deaf in-vision signer is actively interpreting on screen, the hearing interpreter would remain in the studio behind the camera and act as a feed. This is to cover any on-air changes to the script, e.g. the News reader, or interviewees, deviate or add to the script. Remember, it is a live broadcast, so you

cannot always count on the scripts to remain the same. It is this co-operative approach which again is unique and empowers a more Deaf friendly News interpreting service.

The training programme: The first step was to hold open auditions to identify who would make the ideal interpreter for a live News broadcast. The second is a three week training period. The training would cover "New topics – what are they?" "What does the News do?" "What does the News look like" and "How to interpret for television?" The final phase is the trial period where the teams (Deaf & Hearing interpreters) would practice going through the motions preparing and interpreting for live broadcast.

PHASE 1 – AUDITIONS

The selection criteria for the auditions was based on a description of Deaf in-vision signers interviewed in Dr Christopher Stone's Ph.D thesis (see Stone 2006):

- People who have good use of Sign Language skills.
- Reasonable grasp of the written language.
- Good understanding of World and local News.
- The ability to explain and translate mainstream issues to other Deaf people (alternatively know as 'informers' in the community).

The aim was to identify individuals with the life experience and a natural potential to communicate various ideas and complex meaning to those often excluded from the mainstream world. Admittedly, finding Deaf people with these skills in Albania was difficult. The Deaf community in Albania was highly

oppressed, more so during the Communist period, and so few Deaf participants had the reading skills to understand the Newspapers, and or complex written texts. The weak reading/literacy skills were also directly due to the pedagogy approach applied in the Tirana school for the Deaf – it has been an oralistic approach and AlbSL has not been used within the education system. Although many of the participants did not have good reading skills they were interested in the News, interested in the idea of providing an interpreting service, and committed to supporting ANAD's campaign. Therefore, the training programme was adapted to their existing knowledge of News topics and reading abilities. For further background information about the Albania Deaf community and AlbSL see Hoyer (2007).

PHASE 2 – UNDERSTAND THE NEWS

Eight participants were invited to attend a three week evening training programme which focused on four keys areas:

1. *Develop a good understanding of local, national and world News.* Every day participants were asked to present on one News topic each. It could be on any News item they were able to access, read, comprehend or get assistance with. Each presentation was followed by a discussion about the News topic to gain a deeper understanding of the topic. This was probably the most beneficial part of the training for all. You cannot translate something well until you understand the meaning of the message. For the Deaf participants they began to develop a better and more meaningful understanding of why News topics were reported on, whilst at the same time, the hearing participants were able to expand their AlbSL vocabulary.

2. *Understand how TV News is structured.* Knowing and understanding the format of the News can simplify the steps with preparing the News translation. Therefore, it was viable for the team to recognise the following features:

- On average how many News items are reported within the 10-15minutes News bulletin?
- How much of the News is generally repeated from the morning edition?
- Sports normally comes before the culture feature and is rarely reported on during this time.
- The international News tends to be shown as a trio.
- How the News is typically introduced and closed.
- What typical phrases are associated with the programme?
- The top two stories tend to be of higher importance compared to the following stories.
- TVSH do not give run down of headlines and instead dive straight in to the first News story.

Knowing these features of TVSH News allows the team to focus their preparation and appreciate the story telling style created by the journalists. Knowing how many News items allows one to think how to organise the preparation time and thinking about how to introduce each item in order for it to make sense to an excluded audience.

3. *Translation issues/techniques.* Many of the topics reported on within the News will be new concepts to the group and audience at home. This is inevitable considering that the Deaf community have, until recently, been excluded from the mainstream News. There will also be times where there is no agreed vocabulary to explain certain events. In situations like this explanations are often needed to bring context to various issues. These contexts are sometimes implicit in News items but need to be made explicit to an excluded minority. So, at this stage how important is a faithful translation? How faithful is the translation delivered on any other interpreted News programme? Do in-vision signers always capture everything in their translation? Should the in-vision signer be burdened with educating it's audience or focus more on making the translation accessible? There never seemed to be one answer fits all situations but knowing when to be flexible can help overcoming these difficult situations. Furthermore, to make something accessible can mean parts of the News has to deliberately go untranslated.

The News is written specifically for a captive audience and does not allow others, such as an excluded minority, to catch up. With this in mind we felt it justifiable to say “within reason aspire to a complete and faithful translation, but be prepared to omit or add for the sake of making the meaning accessible”. We felt our key role was to inform the Deaf public of the News in a way they will understand.



The second reason for justifying omissions or changes to the News script is to having only 30minutes to one hour to prepare a translation. Each day participants worked on their translation skills using the Kipling model: **what, who, why, where, when and how.** For more information on Kipling model see Bell, R. 1991. This model was ideal for News bulletins as often the script would be a maximum of two to four paragraphs long. The concise nature meant sometimes the News item needed to be clear on “What is the story about”, “Who is the story about”, “Why this story is being reported on”, “When and where this happened” and finally “How is the story delivered”. The Kipling model also encouraged participants to remove themselves from the spoken vocabulary and grammar and think more about how it would be expressed by another Deaf person. ►

A lot of implicit and explicit information is conveyed in a short space of time, names are articulated quicker than can be finger-spelt in AlbSL (in a 2D clear and readable way), and information is sometimes repeated from the studio within the body of dispatch items (i.e. pre-recorded commentary). These strategies we developed were:

- Where is the information repeated ask yourself, can it be omitted to create a clearer translation?
- Do names always need to be spelled? For example, The Albanian Prime Minister Sali Berisha, Albanian President Bamir Tpoi, Serbian President Boris Tadic, Kosovo Prime Minister Hashim Thaci, etc, are all well known faces in Albania. Therefore, their names, not titles, can be omitted from the translation when there is a need to keep up with the speaker.
- If concepts are new and complicated then sometimes it makes more sense to give an establishing summary and wait for the images to appear with commentary.
- If you know and have prepared the translation well then why not begin relaying the message before the speaker has started.
- The same principle of being ahead can be applied to the opening and closing of a programme. This is a fixed piece of dialogue and remains pretty much the same everyday.

