

**Tentative Programme of the 16th Session of the Conference of States Parties to the
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**
13 to 15 June 2023 | United Nations Headquarters, New York

Tuesday, 13 June

10.00 am to 1.00 pm (General Assembly Hall)

Opening of the Conference of States Parties (item 1) chaired by Mr. Li Junhua,
Under Secretary- General

Election of Officers (item 2)

Adoption of the agenda (item 3): chaired by H.E Mr Tarek Ladeb, President of
the Conference

Organization of work (item 4)

Opening remarks by:

- H.E Mr Tarek Ladeb (President of Conference)
- H.E Mr. António Guterres (Secretary-General of the United Nations)
- H.E. Mr. Csaba Kőrösi (President of the General Assembly)
- Ms Gertrude Oforiwa Fefoame (Chairperson, Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities)
- Mr. Gerard Quinn (Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities)
- Ms. Maria Soledad Cisternas Reyes (Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility)
- Mr. Nawaf Kabbara (Civil Society Representative from the Arab Organization of Persons with Disabilities of Lebanon)
- Mr. Ghanim Al Muftah (Youth Representative, Qatar)

Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: (item 5 (a): general debate

3.00 to 6.00 pm (General Assembly Hall)

Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: (item 5 (a) general debate (continued) chaired by H.E Mr Tarek Ladeb, President of the Conference

Wednesday, 14 June

10.00 am to 1.00 pm (Conference Room 4)

Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: (item 5 (b) (i): Roundtable 1. Ensuring equal access to and accessibility of sexual and reproductive health services for persons with disabilities (co-chaired by Mr. Tasos Kezas, Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Greece, Vice President of the Conference and Ms. Savaira Tinaivunivalu, Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation)

Presentations by panellists:

- Mr. Anderson Henao, the President of the National Council on Disability and Manager of Inclusion of People with Disabilities Management of the Vice Presidency, Colombia)
- Ms. Maria Soledad Cisternas Reyes (Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility)
- Ms. Leyla Sharafi (Global Disability Focal Point and Senior Advisor, UNFPA)
- Ms. Nora Groce (Professor, University College London)
- Mr. Sadam Hanjabam (Ya_All: The Youth Network, Manipur, India)

Q & A and discussion

Summary of the Chair

3.00 to 6.00 pm (Conference Room 4)

Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: (item 5 (b) (ii): Roundtable 2. digital accessibility for persons with disabilities (co-chaired by Mr. Sugeeshwara Gunaratna, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka and Vice President of the Conference and Mr. Mohammed Ali Loutfy, Director for Capacity Building and Advocacy, G3ICT)

Presentations by panellists:

- Mr. Chong Kwek Bin (Technology Analyst, SG Enable, Singapore)
- Mr. László G. Lovász (Senior Research Fellow, Faculty of International Relations and Diplomacy, University of Public Service, Hungary)
- Mr. Constantinos Stephanidis (President, National Accessibility Authority, Greece)
- Ms. Roxana Widmer-Iliescu (Senior Coordinator for Digital Inclusion Development Bureau, ITU)
- Mr. Jean Marie Furaha (Advisor, Rwanda Organization of Persons with DeafBlindness (ROPDB), Rwanda)

Q & A and discussion

Summary of the Chair

Thursday, 15 June

10.00 am to 1.00 pm (Conference Room 4)

Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: (item 5 (b)(iii))
Roundtable 3: Reaching the under-represented groups of persons with disabilities (Co-chaired by: Ms. Iris González de Valenzuela, Director of the National Secretariat on Disability (SENADIS), Panama, Vice President of the Conference and Ms. Ana Ivonia, The Leprosy Mission, Timor-Leste)

Presentations by panellists:

- H.E Mrs. Haidi Zhang (Chairperson, China Disabled Persons' Federation)
- H.E Ms. Carla Qualtrough (Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, Canada)
- H.E Mr. Pawel Wdowik (Secretary of State, Ministry of Family and Social Policy, Poland)
- Mr. Christopher Nwanoro (Foreign Service Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nigeria)
- Ms. Maryangel Garcia Ramos Guadiana (Executive Director, Women Enabled International, Mexico)

Q & A and discussion

Summary of the Co-chair

3.00 to 6.00 pm (Conference Room 4)

Interactive Dialogue on Implementation of the Convention between States Parties and the UN System (item 5(c)), chaired by H.E Mr Tarek Ladeb, President of the Conference

Part 1: Dialogue with the UN system entities

- Mr. Li Junhua, Under Secretary-General, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
- Mr. Craig Mokhiber, Director of the New York Office of the Office of Higher Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- Ms Diene Keita, Deputy Executive Director- Programme, and Assistant Secretary General, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Ms. Roxana Widmer-Iliescu (Senior Coordinator for Digital Inclusion Development Bureau, International Telecommunication Union (ITU))
- Ms. Ola Abualghaib, Manager of the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Fund (UNPRPD)
- Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under Secretary-General and Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP, video)

Part 2: Dialogue with other mandates and stakeholders

- Ms Gertrude Oforiwa Fefoame (Chairperson, Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities)
- Mr. Gerard Quinn (Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities)
- Ms. Maria Soledad Cisternas Reyes (Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility)
- Ms. Robinah Alambuya (Civil Society Representative, President of Transforming Communities for Inclusion)

Decisions by the Conference of States Parties (item 6)

Closing of the session (item 7)

- Statements by the Vice-Presidents of the Conference
- Closing by the President of the Conference

* Depending the actual progress of the proceedings under the agenda item 5 (i) (general debate), contingency arrangements where necessary may be made by the bureau to use the first 60-minutes of the 3rd, 4th and 5th meeting during the session on 14 and 15 June in order to exhaust the list of speakers duly inscribed for the general debate.

** More updates about the Conference of States Parties to the CRPD and the work of the United Nations for persons with disabilities is available at the UN ENABLE website link: <http://www.un.org/disabilities>