



Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

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Summary record of the 659th meeting

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Friday, 18 August 2023, at 10 a.m.

Chair: Ms. Fefoame

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The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.

Consideration of reports submitted by parties to the Convention under article 35

(continued)

Combined second and third periodic reports of Mongolia (continued)
([CRPD/C/MNG/2-3](#); [CRPD/C/MNG/QPR/2-3](#))

1. *At the invitation of the Chair, the delegation of Mongolia joined the meeting.*

Articles 1–10 and 11–20

2. **A representative of Mongolia**, replying to questions put at the previous meeting, said that a five-year strategic plan for ensuring the rights of persons with disabilities was being developed. The Government would welcome the Committee's advice in that regard. All programmes for persons with disabilities had been adopted together with a budget for their implementation.

3. The six development centres for persons with disabilities that had been established in rural areas provided support to children and adults with disabilities, as well as their carers. Services ranged from early detection of disabilities to health care, counselling, family support, mobility assistance, rehabilitation services and maintenance of assistive devices. For persons aged 18 years and over, the centres also provided psychological assistance and support for independent living and employment. The centres operated in keeping with national and international recommendations. Two further centres would be set up in 2023.

4. **A representative of Mongolia** said that gender equality and other laws did not currently contain specific provisions on women with disabilities. Thus, the Government was eager to hear the Committee's recommendations about possible amendments, including to the Law to Combat Domestic Violence. The relevant chapters of the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities would be further developed. The new legal provisions regarding the sexual and reproductive health of persons with disabilities would be implemented in collaboration with non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

5. Under the legislation on social insurance that had been adopted the previous month, the premiums of individuals who cared for persons with disabilities would be fully covered by the State. In response to a recommendation by the National Association of Wheelchair Users, personal assistance would be provided to parents with disabilities until their child reached the age of 2 years. Sign language interpretation was mandated in a number of spheres.

6. There were 35 temporary shelters where women and girls with disabilities who were victims of violence could stay. Efforts were under way to provide training to shelter staff and thus improve the protection of victims. The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection had provided training in the treatment of women and girls with disabilities who were victims of domestic violence to personnel of the special police unit on domestic violence established in 2020. That same year, the Ministry, in cooperation with a research organization, had carried out a study, which had found that persons with disabilities often did not know that they had been victims of violence. Accordingly, campaigns had been developed to raise awareness of what constituted violence, such as the withholding or misuse of a person's disability allowance and the concealment of a person's wheelchair. Furthermore, the regulations and standards on the protection of victims of violence would be refined on the basis of the study's findings. The country's recent review by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women would lead to enhanced protection measures for women and girls.

7. Since the adoption of the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2016, the country had been shifting away from the medical model of disability. As training was key to that transition, 550 sessions, led by trainers with disabilities and involving 45,000 participants, had been held since 2017 to educate the public about the Convention and disability rights and issues. Mongolia was a leader in such training. The fourth Asia-Pacific Community-based Inclusive Development Congress, which had been held in Mongolia in 2019, had made the topic of persons with disabilities more visible, helping to form an understanding that disability issues were a shared concern. Several campaigns on that theme

had been implemented via various channels. Since its establishment in 2018, the General Authority for the Development of Persons with Disabilities had conducted training for more than 200,000 people. It worked closely with five organizations representing persons with disabilities to develop content on disability rights for the general public. In collaboration with the Japan International Cooperation Agency, relevant training was provided to the personnel of companies with at least 25 employees, although those activities had been curtailed during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic owing to budgetary constraints. Thanks to awareness-raising among parents of children with disabilities, fewer children were being institutionalized or hidden away. She herself had witnessed a shift in attitude within State entities, where it was now understood that disability issues and the rights of persons with disabilities should be addressed by them all.