Many of these strategies then meant the in-vision signer did not need to rush and could convey it in a clear and readable style.

4. *In-vision coping strategies.* We created our very own News studio at the ANAD office. The studio was a simple setup, a laptop as the auto-cue (a free auto-cue service can be used on any computer at www.cueprompter.com), a TV monitor of the News broadcast (positioned close to the auto-cue as a visual feed), a camera positioned behind the laptop, an interpreter behind the camera feeding. This part of the training was the most enjoyable, as the team were made to go through the motions of reading/understanding News scripts, signing to an auto-cue, managing visual input from what going on screen, the auto-cue and AlbSL feed from the interpreter behind the camera. The purpose of the feed from the interpreter, the text on the auto-cue, or the images on screen, were to serve as memory joggers with recalling the prepared translation developed earlier that day. Only when there is unscripted parts should the Deaf in-vision signer become dependant on the interpreter standing behind the camera.

The opportunity of going through the motions with preparing and reading scripts within two hours and interpreting the TVSH News as “live” meant many mistakes could be learned in a safe environment. Secondly, the choice of interpreting a 10 – 15minute News bulletin was also a good move. The format of the News meant it was restricted to a manageable level where the volume of information given for each News item was limited to a few minutes and, more often than not, straight to the point.

Another important part is developing the skills with receiving a signed feed whilst signing at the same time and/or remaining calm. When standing in front of a

camera it doesn't mean you must be signing throughout the entire bulletin. Composure and confidence is needed to know when it is ok to pause, when it is ok to wait and allow the audience time to absorb the visual information as well as the signed information. The length of a pause in one's mind actually feels longer than in real time, therefore, unless one is calm they do not recognise this difference.

Finally, presentation of the language needed to be considered as the size of the signer on screen is small and appears in 2D format. This section was address with the assistance of Colin Allen (who was at the time the organisational advisor within the ANAD-FAD project) who used to work as an in-vision signer for a local News edition in Sydney, Australia. Being aware that when the size is reduced some movements will not be as transparent on screen as they would in real life. Representing time-lines by moving forwards and backwards is not as clear as representing them from left to right. The movements when finger-spelling may need to be slightly exaggerated and controlled.

LAUNCH OF THE NEWS

The build up and launch of AlbSL on National television was a huge success. A few days before the launch rehearsals took place at the TVSH studio. The following equipment needed to be put into place in order for the Deaf in-vision signer to work competently:

- A contact person to supply draft & final scripts as and when they become ready.
- A contact person to show draft & final edited film clips as and when they become ready.
- An auto-cue set for the in-vision signer only.
- The auto-cue to include studio presenter scripts as well as narrated scripts written for film clips shown in the News (this is not normally done as the News-reader is only fed his/her lines).
- A monitor feed to view the out-put.

Since this was the first time AlbSL was to feature regularly on television the location of the interpreter box on screen needed to be agreed upon between ANAD and TVSH. There is no fixed standard on where to position the box as different nations may prefer different styles and is defined by technological possibilities. The preferred location chosen by representative from ANAD was to have the in-vision signer position close the top on the right of frame (more or less equal eye line to the News reporter). ►



The launch of AlBSL on National television was concluded with a celebration and awards evening at ANAD to recognise this momentous step for the Deaf community. The country had not only gained direct access to a daily News programme but a team of seven regular working interpreters (five hearing and two deaf).

To conclude, it is worth mentioning that for first two weeks of the News being broadcasted in AlBSL numerous text messages were sent to ANAD from all over the country thanking ANAD, TVSH, God and the people in-vision for providing them with direct access to daily News. Many commented on how this provides them with the independence they have long desired and freed them from the reliance on their families. I would like to thank the staff at ANAD for all their support and input to the development of this training project, FAD, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, Colin Allen, Selman Hoti (Kosovan Sign Language interpreter), and Karin Hoyer (FAD representative & Linguistic Advisor). ■

Read more:

Bell, Roger T. (1991). *Translation and translating : theory and practice*. London: Longman.

Hoyer, Karin. (2007). *Albanian Sign Language: Language Contact, International Sign, and Gesture*. In David Quinto-Pozos (Ed.) *Sign Languages in Contact*. Washington, D.C.: Gallaudet University Press. 195–234.

Steiner, Ben. (1998) "Signs from the void: The comprehension and production of sign language on television". *Interpreting* 3:2, 99 ff.

Stone, C. (2006). *Translation style of Deaf and hearing interpreters in the broadcast television news*. *Across the Board* 1(3), 26-27. ISSN: N/A

Stone, C. (2007). *Deaf translators/interpreters' rendering processes: the translation of oral languages*. *The sign language translator and interpreter* 1(1), 53-72. ISSN: 1750-3981

AUSTRALIA

A NEW 'GOLDEN AGE' IN DEAF EDUCATION IN NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA?

