# Response to Questionnaire on Elimination of Discrimination in Angola

**Q1.** Are you aware of the Principles and guidelines for the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2010 (resolution 65/215)? If yes, how did it come to your attention?

**R1 Aware through Human rights and Law for protection of disabled people, but have not seen the UN Resolution. ILEP and TLM are making the Principle of eliminating discrimination a global and strategic indicator.**

**Q2 2.** What mechanism has the Government (Federal or State level) put in place to disseminate the Principles and Guidelines to its citizens? e.g. translation into national and local languages; media; or any other mechanism?

**R2 -Government passed a law “Decreto do Deficiente Fisico” and is passing a law for protection of people with disability and stopping stigma and discrimination.**

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**Q3.** Have any policies, action plans or any other measures been taken at the national level to promote awareness-raising of the issue of discrimination against leprosy affected persons and their family members? Please provide details on measures taken.

**R3 - Ministry of Health is fighting discrimination for leprosy, TB, HIV – AIDS , and NTDs informing public with leaflets and information in mass media**

**Q4.** What measures have been taken (Federal or State level) to modify, repeal or abolish discriminatory laws, policies or practices, including terminating forced segregation, in order to eliminate discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members? Is freedom to choose where to live ensured for persons affected by leprosy and their family members?

**R4 – All leprosy villages have been closed or transformed in General Primary Health Care Centers. Today people affected by Leprosy are free to live and work where they choose.**

**Q5.** Which is the terminology originally used in your native language in respect of persons affected by leprosy? Please also provide, aside from the specific terminology in your native language, a translation of it in English. Are there any popular myths associated with persons affected by leprosy? Please provide a short description.

**R5 - Umbundu is OVILUNDO means those who remain in ruins**

**Chokwe is MBUMBA those with fingers missing or in claw**

**Kimbundu is DIHUTE those with open wounds**

**Kikongo is WAZI those with deformity**

**Nganguela VIKEKA means those with deformity**

**One myth is that fingers fall due to curse and strenuous work or play (football)**

**One myth is that leprosy will appear, if you eat fish or animal with patches.**

**Q6.** Are those affected by leprosy and their family members being consulted with and/or actively participating in the decision-making processes that deal with matters related to them?

**R 6-Yes in the Leprosy Project, PAL participate in decision making, but in general NO; they are not participating in decisions made by the community., unless one of them (PAL) is the local leader or chief.**

**Q7**. What measures have been taken at the national level to ensure persons affected by leprosy enjoy fully and equally rights with others regarding the rights of citizenship; obtaining identity documents; the right to vote; the right to stand for elections; the right to serve the public in any capacity or other civil and political rights?

**R7 – People affected by leprosy have the right to have identity documents, and to have a voting card. The Leprosy Program and ARPAL are advocating for Identity documents for those who have no digital or finger print.**

**Today PAL can have a job and be in leadership position in society.**

**Q8.** What measures have been taken to ensure persons affected by leprosy enjoy equal rights with others with regard to the rights to work and education; establishing a family; access to public places, including hotels, restaurants; and buses, taxis, trains and other forms of public transport; access to cultural and recreational facilities; access to places of worship or any other economic, social and cultural rights?

**R8 – Access is free for work, education, establishing marriage, public transport, church and recreational facilities. However in some part of the country in the East, Stigma and Exclusion in the community prevail.**

**Q9**. What actions have been taken to promote and protect the human rights of (a) women; (b) children; (c) the elderly; (d) members of other vulnerable groups who have or have had leprosy, as well as their family members? Please provide details.

**R9- Ministry of Justice and Human rights promotes protection of vulnerable groups and in Banks and civil services priority is given to elderly, pregnant, disabled and children.**

**Q10**. What actions have been taken at the national level with regard to discriminatory, labelling and offensive languages directed at leprosy affected persons?

**R 10 – Term leper is being condemned, ARPAL is making a play to increase awareness about discrimination and not using the word Leper .**

**Q11**. Have Governments drafted and/or adopted a national action plan to implement the Principles and Guidelines? Please attach a copy. Has a national committee been established? Please provide some details as to its mandate, size and composition of members.

**R 11 - Not known.**

**Q12.** What major obstacles, if any, have Governments faced in implementing the Principles and Guidelines for the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members?

**R 12 None apart from ignorance and moving away from traditional concept of exclusion of people with leprosy.**

**Q13** In your view, what follow-up mechanisms should be put in place at the national and international levels to effectively implement the Principles and Guidelines?

**R 13 – Report on Human rights annually from Ministry of Justice of Angola to United Nations forum.**

**Q14**. Are there any concrete measures taken by Governments at different levels that you can share with us regarding actions taken to eliminate discrimination against leprosy affected persons and their family members in your country?

**R 14 – Advocacy and awareness raising in communities and churches , through groups of civil society like ARPAL.**

**Advocate for social support and minimum revenue for people with deformity and dependence on others.**

**Q15**. Please provide identified cases of discrimination experienced by leprosy affected persons and their family members in your country, disaggregated by its different forms, including de facto discrimination.

**R 15 – Report and inquiry of discrimination is being done in people affected by leprosy in different parts of the country to be prepared for September 2016.**

**Luanda, 4.07.2016**

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