



REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA
PUCKI PRAVOBRANITELJ
OMBUDSMAN

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OHCHR REGISTRY
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Recipients : A. Zarraluqui
I. Sevin

OFFICE OF HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Attn. Mr. Ibrahim Wani, Chief
Development, Economic and Social Issues Branch
United Nations Office at Geneva
Fax: +41 22 917 90 08

Ref. OHCHR Request for Information on Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Optional Protocol to the Convention

Referring to your request for information on implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Optional Protocol to the Convention we asked relevant government bodies and NGOs in the field to provide us up-dated information on the matter. Information gathered with this respect indicated as follows:

a) LEGAL MEASURES FOR RATIFICATION

Croatia signed the Convention and Protocol on March 30, 2007 and **on June 1st 2007 the Croatian Parliament adopted the Law on Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Optional protocol to the Convention**. Commission of the Government of the Republic of Croatia for Persons with Disabilities and the Ministry of Family, Veterans' Affairs and Intergenerational Solidarity (as the coordinator of the National Strategy of Equalization of Possibilities for Persons with Disabilities from the Year 2007 till 2015, see www.mombs.hr) **published and distributed the Convention and Optional Protocol to all state institutions**. Obligations deriving from Art. 3 of the Law on Ratification of the Convention and Optional Protocol refers to central state bodies in charge of employment, labour, judiciary, culture, health, social care, education, science, sports, construction and family.

b) LEGAL MEASURES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Council of Europe Disability Action Plan to Promote the Rights and Full Participation of Persons with Disabilities in Society: improving the quality of life of people with disabilities in Europe 2006 – 2015 were the grounds for the **adoption of the National Strategy for Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities from 2007 – 2015, adopted by the government on June 5, 2007**. The National Strategy envisages 101 measures to be undertaken,

responsible carriers and co-carriers, activities and timeframes were set as well as implementation indicators and required funding for each measure. The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for the Ministry of Family, Veterans' Affairs and Intergenerational Solidarity, Ms Jadranka Kosor responded to our information request that "from the Report on Implementation of the National Strategy, adopted by the government on June 30, 2008 it is evident that the majority of the measures from the National Strategy were realised (43) the implementation of 34 measures is under way while the timeframe for other 24 measures is set for from 2008 till 2015. For the implementation of the abovementioned measures in 2007 the government spent 165.760.899, 00 Kuna.

Analysis on the applicability of some stipulations of the Law on professional rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities is currently underway.

Ministry of Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship has initiated (within relevant ministries in charge of employment, labour, health, social care and family) a nomination procedure for the members of the future working group who will define a unified criteria for determination of a disability and propose changes of the existing or adoption of new laws with this respect.

Regarding the adoption of the law on personal assistants the Ministry of family, veterans' affairs and intergenerational solidarity made a contract with INDP Croatia for the evaluation of this project. **Deadline for drafting of this law is December 2008.**

Croatian Parliament adopted on October 2007 the Law on Commissioner for Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which entered into force on January 2008 and allocated 2, 5 million Kuna for the establishment of the office. Parliament appointed on May 30, 2008 Ms Anka Slonjšak, a person with the highest degree of disabilities as a commissioner for protection of the rights of persons with disabilities.

c) LEGAL MEASURES ON NATIONAL MONITORING IN RELATION TO ART. 33

Governmental Commission for Persons with Disabilities at its next session will initiate the establishment of the intersectional working groups and suggest the government the focal point in charge for implementation of the Convention, i.e. coordinating body or office of the government which will enable coordination of activities in different sectors according to Art. 33 of the Convention.

Croatian Parliament adopted on July 9, 2008 Anti-Discrimination Law (entering into force on January 1st 2009). This law extends the jurisdiction of the Ombudsman's office as an Equality Body, in charge of solving discrimination cases in general and especially against persons with disabilities.

CROATIAN PEOPLE'S OMBUDSMAN


Mr. Jurica Malčić