Written by: Kate Matairavula on behalf of the Deaf Australia (NSW), Parent Council for Deaf Education and the Deaf Society of NSW

A little geography lesson about Australia: It is a large continent divided into six states and two territories with a population of 22,500,000 people. The state of New South Wales (NSW) has a population of 7 million people and over 60% of that population live in its capital city of Sydney. In many ways NSW is considered to be the richest and most prosperous state in Australia with some of the best schools and universities in the country.

What then are the educational opportunities for deaf children in NSW? You may be interested to know that the education system in each state is managed by its own Government and that NSW has limited options for a deaf child who uses Auslan to access to curriculum. There are no government bilingual school or programs in NSW. Other States within Australia, for example Queensland and Victoria, have bilingual schools and

programs. There is evidence of a growing number of parents needing to move interstate to access a bilingual education.

In NSW teachers and teacher's aides 'teach' deaf children even though they are not fluent in Auslan. Due to the lack of resources made available to support deaf children, the students have limited access to qualified interpreters, sometimes for only 10 hours a week, meaning that deaf students are denied full access to the curriculum and a full education. Parents often have to fight hard for their child's need to be met.

Meet the Hon. Helen Westwood, a politician in the NSW Parliament and mother of a Deaf daughter. Helen has a passion for equality for Deaf people. In 2009, at Helen's suggestion, a working party with the Deaf Society of NSW, Parent Council for Deaf Education and Deaf Australia (NSW) was formed to put together an annual event that celebrates the National Week of Deaf People. This very successful event is aimed at the Deaf community and their right to a say in their Parliament.

This year the focus was on the issue of Deaf Education with a panel discussion to explore the topic: "Deaf Education and the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (UNCRPD)." The panellists were made up of a broad mix of expertise: Mr Colin Allen, World Federation of the Deaf board member, Dr Breda Carty, Lecturer in Special Education, Louise Cullen, a representative from the NSW Department of Education, Bernadette Coleman, a representative of the Victorian Department of Education, Sarah Lysaught and Sarah Billing, two parents of deaf children and Gemma Jones, a young deaf woman who recently finished school. The panel was facilitated by a well-known TV and radio personality in Australia, Mr James O'Loghlin. ►



Panelists Gemma Jones, Colin Allen and Breda Carty



Audience member with facilitator James O'Loghlin

What did the audience learn from this discussion? One of the significant points that was made was the NSW education system seemed to have lost touch with deaf people and the Deaf community. In the time of Australia's 'golden age' it was noted that there was more partnership and dialogue with deaf schools and the Deaf staff that worked there and the Deaf community were often involved in the school. This is not present in the system today and the feedback from the discussion was that it is the lesser for it.

The discussion was passionate, exciting and dynamic. Audience members asked questions and shared their experiences and for many it was an emotional time. Many comments were directed at the representative from the NSW Department of Education and people wanted answers and a commitment to change from them.

It is very easy to complain and to focus on what is wrong with the system, and yet the audience and panellists were encouraged and challenged to also think of solutions and of what the future could and should look like. Some feedback was that:

- Deaf children be taught two languages, Auslan and English.
- Bilingualism to be seen as a positive thing.
- Bilingual early intervention programs to be made available for families in NSW.
- Family friendly Auslan programs need to be introduced.
- Qualified interpreters to be in each class that has a deaf child who signs.
- Auslan to be recognised officially as a language of instruction.
- Deaf children to be taught about their language and history so they develop their Deaf identity and know how to be confident Deaf people in their community.
- Partnerships be formed with education professionals, deaf education professionals, parents and Deaf people to work together.

This evening inspired the community to keep fighting for the rights of deaf children and parents who make the decisions on behalf of their children, to have choices and to have services available that support those choices. The lobbying is hard work and often no outcome seems likely to happen. But the work must continue! ■

Find out more:

Deaf Australia (NSW) – www.nswad.org.au

Parent Council for Deaf Education – www.pcde.org

Deaf Society of NSW – www.deafsocietynsw.org.au

BELGIUM

TRAVEL AGENCY CONDEMNED FOR DISCRIMINATING AGAINST A DEAF CLIENT IN BELGIUM

The Ghent Commercial Court sentenced a travel agency that offers adventurous holidays for discriminating against a deaf customer

A deaf man who is used to travelling independently, contacted the agency in May last year to register for a group holiday to Jordan. Because the travel agency thought they could not guarantee the deaf man's safety if he would have to communicate with the locals, they only wanted to register him if he would bring a companion at his own expense.

A few simple adjustments such as using a notebook and SMS to communicate arrangements would have been sufficient for the man to join the group to Jordan. Requiring an individual supervisor at the expense of the deaf man himself was completely unnecessary.

After unsuccessful mediation efforts by the Federation of Flemish Deaf Organisations (Fevlado), the Centre for Equal Opportunities (hereafter called the Centre) and the Ghent Complaints Bureau for Discrimination, it was decided to take it to court. The

court followed them and judged that the travel agency was guilty of discrimination by refusing to enroll the deaf man.

Fevlado welcomes this verdict. This is an important ruling which confirms that deaf people are not helpless or incompetent. Deaf people are full citizens who have the right to participate in all spheres of social life: education, sports, culture, leisure, travel.

The Anti-Discrimination Act makes it clear that those who supply goods and services, cannot refuse customers with disabilities and must provide reasonable accommodation where necessary. That is the message of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The agency was ordered to pay a compensation of 650 Euros and a fine of 1000 Euros each time it happens again. Additionally, the travel agency has to hang out this sentence in its offices in Ghent and at its own expense publish it in various media. The sentence also has to be published in its newsletter and website. ■

HUNGARY

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES IN HUNGARY SAY: 'IMPLEMENT THE CRPD!'