8. **A representative of Mongolia** said that the right to independent living was addressed in article 32 of the Law on Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its implementing regulations and was being given effect through pilot projects run jointly with NGOs. Independent living, inclusive education and universal design were new concepts in Mongolia and were being introduced gradually by NGOs, with State funding. A popular method of facilitating independent living was peer counselling. A study of care centres had shown that a range of services were moving away from the medical model towards the social model of disability. Furthermore, resources were being allocated to the establishment of community-based services as a means of stepping up deinstitutionalization. Personal assistants were paid twice the minimum wage.

9. **A representative of Mongolia** said that, by law, a group that was the subject of a bill had to be consulted as part of the legislative process. Discrimination of all types was banned under the Constitution, and disability-based discrimination under article 5 of the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Discrimination was an offence under the Criminal Code, and penalties ranged from a fine to imprisonment depending on the seriousness of the offence. The National Legal Institute had conducted a study on the need for separate legislation on discrimination, including against persons with disabilities, which had concluded that existing provisions should be expanded then reflected across all national laws. Persons with disabilities, or their carers or guardians, could lodge complaints of discrimination with the police through a number of different helplines. The police had received training in how to handle such cases. In addition, the judicial system had a fully accessible website through which persons with disabilities could file complaints.

10. **A representative of Mongolia** said that, through the Social Welfare Fund, a monthly cash allowance of 100,000 tugriks (Tog) was provided to every child to cover basic needs. A study conducted with the cooperation of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) had found that that amount was sufficient. Children in need of permanent care were entitled to a monthly allowance of Tog 275,000, and their carers were also granted financial support. Children with disabilities were eligible for discounts on relevant medication and on access to sanatoriums. Family health centres supplied children with micronutrients and vitamins. Mobile teaching services were provided nationwide, particularly in rural areas, and an education support centre had been established in every district. Together with international partners, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection had developed educational video content for children receiving permanent care at home.

11. **A representative of Mongolia** said that, pursuant to article 32 (1) of the Mental Health Law, abortions could be performed on women with psychosocial disabilities in the event of severe fetal abnormality or risk to the mother's health. In all cases, pregnant women were entitled to be consulted and to have their opinions taken into account. To date, there had been no complaints of forced abortion in Mongolia, although the Government did not deny that clandestine abortions might have been carried out.

12. Persons considered a danger to others could be isolated under article 14 of the Mental Health Law. The Ministry of Health intended to adopt a regulation governing isolation measures. It classified psychosocial disabilities in accordance with the International Classification of Diseases. Isolation in a psychiatric ward could be imposed only by court order, while hospitalization could occur only with the patient's consent. Checks were performed to ensure that mental health diagnoses were made correctly and were not based on

discrimination, that mental health services were delivered appropriately and that persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities were not abused.

13. **A representative of Mongolia** said that, in 2015, the Government had issued a resolution on community-based disaster response, pursuant to which the authorities had a responsibility to keep persons with disabilities informed about disaster prevention through media including booklets, films and videos. On the last Thursday of every month, information on disaster prevention was disseminated nationwide. Moreover, the National Emergency Management Agency had set up a website containing information on disaster risk management. Every fortnight, a 15-minute television segment on disaster prevention was broadcast with closed captioning and sign language interpretation. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Agency had worked closely with the Association of Sign Language Interpreters and Translators to raise awareness of disaster prevention and had published 4,000 books in Braille for that purpose. A total of 49 persons with disabilities had been treated for COVID-19 in isolation centres, where training on disaster prevention had been provided.

14. **A representative of Mongolia** said that the Ministry of Education and Science had set up a 12-member working group to draft the bill on sign language, which would be presented for public consultation before being forwarded to the Ministry. In June 2023, the Ministry, in partnership with NGOs, had conducted a needs assessment in which 162 persons with hearing impairments had participated. A conclusion from the assessment had been that there was insufficient knowledge of Mongolian Sign Language. Accordingly, the Ministry had prepared a dual-language curriculum integrating Mongolian Sign Language that it would submit to the Government for its consideration in September 2023. In addition, there were plans for lifelong education centres to provide sign language training free of charge.

