

## PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

No.: 139/10

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Slovenia to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honour to enclose herewith information on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, requested in communication reference number CM/SL/is, dated 5 August 2010.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Slovenia to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 24 September 2010



## OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

GENEVA

**OHCHR REGISTRY** 

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Recipients : ... C.R.P.D.

Key measures adopted at national level to implement the convention on the Rights of Persons with disabilities, and relative budgetary allocations;

Adopted policies, regulations and measures are regularly evaluated in Slovenia. Evaluations that are conducted are qualitative and quantitative. Therefore quality data are required. Special attention is given to management of databases, records and protection of all the regulations which have been adopted in recent years and to those that are currently preparing. In terms of comparative studies, it is necessary to go further and to agree to collect data at the level of international organizations, while initially establish common definitions. Slovenia is convinced that this is possible since the adoption of the UN Convention.

Action Programme for Persons with Disabilities (APPD) 2007 – 2013 also draws attention to the statistics and Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia must prepared special report each year. Slovenia is following the guidelines of the UN Convention in two ways, preparation of any new law; regardless of which Ministry is preparing the law; it is assessed separately through the prism of the implementation of the UN Convention.

## New Acts:

• Draft - Act on equal opportunities for Persons with Disabilities (Act will be adopted in October 2010.)

Draft – Act is currently in the final finishing stage in reviewed by National Assembly and it will soon enter into force. This Act will provide greater legal safety and effective legal protection against discrimination based on disability. Everyone should be recognized for all fundamental human rights regardless on differences or personal circumstances. It governs the sphere of equal opportunities and non-discrimination of Persons with Disabilities. This Act covers areas of:

- Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of disability
- Measures to equalize opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, to determine tasks carriers, their responsibilities and obligations
- Procedures in matters of discrimination based on disability
- Database management and data protection
- Criminal provisions
- Implementation of the Principle of Equal Treatment Act

This Act determines common bases and premises for ensuring the equal treatment of all persons in exercising their rights and duties and implementing human rights and fundamental freedoms.

It determines the subjects that create conditions for the implementation of the principle of equal treatment, through measures within the framework of their competence, and raise awareness amongst discriminated persons and alleged offenders, as well as in society as a whole. This act further establishes the institutional conditions for the activities of the Advocate of the Principle of Equality, who provides assistance to discriminated persons through consideration of cases of alleged unequal treatment under the provisions of this act.

It determines the common particularities which apply to the legal protection of discriminated persons in judicial and administrative proceedings, initiated on the grounds of violation of the ban on discrimination on the basis of personal circumstances, determined by law.

The Act on long term care insurance and long-term care

is also in the final phase of the realization. For long-term care and insurance of this area an important objective to pursue a bill is to increase and ensure stable sources of finance.

The Act on personal assistance for Persons with Disabilities

is in preparation as well. Social policy of this country is changing in that direction that personal assistance will be right of every disabled person, who will need and require such services and will use personal assistance to live independent life.

▶ Budget:

For the implementation of the Convention Slovenia does not have separated part of the budget. Each of the Ministries gets a share of the budget from which they withdraw funds for the implementation of the Convention. In case you need accurate data we would need certain time go gather this information.

Challenges and obstacles to the full implementation at national level of the convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

- > Increased recognition of the Convention
- Integration of the Convention into the general policy of the Ministries
- > Realization of the Convention in practice

The existence, scope and content of policies and/or guidelines adopted at national level to guidelines adopted at national level to guide international cooperation in support of the Convention;

• Action Programme for Persons with Disabilities 2007 – 2013

Action Programme for Persons with Disabilities (APPD) 2007 – 2013 was adopted on 30 November 2006, by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia. The program is based on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as on other UN documents, Action Programme of the EU for persons with disabilities and on the Action Programme of the Council of Europe and it contains 12 goals in the fallowing year 2010 there will be added new 13th goal "Ageing with disability".

The purpose of the Slovenia's Action Programme for Persons with Disabilities is to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights by Persons with Disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity. The program comprises twelve fundamental objectives together with 124 measures, comprehensively governing all spheres of persons with disabilities life, and referring to the period 2007 – 2013.

This action program covers all the MDGs points, as concern for equality among all people irrespective of their differences or physical impairment. At the same time seeks to provide access to the entire built environment and to provide employment and normal social status for Persons with Disabilities. This program wants to ensure Persons with Disabilities the right to health, medical care and social participation in society, which are crucial points MDGs.

Goals in Action Programme for persons with disabilities 2007-2013:

- 1. Expand awareness throughout society regarding persons with disabilities, their contribution to the development of society, rights, dignity and needs;
- 2. All persons with disabilities have the right to decide, on an equal basis with others and without discrimination, where they wish to live and have the right to fully participate in community life;
- 3. Ensure persons with disabilities access to physical environment, transport, information and communications;
- 4. Ensure, on an equal basis with others and without discrimination, an inclusive educational system at all levels and lifelong learning;
- 5. Ensure persons with disabilities access to work and employment without discrimination in a work environment that is open, inclusive and accessible;
- 6. Ensure persons with disabilities adequate standard of living, financial assistance and social security;
- 7. Ensure to persons with disabilities effective health care;
- 8. Enable persons with disabilities full inclusion in cultural activities and collaboration in the area of accessibility of cultural materials on an equal basis with others;
- 9. Ensure persons with disabilities participation in sports and cultural activities;
- 10. Ensure that persons with disabilities may participate in the religious and spiritual activities of their communities on an equal basis with others;
- 11. Strengthen the position of organizations of persons with disabilities;
- 12. Detecting and preventing violence and discrimination against persons with disabilities.
- 13. Ageing and Disability

A special Governmental committee, to control implementation of actions laid down in APPD, was established and has a task to prepare an annual report to be send to the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs. Members of this committee are representatives of the Representative organizations of Persons with Disabilities.

Forms of international cooperation at bilateral and multilateral level that, as a complement to national efforts, can play a key role in assisting the realization of the convention at national level;

Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities - The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has at t each meeting a Conference for one day with the proceedings of the individual article from the UN Convention on Rights of Persons with disabilities.

Slovenia as an EU member regularly participates in bilateral relations with other EU members. We mutual exchange our views, discus on our national disability policy and this way we try to unify Disability Policy in Europe.

Examples of engagement in international cooperation and assessment of their impact on promoting the realization of the Convention;

Council of Europe:

European Co-ordination Forum for the Council of Europe Disability Action Plan 2006-2015 (CAHPAH)

- European Commission:
  Disability High Level Group (HLG)
- United Nation body:
  Human Rights Committee
  The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Ministry for Foreign Affairs

The results of international cooperation are shown in greater developing of Disability Policy in Slovenia as in Europe and other countries, because mutual cooperation between the countries can significantly help at achieving greater positive outcomes.