The Hungarian Disability Caucus which is a non hierarchical collaborative network of Disabled Peoples Organizations and their allies in Hungary have produced an alternative report which assesses Hungary's compliance with the UN Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

The 254-page report entitled 'Disability Rights or Disabled Rights?', was launched on 10 August 2010 at a public event in Budapest, Hungary.

The first CRPD Hungarian alternative report looks at each of the CRPD articles and concludes that the government is failing to meet the needs of people with disabilities, and its obligations under the CRPD.

The findings are particularly concerning, as Hungary became the first European State to ratify the CRPD in March 2007.

The findings of the alternative report will be presented to delegates at the Third Conference of States Parties, 1-3 September 2010, in New York.

The alternative report will be sent to the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It is available in English and Hungarian and can be downloaded at <http://www.mdac.info/en/cprd-alternative-report>.

The report contains 170 recommendations to the Hungarian government, including

- How to provide supported decision-making for the approximately 80,000 people under guardianship;
- How to amend legislation to guarantee reasonable accommodation and accessibility;
- How to close large institutions and develop independent living;
- How to ensure inclusive education of children with disabilities;
- How to bring employment law in line with the CRPD.

The members of the Hungarian Disability Caucus are

- Committee of Disabled Persons' Organisations (FESZT)

- Down Association
- Hungarian Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability (ÉFOÉSZ)
- Hungarian Association of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (SINOSZ)
- Hungarian Autistic Society (AOSZ)
- Hungarian Civil Liberties Union (TASZ)
- Mental Disability Advocacy Center (MDAC)
- National Federation of Disabled Persons' Association (MEOSZ)
- Voice of Soul Association.

The Caucus has been undertaking this exercise through an open consensus process. The Caucus has been following this process as an exercise of deliberative democracy and with the belief that the right of civil society participation requires informed, responsible and responsive deliberation on behalf of civil society members.

Financial support for the alternative report was provided by the Open Society Institute, the EGT/Norwegian Financial Mechanism, the Hungarian Environmental Partnership Foundation and its partners, SINOSZ and MDAC. ■

For further information, please contact:
Gabor Gombos, MDAC Senior Advocacy Officer, mdac@mdac.info and
Dalma Földes, SINOSZ Project Coordinator, foldes.dalma@sinosz.hu

ITALY

SURVIVORS OF ALLEGED SEXUAL ABUSE BY PRIESTS CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

Verona / - A group who claim to be survivors of pedophile clergy in Italy have launched an international appeal to have sexual abuse by priests and brothers to be declared an international crime against humanity, says AFP. Organizer Salvatore Domolo, an alleged former victim and an ex-priest, said the group is looking abroad for support because it is difficult to charge perpetrators in Italy, which has a statute of limitations of 10 years. "The complicity of the hierarchy, together with the enormity of the numbers and vast geography of these crimes, should lead us to consider that we are facing a crime against humanity carried out by a political-religious organization," Domolo told a news conference

before the meeting. "With this gathering, we want to ask civilian justice to do its duty in full freedom and truth, without being intimidated by the clerical culture." Several dozen victims and family members attended the gathering in Verona at a school for the deaf where 67 former students claim that they suffered physical and sexual abuse under the brothers of the Company of Mary order from the 1950s to the early 1980s. The survivors' organization will be holding a protest at the Vatican on October 31st and have invited American US survivor organizations to participate. ■

Source: World Without Hearing

KOSOVO

The Government of the Republic of Kosovo in its program prioritizes the respect for human rights especially the rights of people with disabilities.

The procurement of language rights for deaf people is one of the priorities which the Government of the Republic of Kosovo has been working on and now has concluded its work so this rudimentary right will be respected and implemented in Kosovo as well.

On 29th of September 2010, the Government of

the Republic of Kosovo held its 146th regular meeting where the decision had been taken to formalize the Sign Language in the Republic of Kosovo.

This decision was based on the constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, anti-discrimination legislation, national plan of action for people with disabilities and the provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities. ■

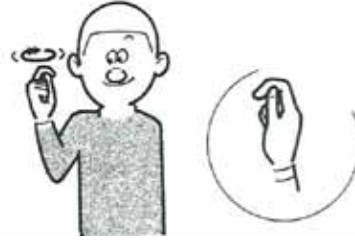
MALAWI

SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF CLOSED

Three schools for the deaf in Malawi have closed because of an ongoing dispute about funding, leaving over 200 deaf students without a school, says All Africa. Administrators, the Catholic Brothers of Immaculate Conception (BIC) and the Ministry of Education cant agree on who should pay for support staff. The Vice-Provincial Superior for the brothers, Lawrence Sitima said the Mary View School, Mountain View School and the Mua School were not opened because the government had not made the firm commitment that

they need to run the schools. The director of Special Needs Education in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, David Njaidi says that the government will start paying for support staff. ■

Source: World Without Hearing



Country sign for Malawi

NORTH KOREA



From July 6th till July 8th 2010, the President of the World Federation (WFD) of the Deaf, Mr. Markku Jokinen (Finland), the President of the World Sign Language Interpreter Association (WSLIA), Mrs. Liz Scott Gibson (Scotland/UK) and the WFD-KFPD Liaison Officer, Mr. Robert Remarque Grund (Germany), visited the DPRK and met representative

and deaf friends of the Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled (KFPD) in order to continue the WFD-KFPD cooperation.