15. **A representative of Mongolia** said that article 18 of the Civil Code empowered courts to deprive persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities who lacked awareness or self-control of their right to exercise legal capacity and to appoint legal proxies to act on their behalf. The Standing Committee on Legal Affairs of the State Great Hural, the Mongolian parliament, was assessing the compatibility of some 30 national laws with the provisions of the international conventions ratified by Mongolia. As part of that exercise, it was examining the provisions on the exercise of legal capacity by persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities in national legislation.

16. **A representative of Mongolia** said that there was no care centre for children with disabilities in Songino Khairkhan District in Ulaanbaatar. However, at the request of parents, a private kindergarten had been opened for such children. In July 2023, the parliament had adopted a law on education reforms that would bring about a gradual shift towards inclusion.

17. **Mr. Sarkhad** (Mongolia) said that the Government placed great importance on intersectoral and interministerial cooperation. To supplement the framework established for the implementation of the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Government, through the Ministry of Education and Science, had recently initiated a process of consultation between various government ministries and civil society organizations on the establishment of mechanisms for intersectoral coordination in the protection of the rights of children with disabilities.

18. Public services were not delivered evenly throughout the country. However, the Government was striving to increase their efficiency, including through rapid digitalization and the reduction of bureaucracy. It had developed a two-pronged methodology for assessing that efficiency using information collected from 12 different public organizations and the country's 907,000 households.

19. **Ms. Thongkuay** (Country Rapporteur) said that she wished to know what was being done to help persons with disabilities receiving medical care and rehabilitation support in development centres to live independently in the community, including in terms of exercising their legal capacity, receiving assistance with disability-related expenses, having access to inclusive social services and to transportation and assistive devices and technologies, and being protected from intersectional discrimination.

20. She would appreciate a description of the measures adopted to foster community-based inclusive development, including by prohibiting gender discrimination,

encouraging the participation of persons with disabilities in decision-making processes and ensuring the use of accessible means of communication. Specific information on the steps taken to replace the medical model of disability with the social model, in accordance with the Convention, would also be welcome. She also wished to know what mechanisms were in place to prevent the misuse of disability allowances.

21. **Mr. Al-Azzeh** said that he would appreciate clarification as to whether forms of treatment such as restraint and seclusion could be used in institutions without the consent of the patient. It would also be helpful to hear more about the different forms of chemical and physical restraint that were permitted and whether they included electroconvulsive therapy. The delegation should provide further information about the conditions under which those techniques were authorized and how frequently they were used.

22. **Ms. Gamio Ríos** said that she would welcome an answer to her question about the accessibility of the mechanisms for reporting violence, including domestic violence and violence against children. She was curious to learn what progress had been made as a result of the implementation of the project on independent living supported by the Japan International Cooperation Agency. She wondered whether consultations had been held with persons with disabilities in relation to that project. It would also be useful to know what measures were taken to monitor institutions to ensure that persons with psychosocial or intellectual disabilities were not subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

23. **Mr. Kabue** said that the Committee would appreciate further information on the measures being taken by the State party to train more sign language interpreters and to increase the number of television broadcasts that were accompanied by sign language interpretation. He wished to know what measures were being taken to ensure that e-government services and the information provided on government websites were accessible for persons with disabilities, including persons with visual impairments who used screen readers.

24. **Sir Robert Martin** urged the State party to take immediate action to ensure that the exercise of legal capacity by persons with intellectual disabilities was not restricted in any way on an unequal basis with others, in accordance with the Committee's general comment No. 1 (2014) on equal recognition before the law ([CRPD/C/GC/1](#)).

Articles 21–33

25. **Ms. Thongkuay** said that she would be interested to hear about specific measures and policies to promote the inclusion of women with disabilities in the open labour market and the employment of persons with disabilities in general. Noting reports that social welfare payments were insufficient to enable persons with disabilities to access quality assistive devices, she asked what measures were envisaged to rectify that situation and what time frame had been established for doing so.

