



**17th Session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights
of Persons with disabilities**

General Discussion

Statement by the UN LGBTI Core Group

ENGLISH, June 11 2024

Chairperson,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Member States of the UN LGBTI Core Group, an informal cross regional group established in 2008.¹

The overarching goal of the UN LGBTI Core Group in New York is to work within the United Nations framework on ensuring universal respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, specifically lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons, with a particular focus on protection from violence and discrimination.

As we approach the Summit of the Future, it is crucial to highlight the specific and aggravated human rights challenges faced by LGBTI persons with disabilities. Many experience unacceptably high rates of violence, discrimination and exclusion on the grounds of their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics in their daily lives. As we negotiate the Pact for the Future, we encourage Member States to give due recognition to the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence faced by LGBTI persons, including those with disabilities. To uphold the human rights of LGBTI persons with disabilities, we must adopt holistic and human rights-based approaches to their health, safety, and well-being. This entails dismantling barriers across society and promoting inclusion at all levels, including strengthening access to disability support services and assistive technologies, improving

¹ The group is co-chaired by Argentina and the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and includes Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Mexico, Nepal, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Peru, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Timor Leste, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay, the European Union, as well as the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the non-governmental organizations Human Rights Watch and Outright International.



equity within mainstream health, including sexual and reproductive health and rights and mental health and psychosocial support services, and combating discrimination, including by eliminating discriminatory laws and policies. We must also ensure that all efforts to promote disability equity and rights are fully inclusive of LGBTI persons – and that all efforts to promote the inclusion of LGBTI persons are disability-inclusive. Only through comprehensive and intersectional strategies can we create a world where every individual enjoys dignity, equality, and full, equal and meaningful participation in all spheres of society.

In a world with heightened geopolitical tension, it is imperative to note that persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected by armed conflicts due to the long-lasting effects of destruction of critical support services and infrastructure. To address these disproportionate effects, integration of SDG Goal 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions in post-conflict reconstruction is crucial for rebuilding inclusive societies to ensure that no one is left behind.

In conclusion, our commitment to all persons with disabilities, including LGBTI persons with disabilities, is resolute. As we look ahead, the Summit of the Future provides opportunities for States to reaffirm their commitment to protecting the human rights of all individuals, including LGBTI persons with disabilities.

Thank you.