Since the first envoy of WFD to the DPRK, Mr. Robert R. Grund, visited this country in 2008, the cooperation and communication between WFD and KFPD has developed steadily and trustfully focusing on the UN-Convention of the Human Rights for the Persons with Disabilities. As a result of this good development the Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled invited Mr. Markku Jokinen to the DPRK in order to discuss the foundation of the National Deaf Association of the DPRK and other points of mutual interest in their future collaboration, for instance to continue the international deaf meeting "GOOD FELLOWSHIP" in Pyongyang.

At the meeting at headquarter of the KFPD in Pyongyang, Mr. Markku Jokinen learned about the living conditions and the educational situation of the deaf people in the DPRK: deaf education has developed since 1959, including teaching and using sign language as the communicational tool for deaf and hearing impaired people. Sign language was officially recognized by the DPRK government. ■

Read more on WFD website at: www.wfdeaf.org

USA

On 8th of October 2010, President Barack Obama signed the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 into law and delivered brief remarks on the impact of this law on individuals with disabilities. Bobbie Beth Scoggins, President of the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) with Chief Executive Officer Nancy Bloch and Law and Advocacy Director Rosaline Crawford will be on hand to witness this historic event at the White House, which will be streamed on whitehouse.gov/live

The NAD applauds Congress for passage of this landmark legislation will improve access to communication, television, and the Internet for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, late deafened and deaf-blind.

“The Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act is one of the most significant victories for our community since the Americans with Disabilities Act was signed 20 years ago. It will enable 36 million deaf and hard of hearing people to participate in the Internet age by ensuring captioning of television programs on the Internet, a closed caption button on television remote controls, hearing aid compatibility for Internet telephones, and communications equipment for individuals who are deaf-blind, and more,” said Bobbie Beth Scoggins, NAD President. “While we fell short in some areas, such as requiring web TV episodes distributed only on the Internet to be captioned, this is a step in the right direction to make the web accessible. For many of us, the quality of our lives depend on an accessible Internet and we appreciate Congress’ recognition of this essential civil right.”

The passage of this Act culminates a legislative process that has involved congressional hearings, intensive discussions with various companies and trade associations, and extensive advocacy by the Coalition of Organizations for Accessible Technology (COAT) of which the NAD is a co-founder, leader, and steering committee member. COAT, a coalition of more than 300 organizational affiliates, promotes full access by people with disabilities to evolving high speed

broadband, wireless and other Internet Protocol (IP) technologies. Other COAT co-founding organizations include the American Association of People with Disabilities, American Council of the Blind, American Foundation for the Blind, and Communication Service for the Deaf.

The Twenty-first Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act (S. 3304) will significantly increase accessibility for Americans with disabilities to the indispensable telecommunications technology tools of the 21st century by:

Making access to the Web possible through improved user interfaces for smart phones Enabling Americans who are blind to enjoy TV more fully through audible descriptions of the on-screen action

Making TV program guides and selection menus accessible to people with vision loss Providing Americans who are deaf the ability to watch new TV programs online with the captions included Mandating that remote controls have a button or similar mechanism to easily access the closed captioning on broadcast and pay TV Requiring that telephone equipment used to make calls over the Internet is compatible with hearing aids For low-income Americans who are both deaf and blind, providing up to \$10 million per year to purchase communications equipment to access the telephone system and the Internet so these individuals can more fully participate in society. “This Act was achieved through bipartisan support.” said NAD President Scoggins. “The NAD looks forward to working with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on the rulemakings expected over the next several years to fulfill the requirements of the Act. With the continued support of our members we will ensure that the final regulations provide the access that deaf and hard of hearing people need.”

Source: National Association of the Deaf, USA

ZAMBIA

ZAMBIA RECOGNIZES AND APPROVES SIGN LANGUAGE IN NEW NATIONAL CONSTITUTION 2010

By Euphrasia Mbewe

Zambia has recognized sign language in the national constitution through the National Constitution Conference. In 2nd December 2007 to 13 August 2010 was appointed commissioner to sit on the National Constitutional Conference (NCC). NCC Act of 2007 enacted by parliament guided the commissioners. The NCC has 489 members and I was only one who was Deaf, one physical and one blind.

Three of us were representing persons with disabilities organisations in Zambia. Among the commissioners of the NCC consisted of the Republican Vice President, Member of Parliament, Ministers and their deputies, Provincial ministers, women's movements, religious organization, trade Union, Legal Association, University of Zambia students union, media organisation, Teachers union, political parties. The NCC was given



all the powers to examine, deliberate, retain, making amendments or were possible deletion and adoption for a new constitution that was submitted by the Constitution Review Commission (CRC). Approving an article was based on conscience- the acclamation of YES or NO. However in the absence of consensus, decision was determined by two thirds of majority vote (secret ballot) of the commissioners of the NCC.

Through some advocate and lobbying both internal and external we managed to impress the articles below to be approved. There many other articles that have been moved to subsidiary legislations but are all equal powerful. The NCC approved the progressive and straightforward articles related to disability. I have listed these articles for your information too as a lesson should similar development arise in your country, Great!! Zambia has followed Uganda and South Africa in Africa.