26. Turning to the issue of participation in political and public life, she said that it would be helpful to hear details of the steps taken to add disability to the prohibited grounds of discrimination under article 6 of the Law on the Election of the State Great Hural.

27. Lastly, she wished to know what mechanisms were in place to ensure the meaningful participation of, and close consultation with, organizations of persons with disabilities with regard to international cooperation. And what indicators the State party used to measure the implementation of its international cooperation programmes.

28. **Ms. Gamio Ríos** said that the Committee would welcome further information on the measures that were being taken to repeal all provisions of the Family Law that prevented persons with psychosocial or intellectual disabilities from marrying. It was not unusual for a man to file for divorce after his wife acquired a disability and then to be given sole custody of their children in court. There were also often cases where men initiated divorce proceedings following the birth of a child with a disability, leaving the mother as the sole caregiver. She wished to know what support was given to women who found themselves in such situations.

29. She would be interested to know what action the Government intended to take to address the obstacles preventing the full inclusion of children with disabilities in regular

schools, such as the distance between schools and children's homes, the lack of specialized equipment and the lack of financial support. It would also be useful to find out more about the support that persons with disabilities in rural areas received under poverty reduction programmes. The Committee had been informed that the monthly cash allowances paid to households with children were withdrawn as soon as the mother or father of the family had secured employment; that would be particularly unfair in the case of families of children with disabilities who required extra support.

30. **Mr. Kabue** said that it would be useful to know what steps the State party was taking to accelerate the transition from segregated to inclusive education, including in terms of improving school infrastructure, developing adapted learning materials and training teachers in regular schools on the specific requirements of children with disabilities.

31. **Ms. Jacobs** said that the delegation should provide statistical information on the number of students with disabilities who had been enrolled in post-secondary education on an annual basis since 2018. The Committee would also welcome further information on any measures that were being taken to ensure that students with disabilities in post-secondary education could request reasonable accommodation, register complaints related to their education and seek redress. She would like to learn more about the country's lifelong education centres, particularly the role they played in delivering post-secondary education to persons with disabilities.

32. **Ms. Fitoussi** said that she wished to know whether the State party had consulted persons with disabilities on humanitarian issues. It was important to ensure that persons with disabilities participated in the formulation of the Government's strategy to address medical crises and humanitarian disasters, such as those caused by earthquakes or war. She also wished to know what steps the State party intended to take to ensure that information on all types of disability was recorded in the database on persons with disabilities and to make the database available in accessible formats.

33. **The Chair** said that she would appreciate updated information on the status of the Employment Promotion Law, which was under revision. It would be useful to know what provisions prohibiting discrimination had been included in the proposed amendments and whether organizations of persons with disabilities had participated in the drafting process. She also wished to know what steps the State party was taking to revise the Constitution and Civil Code in order to allow the Election Law, which restricted the political participation of persons with disabilities, to be updated. In that regard, she would appreciate further information on the activities that had been carried out by the task force set up by the General Authority for the Development of Persons with Disabilities to study the Political Parties Law and the Election Law. Lastly, she would be interested to hear what steps were being taken to ensure that persons with disabilities were involved in the formulation and execution of a national strategy on disability within the framework of the State party's efforts to implement the Sustainable Development Goals.

The meeting was suspended at 11.40 a.m. and resumed at noon.

34. **A representative of Mongolia** said that the establishment of the development centres for persons with disabilities reflected the increasing embrace of the social model of disability in Mongolia and represented an important step forward, since the services they offered had only previously been available in Ulaanbaatar. The centres applied an approach based on intersectoral coordination.

35. **A representative of Mongolia** said that cash transfers from the Social Welfare Fund were paid directly into the bank accounts of eligible persons with disabilities and that fingerprint technology was used to verify that payments were received by the intended beneficiaries. Persons with disabilities who did not have a bank account or were unable to receive those payments could give power of attorney to a family member, guardian or carer to receive the money on their behalf.

