



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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STATEMENT

by H.E. Mr. Gheorghe Leucă

Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova to the UN at the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at the General Debate on agenda item 5 (i), Harmonizing national policies and strategies with the CRPD: achievements and challenges.

(New York, June 13, 2023)

Mr. President,

The Republic of Moldova aligns itself with the statement of the European Union and wishes to convey some additional remarks in its national capacity.

The theme and sub-themes of this year's Conference are specifically pertinent. By sharing the best practices and problems faced in implementing the Convention, we all learn to work better both at the national and international level and to identify the most appropriate solutions.

As a Party to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Republic of Moldova is committed to ensuring the fundamental human rights of all persons with disabilities and creating an enabling environment for their effective participation in all spheres of life.

Having taken relevant measures to harmonize the national legislation with the CRPD provisions, significant progress has been achieved in the inclusion of people with disabilities in social life and protection, medical assistance and rehabilitation, access to education, work, public life, and other utilities and services to ensure that disabled people enjoy the same rights.

In this vein, the Republic of Moldova has adopted - the Law on social inclusion of persons with disabilities; - the National Programme for the Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities; - the National De-institutionalization Programme and the Transformation Plans for Residential Institutions; - the Concept of the Information System "Determination of Disability and Work Capacity" and the Regulation on the organization and functioning of the Information System "Determination of Disability and Work Capacity"; and in addition the set of indicators for monitoring the implementation of the CRPD.

All these measures allowed to - approve the applicable provisions for subsidizing employers who create or adapt jobs for people with disabilities and improved access to employment services, and to ensure development of the regulated types of social services for people with disabilities, the vocational rehabilitation service; and - the mechanism for granting facilities with the import of means of transportation intended to transport people with mobility disabilities, as well as exemptions from road user charges.

Accordingly, the revived National Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which includes thematic Working Groups on the relevant components ensures monitoring of the implementation and promotion of the state policy in the field and the CRPD, to safeguard equal opportunities for this category of population to realize their fundamental rights and freedoms at the same level as other members of society, and many others.

Distinguished delegates,

While all the above stated are of enormous importance and make their tangible contribution to the daily life of people with disabilities, I will continue by referring in more detail to the *National Programme for the Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities 2017-2022*, which is one of the most representative to the subject addressed today.

This Programme aims at addressing the problems faced by persons with disabilities in my country, the implementation of the CRPD provisions and recommendations, as well as the observations of experts of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The Moldovan Government has recently developed the final assessment to measure the results achieved, to determine the barriers to its implementation and to identify ways to promote a new Programme by mainstreaming the principle of “*leaving no one behind*”. This principle along with the provisions of the CRPD are guiding the course of action for addressing the needs and issues people with disabilities are facing.

The implementation of the National Programme for the deinstitutionalization of persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities in the residential institutions for the years 2018-2026 is another priority of the Republic of Moldova, aimed at reforming the residential care system through the development and provision of social services at the community level in order to ensure their right to independent life in the community.

Mr. President, Distinguished delegates,

Whatever progress has been achieved around the world in implementing the Convention under discussion, further tangible efforts and actions are to be undertaken at the national and international level to ensure real protection and promotion of the rights and dignity of people with disabilities. Among other actions, to ensure a full mainstream of persons with disabilities into societies and their access to all services, more investments are needed in disability-friendly infrastructure and better access to technology, including digital assistive technologies accessible to them. Further strengthening and expansion of global cooperation to make these technologies available to all people with disabilities remains one of foremost objectives.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate the strong commitment of my country to further implement the provisions of the Convention and to develop best practices for its full implementation for the benefit of all so that “no one is left behind”.

Thank you.