I am very happy to have been honoured to represent the thousands of person with disabilities in Zambia though under challenging circumstances beyond my control. We grateful to all the stakeholders who contributed in the achievement of this result. I hope all will have a bright future, as legislation is a priority that result in inclusive National Development Plan that benefits every person. The Inclusion of Sign language will brighten the future Deaf generation in Zambia. Other governments around the world should emulate the example if steps have not been taken to include Person with disabilities in their national constitutions that is a powerful legal tool used for person with disabilities to live independent. ■

KITWE YOUTHS HOST MEGA CONFERENCE TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES OF THE DEAF IN ZAMBIA

Kitwe Deaf Youth and Women (KDYW) led by a highly motivated and enterprising young deaf teacher, Frankson Musukwa held a mega provincial conference on advocacy based on the premise of the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD).

The conference was attended by more than 30 deaf youth representative from across the nation who studied and developed working guidelines for advocacy using the UNCRPD as a working document.

Opportunity Zambia has since partnered with the ZDYW to support the group in empowering Youths with advocacy and lobbying skills, using a rights-based approach.

The Youth group also used the opportunity availed by the conference to lobby Zambia's Republican President, Mr. Rupiah Bwezani Banda to facilitate the recruitment of all graduate deaf teachers who are not yet employed through the Ministry of Education (MoE). As a result of this, out of the eleven (11) deaf graduate teachers eligible for appointment, seven (7) have since been recruited as teachers by the Ministry of Education.

Mr. Frankson Musukwa informed Opportunity Zambia that the Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Education confirmed the appointment of the teachers to the Zambia Deaf Youth and Women (ZDYW) Secretariat in May 2010.

"Government has responded favorably to the concerns of the deaf on their request for full time job placements," says Frank Musukwa, team leader of KDYW.

Under Article 27 of the UNCRPD, state parties recognize the right of persons with disabilities to work, on an equal basis with others.

With the recent ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) by the Zambian Government in December 2009, disability groups and their partners have an entry point to increase efforts to ensure that the UNCRPD is domesticated in Zambia's key legislations.

KDYW is also currently lobbying Government to

make sign language the official 8th language in Zambia as a way of making education for deaf people easier especially at University level.

"We are advocating for the recognition of sign language as an official 8th language in Zambia. No one should be allowed to give language deficiencies as a reason for denying us our human rights, as enshrined in the UNCRPD," echoed Mr. Musukwa's words.

Most Youths who are deaf have been advocating for increased variety of Opportunities for tertiary education in different fields including Medicine, Public Health, Law, engineering, Politics, Sociology, Economics and other fields. But they have been denied this opportunity and the main reason for exclusion has been the absence of lecturers who can use sign language. This means that even the high scoring deaf students are being forced to study teaching, because it's the only field with enough sign language lecturers in Zambia.

According to Article 24 of the UNCRPD, state parties recognize the right of persons with disabilities to education.

Apart from education Mr. Musukwa expressed his displeasure at the Governments lack of recognition and representation for people who are deaf. He said that Deaf persons are denied direct representation in issues of national interest.

"Even now, we are not directly part of the Zambian constitution making process, other disabilities have their representatives. Progress is slow in recognizing our needs we are now fighting for the rights of the child who is deaf, so I will not give up the fight for our rights to access quality education," emphasized Frankson in an interview with Opportunity Zambia Director, early this year.

Mr. Musukwa also explained that his organization does not only attend events but is given a platform to air deaf youth concerns at major events which includes the Youth Day celebrations. The voice of deaf youths is also being heard at Development focused meetings, with the Kitwe District Commissioner actively involving the deaf youths in several other meetings. ■

EVER HEARD OF A DEAF FRIENDLY CAFE?

Yes, there is one in Northern Ireland! Located in Holywood, Ireland, Coffee Yard offers a totally friendly atmosphere with coffee, art and music. Downstairs is filled of art gallery and upstairs hosts events & exhibitions. Staffed by three deaf and several hearing people, they work alongside each other well.

Richard Beattie, the son of the owner, Christopher Jones and Alan Smith explained their experiences as deaf staff in the magazine of British Deaf News. Christopher Jones mentioned how hearing people were shocked at first and they gradually became used to it. They now see more and more hearing parents

with deaf children coming to the cafe, which is turning into a great atmosphere for Sign Language students and users to mingle together. By increasing Deaf Awareness in communicating effectively, they host events and provide sections related to deaf awareness in their coffee magazine so hearing people can understand them better. Inspired by Coffee Yard? Start your own cafe! If they can do it, you can too.

If you ever happen to be in Ireland, Coffee Yard is well worth a visit! For more information, about the cafe, see www.yardgallery.com. ■

McAteer, Majella. British Deaf News, p. 29. October 2010.

SIGN LANGUAGE TYPOLOGY RESEARCH PROJECT

At the University of Central Lancashire in Preston, England, they plan to compare the structure of approximately 30 different sign languages from across the world under the research heading of ‘Sign Language Typology’.

Deaf associations/organisations can get involved in this research as their partners.

The research will focus on four (4) different areas, namely:

1. Colour words
2. Words for family relationships
3. Number and quantity words
4. Words relating to seeing and hearing

Individuals with an interest in the research project and strong sign language skills are welcome to join the project. They need not be linguists or university students.

For more information on the research project, please see the website below. Information is available in both written English and International Sign.

