

Draft Guidance Note on the General Debate

The Bureau of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, in accordance with Rule 13 of the Provisional Rules of Procedure (CRPD/CSP/2008/3), has agreed on the following:

1. During the 17th session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, there will be a General Debate, under the provisional agenda item 5 (a), that is scheduled to start after the Opening of the first meeting on 11 June 2024.
2. All States Parties and Observer States that wish to be inscribed on the list of speakers are requested to inscribe through the e-Speakers module of the e-Delegate portal between 20 May (Monday) and 3 June (Monday). Further information will be announced in due course through the UN Journal and regional group representatives in the bureau.
3. Intergovernmental organizations, NGOs that have observer status with the Conference of States Parties, national human rights institutions, as well as the United Nations system including funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, shall inscribe to the list of speakers, by register and submit their requests within the above same time-framework via a devoted COSP17 online registration platform at the UN ENABLE website that is maintained by Secretariat.
4. The list of speakers will be organized on first-come, first-served basis, taking into account the protocol of the United Nations.
5. Considering the time constraints, a statement will be limited to **three minutes** for each speaker duly and in-timely inscribed to the list and the time-limit policy will be enforced effectively (i.e. cutting off the microphone). Individual reasonable accommodation will be granted for persons with disabilities, and in this regard, needs must be communicated directly to the Secretariat via emailing to enable@un.org in advance no later than **15 May 2024**.
6. Duly inscribed speakers may deliver their statements via provision of a pre-recorded video message with the speaking-time limit, and if this option is chosen, the relevant delegation is requested to provide, along with the recorded video message, a copy of the speaking script in one of the six official UN languages, no later than **30 May in advance** of the opening of the session.

7. Delegations may submit their full statements in writing for posting on the UN Journal portal. To ensure accessibility, delegations are kindly requested to forward their statements in both PDF and accessible Microsoft Word formats via email to an email address of DGACM (to be confirmed) **3 hours** prior to the Conference. Submissions will be also acknowledged in the official report of the Conference after the conclusion of the session.