

**STATEMENT BY H.E.KH BULGANTUYA, MINISTER FOR LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION AT 16<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CRPD**

(13 June 9, 2023, New York)

Mr. Chair,

On behalf of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Mongolia, and myself, I would like to extend our warm greetings to the participants of the session.

Since the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2009, the Government of Mongolia has made commendable progress to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities.

To establish legal framework, we have adopted broad range of laws and policies. In 2016, Law on Rights of Persons with Disabilities was adopted by the Parliament in line with UN-CRPD. Accordingly, we have established the National Authority for Development of Persons with Disability in 2018 in order to ensure effective implementation of the CRPD and relevant laws.

According to the statistics of 2022, 115.1 thousand people with disabilities are residing in Mongolia out of which 12.5 thousand are children, under 18 years.

Mr. Chair,

The Government of Mongolia attaches great importance to improving service quality accessibility for people and children with disabilities. In this regard, measures were taken to improve infrastructure and increase the number of accessible facilities.

Health, Social Protection Commission for Children with Disabilities has been established in 21 provinces of Mongolia and 9 districts of the Capital city in order to carry out early detection measures among the children under 16 years old and to ensure coherence between health, social protection and education services and conduct monitoring and evaluation on quality and effectiveness of the service delivery.

According to the Government Resolution No.125, the Rehabilitation Center for the Children with Disabilities was established in 2019, which provides comprehensive health and social rehabilitation services for children with disabilities.

In addition, with support of ADB funded project, Development Centers for Persons with Disabilities are under construction in 6 provinces of Mongolia with the purposes to provide comprehensive health, social protection and rehabilitation services for people with disabilities and their family members and care givers in rural areas.

Mr. Chair,

We have been making tireless efforts to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities and taking the actions to ensure policy coherence and consistency by reflecting relevant objectives in long, mid- and short-term policies. Specific objectives regarding creating legal framework to promote engagement of persons with disabilities, and to ensure rights of persons with disabilities are reflected in Vision 2050 and the Government Action Plan 2020-2024. Currently, we are working to revise the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and draft law on Accessibility.

Mongolia has submitted 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> incorporated report on the implementation of UN-CRPD to the UN respective Committee in 2019 and preparing for the review of our report by the Committee in August 2023.

Mr. Chair,

In line with Government policy “Digital Nation”, we have introduced Call-Center and Hotline services as part of E-Mongolia and E-Care system to ensure delivery of accessible state services for people with hearing impairment.

In addition, “Text to Speech program” has been developed in order to improve information accessibility of persons with visual impairment. We are planning to launch the program within this year.

In conclusion, I would like to express that the Government of Mongolia will further commit itself to ensure rights of persons with disabilities in all aspects in life.

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