<http://www.uclan.ac.uk/schools/iscri/islands/islands.php>

If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Ms. Keiko Sagara at ksagara@uclan.ac.uk ■

SIGNALL II – PERSPECTIVE ON DEAFNESS

The main objective of SIGNALL II was to devise and launch an E-learning course entitled “Perspectives on Deafness” (POD) to be incorporated as a module into the Trinity College Dublin’s Centre for Deaf Studies’ Bachelor Degree in Deaf Studies. The intention was not to exclude deaf participants from the classroom, rather to give them access to online content that was not hitherto available in their signed language(s). Also, it was possible to add international materials to the content for all five Member States involved in the project. The lectures and coursework are presented in British, Czech, Finnish, Polish and Irish signed languages with voice-overs in the spoken language of each country. The module includes key topics relating to social and historical aspects of the Deaf community and international perspectives on deafness. Rather than presenting a study on Deaf people, “Perspectives on Deafness” encourages deaf and hearing students to explore their own preconceptions and experiences of deafness. Students who complete the module, which includes multimedia content to support teaching and learning, receive 10 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) credits. POD can also be taken as a stand-alone non-accredited course for vocational education and training through MOODLE.

SIGNALL II project results also included additional educational material such as a DVD documentary entitled “Experiencing Deafhood” directed by project chairman Haaris Sheikh, and the first European text book on Deaf studies – “Experiencing Deafhood - Snapshots from Five Nations”. As a follow up, SIGNALL 3 is underway and due to run until the end of 2011, which will develop an e-learning digitised course: “Working with the Deaf Community” which will also be offered as a component of the Bachelor Degree in Deaf Studies at Trinity College Dublin or alternatively as part of extra-mural activities for VET purposes in Ireland, Belgium, Finland, Turkey and the UK.

Interesource Group is currently working on a new project called MEDISIGNS which will create continuous professional development (CPD) material for interpreters working in a medical context. It will also create learning materials for doctors who provide services to Deaf patients to increase their own understanding of Deaf culture, sign language and communication. ■

For further information please contact:

Haaris Sheikh, Chief Executive
Interesource Group (Ireland) Limited
haaris@interesourcegroup.com
www.signallproject.eu

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

DONORS

COUNTRY NAME-SIGN

A popular book published for WFD (2003) - Collection of data: Japan Institute for Sign Language Studies and Tomas Hedberg, Swedish National Association of the Deaf. The Country Name-Sign books are available in the WFD General Secretariat. If you would like to order a copy, please do contact by email: orders@wfdeaf.org and then we will send you an invoice for payment of the order.

A GUIDE TO THE UN DISABILITY CONVENTION

The Equality and Human Rights Commission in the UK has developed a simple easy to understand Guide to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The Guide provides an introduction to the Convention, information on understanding disability rights and a video of the guide in British Sign Language and with subtitles, as well as an Easy Read version of the guide. More information: <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/human-rights/a-guide-to-the-un-disability-convention/>

DEAF PEOPLE & HUMAN RIGHTS

A report written by Ms Hilde Haualand, researcher and Mr Colin Allen, project coordinator and report assistant.

The “Deaf People and Human Rights” report is based on a survey that is, up until now, the largest knowledge database on the situation of Deaf people. The lives of Deaf people in 93 countries, most of which are developing countries, are addressed. The Swedish National Association of the Deaf and the World Federation of the Deaf initiated the survey, with funding from the Swedish Agency for International Development Co-operation (Sida) and the Swedish Organisations of Disabled Persons International Aid Association (Shia).

The report is available on the WFD Website in English and International Sign. You can also order a DVD of the report in International Sign for postage fee (11 €).

If you wish to receive the DVD, please contact WFD General Secretariat Office at orders@wfdeaf.org.

WFD wishes to thank to those WFD members who have made a contribution to support the WFD. Here are the names of the list of the contributors:

Donation to support WFD:

Maija Koivisto

WFD MERCHANDISE

If you are interested in ordering items from WFD, such as DVD – Suggested International Signs for use at the WFD General Assembly, T-shirts (golf, woman and ordinary), WFD Pins, water bottles, watches, pens and caps, you can make an order through email, which is orders@wfdeaf.org Here is the price list of the items:

COUNTRY NAME-SIGN BOOK – 10 €

DVD – SUGGESTED INTERNATIONAL SIGNS FOR USE AT THE WFD GENERAL ASSEMBLY – 30 €

DVD - DEAF PEOPLE AND HUMAN RIGHTS - 11 €

ORDINARY T-SHIRT (BLUE OR WHITE) WFD LOGO ON THE FRONT – 10 €

WFD PIN – 2 €

WFD CAP – 5 €



WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF

COMING EVENTS

8th European Congress on Mental Health and Deafness

Theme: Healthy Deaf Minds in Europe

Date: 2 – 5 November 2010

Place: Cambridge, United Kingdom

Contact: BSMHD

P.O. Box 10587

Colchester, CO1 9J3

UNITED KINGDOM

Email: esmhdcongress2010@bsmhd.org.uk

Website: www.esmhdcongress2010.org

International Workshop “Accessibility and the contribution of International Standards”

Date: 3 – 4 November 2010

Place: Geneva, Switzerland

Organiser: World Standards Cooperation (WSC)

Website: [http://www.iso.org/sites/WSC_](http://www.iso.org/sites/WSC_Accessibility_2010/index.html)

[Accessibility_2010/index.html](http://www.iso.org/sites/WSC_Accessibility_2010/index.html)

WORLDEAF Cinema Festival

Date: 4 – 7 November 2010

Place: Gallaudet University

800 Florida Avenue, NE

Washington, DC 20002

USA

Website: <http://wdcf.gallaudet.edu>

5th International Deaf Academics and Researchers

Theme: Inclusion of Deaf at the University

Date: 21 – 24 November 2010

Place: Florianópolis – SC, Brazil

Organiser: Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina / UFSC

Email: deafacademics@projectaeventos.com.br

Website: www.deafacademics2010.com

10th Conference of the Arab Federation of Organizations Working with the Deaf.

