**­­OHCHR as a follow up to HRC resolution 49/15 on the rights of persons with disabilities**

Input from the Republic of Malta

**1(a)(i)**

* UNCRPD Act (Cap. 627 of the Laws of Malta)
* 2021-2030 National Disability Strategy
* 2021-2030 National Autism Strategy
* 2014 National Inclusion Policy
* Services of ACTU (Access to Communication & Technology Unit) within Agenzija Sapport (State disability service provider) - Augmentative & Alternative Communication (AAC) Assessment & Recommendations; Electronic Assistive Technology (EAT) Assessments; Sign Language Interpretation Services within Agenzija Sapport

**(ii)**

* Civil Code (Cap. 16)
* Code of Organization and Civil Procedure (Cap. 12)
* Mental Health Act (Cap. 525)

All 3 pieces of legislation are being amended through the Personal Autonomy Bill, that will align legislation with Art. 12 UNCRPD, and which will be launched for Public Consultation by the end of 2022

This legislation is also backed up by the UNCRPD Act (Cap. 627) and the 2021-2030 National Disability Strategy

**(iii)**

* UNCRPD Act (Cap. 627)
* 2021-2030 National Disability Strategy
* Agenzija Sapport Strategic Plan
* Sonia Tanti Independent Living Centre (STILC) within Agenzija Sapport - Wheelchair and Seating Assessments; Mobility Scooter Assessments; Adapted Driving Lessons; Car Adaptations; Driving Simulation

**(iv)**

* UNCRPD Act (Cap. 627)
* 2021-2030 National Disability Strategy
* Agenzija Sapport Strategic Plan
* Personal Assistance Fund (PAF) Scheme within Agenzija Sapport

**(v)**

* UNCRPD Act (Cap. 627)
* 2021-2030 National Disability Strategy
* Agenzija Sapport Strategic Plan
* New Hope Guarantee Scheme - Housing Authority (<https://housingauthority.gov.mt/services/affordable-housing/skema-new-hope/>)
* Disability Scheme - Housing Authority (<https://housingauthority.gov.mt/services/repair-and-adaptations/adaptations-for-persons-with-disability/>)
* SensAbility Scheme - Housing Authority (<https://housingauthority.gov.mt/services/repair-and-adaptations/repairs/skema-sensability/>)

**(vi)**

* UNCRPD Act (Cap. 627)
* 2021-2030 National Disability Strategy
* Agenzija Sapport Strategic Plan
* Agenzija Sapport Schemes: Respite Services (Public Social Partnership), Community Services ex. Personal Care/ Assistance in Learning & Participation in Housekeeping Skills/ Community Participation & Social Skills / Engagement in Leisure Activities ex. Sharing Lives Programme
* Disability Benefits: Disability Assistance (DA), Severe Disability Assistance (SDA), Increased Severe Disability Assistance (ISDA), Assistance for the Visually Impaired (AVI), Disabled Child Allowance (DCA) - Department for Social Security (DSS)-Ministry for Social Policy and Children's Rights (MSPC)

**(vii)**

* UNCRPD Act (Cap. 627)
* 2021-2030 National Disability Strategy
* Agenzija Sapport Strategic Plan
* Agenzija Sapport/ Finance Ministry (MFE) - Vehicle Road Licence Exemption Scheme, Vehicle Registration Tax Exemption Scheme
* Agenzija Sapport Empowerment Scheme (used for ex. purchase of items to facilitate independent living)

**1(b)**

* Ministry for Finance and Employment (MFE)
* Ministry for Social Policy (MSPC) - Department for Social Security (DSS): Disability Assistance Schemes
* Housing Authority within Ministry for Social and Affordable Accommodation (MSAA): New Hope, SensAbility, Housing Authority Disability Schemes
* Ministry for Inclusion, Voluntary Organisations and Consumer Rights (MIVC) - Directorate for Disability Issues (DDI): development/ implementation of Legislation, Strategies and Policies
* Agenzija Sapport within MIVC: specific Schemes operated by this entity

**1(c)**

* Ongoing consultations between MIVC-DDI, especially through ENGAGE, the Directorate's civil society participation mechanism set up under the UNCRPD Act (Cap. 627), and the Commission for the Rights of Persons with Disability (CRPD), Malta's monitoring mechanism in terms of Art. 33(2) UNCRPD, with the Malta Federation of Organisations of Persons with Disability (MFOPD) and different disabled people's organisations (DPOs), in respect of annual national budget allocations, and specific initiatives
* Agenzija Sapport Consultative Committee & Service User Committees

**1(d)**

* ENGAGE: as per Subsidiary Legislation 627.02 (ENGAGE Regulations, 2022) in terms of the UNCRPD Act (Cap. 627)
* CRPD through its structures, including their Council on the Rights of Persons with Disability (art. 24, Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act (Cap. 413))
* MFOPD further to Memorandum of Understanding with Government
* Agenzija Sapport – as per Strategic Policy
* Otherwise, through ad hoc initiatives

**2(a)**

Currently, Social Security Act (Cap. 318) for MSPC-DSS Schemes, and UNCRPD Act (Cap. 627) guiding Agenzija Sapport, set up through Subsidiary Legislation 595.18 (Agenzija Sapport (Establishment as an Agency) Order) in terms of the Public Administration Act (Cap. 595).

A reform is being undertaken, to eradicate the current fragmented system nationally, whereby different entities have divergent disability assessment and programme eligibility procedures – assessment is being synchronized into one holistic functioning-based assessment, in line with the UNCRPD, Action 1.3 of the 2021-2030 National Disability Strategy, and Government Electoral Manifesto Proposal 684, of which MIVC is Project Owner.

**2(b)**

Financed by Budget allocations to Agenzija Sapport and MSPC-DSS - approximately 10% of the Maltese population is covered (a unified national disability database, in line with UNCRPD requirements, is a goal further to Actions 1.3 and 2.5 of the 2021-2030 National Disability Strategy)

**3**

Yes – Vide Action 1.3 of the 2021-2030 National Disability Strategy, currently being developed collaboratively by relevant stakeholders, and further to obligation in Government Electoral Manifesto Proposal 684

**4**

* Agenzija Sapport Schemes: Kindly refer to latest Agenzija Sapport Annual Report: https://sapport.gov.mt/en/Downloads/Documents/AGENZIJA%20SAPPORT%20ANNUAL%20REPORT%202020.pdf
* Housing Authority Schemes:
* New Hope: 7 applications in 2021, of which 1 Invalid, 2 Processed, 2 Pending Verification of Assets, 2 Pending Verification by CRPD
* Disability Scheme: 167 agreements signed, for a total value of €787,822, in 2021
* SensAbility Scheme: 20 applications received in 2021, currently being processed
* Department of Social Security Schemes: 7,173 disabled people are currently in receipt of such payments, with total disbursements amounting to €32,590,677.13 for 2021

**5**

No such data is available