36. Regulations concerning the provision of prostheses and assistive devices through the Social Welfare Fund had been adopted in June 2020. The list of devices provided was regularly updated in order to ensure that it reflected the latest technological advances. The Government worked with 70 NGOs and other private sector entities to provide prostheses

and assistive devices, which were also made available to persons with disabilities at discounted prices through the Health Insurance Fund, although the prices had recently been increased in line with inflation.

37. There were no conditions attached to the monthly cash allowance paid in respect of children with disabilities in need of permanent care, and the employment situation of the parents did not affect their eligibility to receive those payments. Furthermore, all mothers of children under 3 years of age were exempt from paying social insurance premiums.

38. **A representative of Mongolia** said that amendments to the Election Law containing a number of progressive provisions concerning the right to vote of persons with disabilities had been adopted in 2020. Under the new provisions, the authorities were obliged to take all necessary measures to ensure that ballot papers were provided in Braille and that polling stations were fully accessible for wheelchair users. As yet, quotas had not been introduced concerning the number of candidates with disabilities that political parties put forward to stand at elections. However, the Government was committed to introducing further positive reforms in accordance with the findings of the NGO-led task force that had been set up to assess the political participation of persons with disabilities in Mongolia.

39. Pursuant to amendments made to the Labour Law in 2021, persons with disabilities were fully protected from disability-based discrimination in the area of employment. Moreover, under the same legislation, employers were obliged to ensure reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities in the workplace. There were no restrictions under national law concerning the type of jobs that persons with disabilities could perform, and previous legislation limiting the maximum number of working hours per week for employees with disabilities had been abolished. A series of progressive provisions specifically aimed at promoting the employment of persons with disabilities had also been adopted. Under those provisions, the State had a duty to ensure that persons with disabilities had access to employers' recruitment processes, for example by providing the services of a sign language interpreter for job interviews. Furthermore, employers were entitled to claim State support to cover the cost of ensuring reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities, provided that they had remained in their posts for at least three years.

40. The 108 hotline had been set up as a means for victims and witnesses to report incidents of violence against children. The Government had published written materials, including for children who were deaf or hard of hearing, to raise awareness of the issues surrounding violence against children. Measures had also been taken to implement the recommendations on violence against women that Mongolia received from the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

41. Although the Communications Regulatory Commission had instructed the country's television channels to increase the number of programmes with sign language interpretation, no minimum requirement had been set in that regard. The use of sign language interpretation was particularly important for emergency information broadcasts. Five television channels employed sign language interpreters on regular contracts. With regard to web accessibility, the E-Mongolia Academy employed two persons with visual impairments. The Web Content Accessibility Guidelines had been translated into Mongol, and developers sought to adhere to the recommendations they contained on such points as page layout and colour contrast. A speech-to-text programme was being developed jointly with the Asian Development Bank. A sign language interpretation programme had been introduced at the undergraduate level. The first cohort of students had enrolled in 2022. The number of students enrolled on the programme was increasing year on year.

42. Japan International Cooperation Agency projects were implemented jointly with NGOs and ministries. A joint coordination committee met twice a week to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the projects and, if necessary, amend the implementation plans. A large proportion of those working on such projects represented organizations of persons with disabilities.

43. **A representative of Mongolia** said that issues of legal capacity were dealt with under the Civil Code. The legal profession had called for the introduction of more detailed provisions on such issues. The Committee's comments in that regard would be communicated to the Ministry of Justice and relevant agencies. Together with organizations

of persons with disabilities, the Government was reviewing national legislation to ensure compliance with the Convention. A number of improvements had already been suggested, and the process of introducing the necessary amendments was now under way. Wide-ranging public consultations, including with persons with disabilities, would be held to discuss the amendments.

