

UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons
with disabilities
Attn: Ms. Heba Hagrass

Your ref
Letter of 23 April 2024

Our ref
24/2247

Date
10 June 2024

Dear Ms. Heba Hagrass,

We have received your letter of 23rd of April 2024 concerning the participation of persons with disabilities in the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Post 2030 discussions.

For the government of Norway, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development forms the main political path for the following up of some of the biggest national and global challenges of our time.

The Ministry of Digitalisation and Public Governance is responsible for coordinating the work nationally, while the Ministry of Foreign Affairs coordinates the international effort. The government's development policy is based on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the climate goals and human rights.

The government of Norway plays an active role in the follow-up of the Sustainable Development Goals internationally. A central goal of Norwegian foreign and development policy is to support binding international cooperation and the multilateral system, so that we can strengthen our ability to handle common challenges and safeguard Norwegian and global interests.

The follow-up of the Sustainable Development Goals is part of the Norwegian government's daily political work and the sector responsibility principle is the basis for follow-up and reporting on the goals. The Ministry of Culture and Equality coordinates the work concerning persons with disabilities. Reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals concerning persons with disabilities takes place in the ministry's annual budget proposal.

Postal address
Postboks 8030 Dep
0030 Oslo
postmottak@kud.dep.no

Office address
Grubbegata 1
www.kud.dep.no

Telephone
+47 22 24 90 90
Org. nr.
972 417 866

Department
Department for
Equality, Non-
discrimination and
International Affairs

Reference
Georg Hilmar
Antonsen
+47 48 56 8

In Norway, user participation for persons with disabilities concerning the Sustainable Development Goals is part of the ordinary user participation channels.

At national level:

We organise an annual round table conference where the umbrella organizations The Norwegian Federation of Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (FFO), Norwegian Forum of Disabled Peoples' Organization (SAFO) and Disabled youth Norway meet the government for consultations on all current issues that affect people with disabilities, including the Sustainable Development Goals that affect persons with disabilities.

FFO, the largest umbrella organization among disabled people's organisations, also has a separate annual meeting with the government where they can raise current issues, including the Sustainable Development Goals that affect persons with disabilities.

FFO, SAFO and Disabled youth Norway also have bilateral meetings with the relevant ministries on issues that concern them.

Disabled people's organizations in Norway received grants from the government in 2023 amounting to NOK 248,5 million for user participation activities. In addition, Disabled youth Norway received in 2023 NOK 7,3 million.

Different government agencies also practice user participation for persons with disabilities in matters concerning the services provided.

At regional and local level:

The Act relating to a Municipal or County Council Committee or Other Representation Scheme for Persons with Disabilities, etc. requires municipal or county authorities to ensure that persons with disabilities are assured of open, broad-based and accessible participation in work on matters of particular importance to persons with disabilities. This applies to physical access and other initiatives to counter discrimination based on disability. The Act requires that municipalities establish councils or other representation schemes for persons with disabilities. The municipal councils have an advisory function in relation to municipal and county authorities and help to ensure that persons with disabilities are heard. This includes the Sustainable Development Goals that affect persons with disabilities.

Concerning questions for organizations of persons with disabilities, we propose that you take contact with:

www.fo.no

www.safo.no

www.ungefunksjonshemmede.no

We hope this input will be of help for the Special Rapporteur in preparation of your thematic report to the 79th session of the General Assembly in October.

Yours sincerely

Cecilia Schwoerer Lyche
Deputy Director General

Georg Hilmar Antonsen
Senior Adviser

This document is signed electronically and has therefore no handwritten signature.