

**FORUM:** Human Rights Commission (HRC) Sub-commission 1

**QUESTION OF:** Ending marginalization for the disabled

**SUBMITTED BY:** Greece

**CO-SUBMITTERS:** Micronesia, Canada, Netherlands, Suriname, Belgium, UNESCO, Malta, World Bank, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Portugal, Holy See, Mexico, Ecuador, Iraq, Republic of Korea, Norway, Economic Commission for Africa, European Space Agency, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

*Recognizing* the debilitating economic and social inequality experienced by disabled people,

*Noting* the harmful effects of ableism and abusive language towards disabled people,

*Welcoming* education opportunities that erase public ignorance about disabilities and opportunities for disabled people to learn,

*Understanding* the need for inclusion of disabled people into all decisions pertaining to themselves,

*Alarmed* by derogatory and offensive language utilized in public institutions,

*Taking into account* the WHO report which states "About 15% of people in the world live with some form of disability,"

*Honoring* the mantra of the disabled movement, "nothing about us, without us,"

1. Supports the establishment of the UN Committee on the Representation and Outreach of the Disabled (CROD) that will work with the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) to supervise ending marginalization consisting solely of qualified members of the disabled community which will:
  - a) approve all decisions made by the UN concerning the disabled
  - b) create an annual report and database on the specific needs of the disabled in each nation represented at the UN by sending representatives to collect data on the current
    - i. number of disabled people according to the World Health Organization's definition and three dimensional categorization process including physical, mental, and task oriented disabilities
    - ii. number of disabled children without access to an education
    - iii. number and concentration of homeless disabled people
    - iv. number of disabled people below the international poverty line approved by the UN
    - v. most significant services needed that not yet provided for the disabled in each nation;
2. Authorizes the improvement of law enforcement response to persons with disabilities by:
  - a) securing a separate holding cell for disabled offenders
  - b) creating a mandatory, annual information session for law enforcement officers to educate them on how to understand different types of disabilities, detain a disabled offender without excessive use of force, respond seriously to a request for assistance from the disabled, identify a disabled person being abused or held against their will, and differentiate a true criminal from someone undergoing a debilitating episode or exhibiting unique behavior as a result of a disability
  - c) mandating accommodations be made in the court process to ease accessibility to and understanding in the courtroom by
    - i. providing interpreters for those who are deaf or communicate in another medium

- ii. securing alternate means of reading court documents for those with visual disabilities such as transcribing them in braille through professional translators or simple computer programs
    - iii. verifying access to wheelchairs and public transport that can take disabled lawyers, possible offenders and witnesses to court
  - d) demand that mentally disabled people be tried in a Mental Health Court
  - e) confirm that those with possibly fatal disabilities be detained in separate hospital wards instead of a traditional jail in order to provide surveillance of suicidal individuals due to crippling depression while maintaining constant care for others
  - f) creating a new re-entry program for those with disabilities to integrate back into society through
    - i. constructing optional intermediate centers (“half-way” houses) for people to stay up to three months after release to acquire a job and re-adjust to civilian life
    - ii. ensuring that they have the proper accommodations to participate in society such as wheelchairs and hearing aids
  - g) strongly advises the increased criminalization of abusing disabled people by defining the following actions as Disability Hate Crimes
    - i. physically harming disabled people on account of their disability
    - ii. defacing personal property of a disabled person with ableist slurs
    - iii. restricting access for a person to a service or privilege due to a disability;
- 3. Endorses the purging of disrespectful language towards disabled peoples from legislation and all other aspects of government literature instead of local out-dated and offensive language, such as “lame” or “retarded” and their subsequent translations;
- 4. Adopts the creation of an international disabled employment program which will:
  - a) guarantee the availability of jobs for physically impaired people by providing a monthly registrar and online database of jobs without manual labor and friendly to the disabled managed by CROD in major employment centers of the world to which companies will post listings
  - b) safeguard the access to jobs for cognitively/developmentally disabled people by assigning to each disabled person registered a UN representative (20 maximum registered people per 1 representative) who will facilitate the search for a safe, manageable career
  - c) increase the awareness of self-employment opportunities for disabled people due to the advent of the internet and increased communicative through online campaigns overseen by CROD;
- 5. Urges nations to support independent living for the disabled to increase dignity and quality of life by:
  - a) investing in products and national infrastructure that allow normal life to proceed without assistance, for example
    - i. specialized wheelchairs to make nations non conducive to assisted transport, such as those in the Mediterranean, more accessible
    - ii. digital doorbells to allow vertically challenged and immobile people to safely let others into their homes
    - iii. stop lights for the colorblind via blinking lights
    - iv. braille direction signs available in most government areas
    - v. creating more wheelchair friendly infrastructure through ramps, automatic doors, and open seating in public transport, buildings and religious institutions;
- 6. Calls all nations to provide free or assisted healthcare for disabled persons depending on freedom of movement who are underneath the global poverty line set by The World Bank by implementing
  - a) government healthcare subsidies
  - b) an Orphan Drug Act to ensure companies have made available specialized medications for

- more rare disorders and that they do not form monopolies around said treatments to keep the price accessible while maintaining quality standards of the World Health Organization
- c) ensuring specific public hospital facilities for a diverse range of disabilities including cognitively disabled;

7. Recommends that nations decrease loneliness and isolation within the disabled community which leads to significant depression by providing:
  - a) local adult sports teams of solely disabled players or integrated teams
  - b) housing which permits emotional support animals
  - c) disabled people's support groups and inclusive events in most community centers
  - d) all public entertainment centers such as movie theaters and amusement parks be equipped with proper infrastructure mentioned above;
8. Encourages the creation of education programs to raise awareness and understanding about disabilities while increasing the access of disabled children to school through means such as, but not limited to:
  - a) a mandatory unit in public schools during 1st grade that explore what being disabled or chronically ill means and how to empower those who are disabled
  - b) a terminology campaign to rid schools and workplaces of outdated, offensive language
  - c) verifying that a teacher is qualified by a UN information session or professional training before being assigned to teach a disabled child
  - d) creating committee information sessions for new and soon-to-be parents of disabled children to learn how to care, protect and provide for their specially-abled child
  - e) confirming low-income housing be made available no more than two miles away from all public schools to which families with disabled children will be given deference to ease transportation
  - f) encouraging all private schools and colleges to create specific scholarships and grants for disabled people with outstanding performance in academics, the arts or sports
  - g) validating that all public school transport such as buses have an available seating arrangements for the disabled and if available smaller transportation vehicles with special accommodations for those cognitively disabled such as noise and light preferences
  - h) ensuring the availability of sports programs inclusive to disabled students and sports teams exclusively composed of disabled students or including handicap provisions for disabled students playing alongside able-bodied students;
9. Emphasizes the coverage and recognition of mental health conditions as disabilities conditions in international programs such as the International Disability Alliance (IDA) to promote and assure:
  - a) the prevention of discrimination based on addiction by including addiction in national definitions of mental illness and disability
  - b) awareness campaigns targeted at neglected disabilities whose members are voiceless such as those with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.
10. Encourages the CROD to use data from its annual reports to identify developing nations who are struggling to support their disabled individuals and support these nations by:
  - a) Providing monetary aid to help these nations build handicap accessible buildings, train specialists to care for the disabled and create groups for the disabled such as sports teams
  - b) Supplying these nations with advice and techniques that have been successfully implemented by other member states