**DEMENTIA ALLIANCE INTERNATIONAL**

**SUBMISSION TO SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

**SUBJECT: THE EXCLUSION OF PERSONS WITH DEMENTIA FROM THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

INTRODUCTION

Dementia Alliance International is the sole international organisation of persons with dementia. It has over 2500 members in 38 countries, all with a medical diagnosis of dementia.

SUBMISSION

On August 25th 2016, Dementia Alliance International met the CRPD Committee to express the following concerns.

1 There is no evidence that Member States who have ratified the CRPD are including persons with dementia in its implementation.

2 CRPD Principles and Articles are not reflected in two regional and 38 national dementia strategies launched in response to the G7 and G8 Summits.

Since then, we have made strong representations to the World Health Organisation on the absence of a clear commitment to make full use of CRPD Principles and Articles in Draft Zero of its *Dementia Global Action Plan* which will be submitted to the World Health Assembly in April 2017.

We have also asked WHO for a clear statement that persons with dementia are fully included in its *2014-2021 Global Disability Action Plan*.

Dementia Alliance International made the following recommendations to the CRPD Committee”

“We ask the CRPD Committee to use the full resources of the UN family to monitor the extent to which persons with dementia are included in the implementation of the Convention by Member States and to promote the rights of persons with dementia in the UN Sustainable Development Goals”.

The following were included as examples of ways in which the rights of persons with dementia could be protected and promoted.

Inclusion is Lists of Issues; General Comments; Thematic Briefings; Universal Periodic Reviews; The Special Rapporteur on the Right of Persons with Disabilities; The Independent Expert on Older Persons and in work towards a future Convention on the Rights of Older Persons.

In October 2016, Dementia Alliance International had several opportunities during the Social Forum to raise the issue of the exclusion of persons with dementia from the implementation of the CRPD and the SDGs.

Kate Swaffer, Co-Founder, Chair and CEO of Dementia Alliance International

Professor Mary Radnofsky, Board Member Dementia Alliance International

Professor Peter Mittler, Human Rights Adviser, Dementia Alliance International.

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