Theme: UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Role in Building an Enabling Environment for Deaf People.

Date: 25 – 27 November 2010

Place: Tunis, Tunisia

Organiser: Tunisian Association to Help the Deaf People

Email: atasbn@gmail.com

New Zealand Sign Language Teachers Association – 11th National Conference

Theme: Challenges in Sign Language Teaching

Date: 27 – 28 November 2010

Place: Wellington, New Zealand

Email: conference@nzslta.org.nz

Call for Papers: deadline 31 May 2010

2nd International Deaf Expo: Conference on Empowering Technologies in Education of the Deaf/ Hard of Hearing

Date: 13 – 17 December 2010

Place: New Delhi, India

Contact: DEAF LEADERS,
DEAF EXPO 2010

C/o. S.K. Rai,

16/10, New Faiz Road,

Crossing, Karol Bagh,

New Delhi 110 005

INDIA

Website: www.deafexpo2010.com

E: Mail: info@deafexpo2010.com Mobile: +91

98940 58898

Education Culture Congress

Theme: World Education - Arts, Sciences and Education Culture

Date: 12 – 15 January 2011

Place: New Delhi, India

Website: <http://www.we-asc.org/home>

17th Winter Deaflympics

Date: 18 February – 26 February 2011

Place: Vysoké Tatry, Slovakia

Contact: ul. Nová 4432/8

031 01 Liptovský Mikuláš

SLOVAKIA

Email: info@deaflympics2011.com

Website: www.deaflympics2011.com

27th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disabilities

Theme: Humanity: Advancing Inclusion, Equality and Diversity

Date: 18 -19 April 2011

Place: Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

Contact: Center on Disability Studies

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Ms. Charmaine Crockett

1776 University Avenue, UA 4-6

Honolulu Hawaii 96822, USA

Telephone: +1 808 956 7539

Email: prinfo@hawaii.edu

Website: <http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/>

Business Convention and Expo of the Deaf

Date: 8 – 12 June 2011

Place: Washington, DC Area, Reston, Virginia, USA

Website: <http://deafbusiness.org>

ISB8 – International Symposium on Bilingualism

Date: 15 – 18 June 2011

Place: Oslo, Norway

Organiser: University of Oslo

Contact: isb8-contact2@iln.uio.no

Website: <http://www.hf.uio.no/iln/forskning/aktuelt/arrangementer/konferanser-seminarer/2011/isb8/>

1st International Deaf Lesbian Festival

Date: 22 – 26 June 2011

Place: Dublin Ireland

Contact: irishdlf2011@gmail.com

Website: www.irishdlf.ie

WASLI Conference

Theme: Think Globally, Act Locally

Date: 14 -16 July 2011

Place: Durban, South Africa

Registration to the conference: <http://www.wasli.org/ThinkGlobally-ActLocally.htm>

Website: <http://www.wasli.org/registration-for-conference-14-16-july-2011-p94.aspx>

16th World Congress of the WFD

Theme: Global Deaf Renaissance

Date: 18 – 24 July 2011

Place: Durban, South Africa

Telephone: +27 11 482 1610

Fax: +27 11 726 5873

Email: [secretariat\(at\)wfd2011.com](mailto:secretariat(at)wfd2011.com)

[personalassistant\(at\)wfd2011.com](mailto:personalassistant(at)wfd2011.com)

Website: <http://www.wfd2011.com>

8th Deaf History International Conference

Theme: Telling Deaf Lives: Biographies & Autobiographies

Date: 24 – 29 July 2012

Place: Toronto, Canada

More information will be announced later

22nd Summer Deaflympics

Date: 31 July – 13 August 2013

Place: Athens, Greece

Email: info@2013deaflympics.org

Deaf World Cruise 2013* along with *Miss Deaf International Events*

Departure: Rome, Italy

Arrival: Athens, Greece

Date: July 2013 (prior the 22nd Summer

Deaflympics in Athens, Greece.

More small exotic tours will also be offered prior very special Deaf World Cruise and after Deaflympics.)

Contact: Michael Ubowski

Email: sales@deafcruise.com

By mail: Deaf Cruise

14700 North Frank Lloyd Wright

Boulevard #157, PMB #379

Scottsdale, Arizona 85260

Phone: +1 866 922 3090

Fax: +1 480 657 0744

Website: <http://www.DeafWorldCruise.com>

If you know about an upcoming conference of regional or international interest, be sure to send us information about it for our Calendar of Coming events in WFD newsletter and also in the website.



Legal Seat – Helsinki, Finland

WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF

An International Non-Governmental Organisation in official liaison with ECOSOC, UNESCO, ILO and WHO

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FAX: +358 9 580 3572
www.wfdeaf.org

President
MARKKU JOKINEN
Email: wfd@kl-deaf.fi

APPLICATION FORM

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

I would like to become an INDIVIDUAL Member of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD).

Understanding that my application is subject to approval by the President or General Secretary of WFD, I give below reasons for my interest in membership.

If my application is approved, I agree to pay the membership fee fixed for Individual Members, which is currently 50, 00 € (EUROS) annually.

I understand that payment of the annual fee entitles me to receive the **WFD NEWS** magazine for one year, plus other information.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Country: _____ Email address: _____

I am DEAF / HARD OF HEARING / HEARING
(Please circle which applies)

Reasons for interest in membership of the WFD:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail or fax this form to:

WFD General Secretariat
PO Box 65
FIN 00401 Helsinki
FINLAND
Fax: +358 9 580 3572
Email: memberships@wfdeaf.org