

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 (a).

(New York, June 11, 2024)

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. (TBC)

Rethinking disability inclusion in the current international juncture and ahead of the Summit of the Future is a matter of utmost importance. The theme and sub-themes of this year's Conference are specifically pertinent in this regard, as no one should be left behind in these processes. A comprehensive approach is necessary, for the inclusion of present and future generations.

Republic of Moldova expresses its support for the Summit of the Future in its aim to accelerate efforts to meet our existing international commitments and take concrete steps to respond to emerging challenges and opportunities and in this process to pay a particular attention of the strengthening the Human Rights pillar. Inclusion in this regard is of great importance.

ITo achieve the provisions of the international treaties to which my country is a party and the objectives of the national strategic documents, the Republic of Moldova developed complex policies in the field of inclusion of persons with disabilities directed towards the promotion and implementation of new mechanisms for their protection, as well as improvement of the legislative-normative framework, for ensuring respect for their rights and access to benefits and social services, employment, rehabilitation, education, sports, health protection, information and communications, mobility, security, justice, culture, as well as in other areas intended for the integration of people with disabilities in the society.

Measures regarding the protection and safety of people, including persons with disabilities in the situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies, are also established and granted, regardless of citizenship, as for example to the displaced persons from Ukraine.

The Government of the Republic of Moldova and other national authorities promote the inclusion of people with disabilities in all fields. In this regard, recently the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection initiated the digitalization process of social services and benefits, which aims to proactively activate social services and benefits and to eliminate any disparities.

Following the commitments assumed by the Republic of Moldova, over the years several advances have been registered in terms of the social inclusion of people with disabilities, as follows:

- 1. increased compensation for transport services for people with locomotor disabilities, people with severe and pronounced disabilities and children with disabilities, by 33%. Besides, people with locomotor disabilities benefit free from prosthetic systems, walking aids, non-motorized wheelchairs and specialized orthopedic footwear, to reduce, compensate, monitor or neutralize locomotor limitations.
- 2. regulated for the first time, the free insurance of visually impaired and blind disabled people with assistive devices to reduce, compensate, monitor or neutralize the visual limitations of disabled people.
- 3. drafted and finalized the draft of the Government's decision for the approval of the Matrix of indicators regarding persons with disabilities.
- 4. increased social allowances and the indexation of disability pensions by about 14%.
- 5. reanimated the National Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which includes thematic Working Groups on various components.
- 6. signed Memoranda of Understanding with International Organizations for the purpose of financial and material support for people with disabilities, etc.

At the same time, people with disabilities receive several types of social benefits; and different types of social services were developed. They enjoy all the rights established in the Labor Code of the Republic of Moldova and in other normative acts. Employers benefit as well from various support measures in the process of hiring people with disabilities, a fact that encourages the process.

Mr. President, Distinguished delegates,

In implementing the Convention under discussion in general and, with the aim of ensuring the inclusion of people with disabilities in particular, further tangible efforts and actions are to be undertaken at the national and international level, including taking this into consideration on processes discussed at the UN.

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, including to cooperate with other states, for the benefit of all people so that "no one is left behind".

Thank you!