44. Disability was associated with an increased risk of family breakdown in Mongolia. Following consultations with NGOs, it had been concluded that the matter should be addressed through legislation. The rights of children with disabilities, persons with disabilities who were unable to work and older persons with disabilities should be protected as a matter of priority. The provision of care for children with disabilities was the responsibility of the parents. Following a divorce, legal action could be taken to recover unpaid child maintenance. The Government provided care for children or older persons with disabilities who had no one to care for them. The proposed amendments to the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities included a new provision requiring the courts to take spousal disability into account in the context of divorce cases.

45. Before adopting any new initiative, whether a programme or law, the Government held extensive public consultations, including with NGOs. In 2020, a Japan International Cooperation Agency project had been launched in Ulaanbaatar to increase the participation of persons with disabilities in decision-making. The project had raised awareness of the concept of accessibility, including among the public at large. In addition, an accessibility assessment had been conducted in Ulaanbaatar with the participation of several organizations of persons with disabilities. The Government worked with NGOs to deliver training on disability and equality. Persons with disabilities who took the training were able to cascade their knowledge to the local level. As part of the job coach project, persons with disabilities were being trained to become job coaches. NGOs could propose employment promotion projects, which, if taken forward, would receive government funding.

46. Various organizations of persons with disabilities were working with the Government to improve public awareness of the rights of person with disabilities. In that context, a contract worth approximately Tog 500 million had been concluded with media organizations, and multiple videos and radio programmes had been produced. With the support of the Norwegian Lutheran Mission, many articles on disability issues had been published. A project to support children with disabilities was being implemented together with an association of parents of children with disabilities.

47. **A representative of Mongolia** said that 18,000 children with disabilities had been registered in Mongolia in 2022. Over half lived in rural areas. The Government's policy was to deliver education as close to where children lived as possible. Under the Law on Education, teachers who worked with children with disabilities received a salary enhancement. All schools now had child development units. Schools were required to spend a proportion of their equipment budget on reasonable accommodation for children with disabilities. Over 100 schools in Mongolia had ramps, and many schools were implementing accessibility programmes. Disability issues were covered in the training provided for student teachers, some of whom undertook more specialized training on working with children with disabilities. The Government contracted NGOs to implement programmes for persons with disabilities. In the previous school year, 25 assistant teachers trained to work with children with disabilities had joined the education system. The Government's efforts were consistent with the principle enshrined in the Sustainable Development Goals that no one should be left behind. In accordance with applicable guidance, opportunities for lifelong learning were provided free of charge. Children who needed constant care at home received visits from specially employed teachers. Around a quarter of the children with disabilities who attended secondary school were enrolled in special schools. The proportion of children with disabilities who benefited from inclusive education had fallen temporarily during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

48. Children who wished to file complaints regarding their education could telephone one of two helplines. They could also turn to their teachers, school-based social workers or child ambassadors or have their parents file complaints on their behalf. Complaints could be filed in writing, including online, or by telephone. In a recent example of reasonable

accommodation, university classes had been rescheduled to enable students with disabilities to commute during non-peak hours.

49. **Ms. Ganbat** (National Human Rights Commission, Mongolia) said that the consideration of the combined second and third periodic reports of Mongolia (CRPD/C/MNG/2-3) had offered an opportunity both to showcase the progress that the country had made in implementing the Convention and to identify areas in need of improvement. By taking into account the country's unique contextual features, including its population dynamics, economy, culture, history and legal system, the Committee would no doubt succeed in producing a set of concluding observations that offered practical, achievable and precise recommendations aimed at bringing lasting change to the lives of persons with disabilities.

50. The representatives of Mongolia had shown a willingness to ask questions, share experiences and listen to persons with disabilities, which demonstrated the country's commitment to transparency and accountability. The current momentum needed to be maintained in order to drive further progress. The participation of persons with disabilities throughout the reporting process had served as a reminder that the path towards inclusivity was a question not only of policy but also of humanity. The success achieved in implementing the Convention was ultimately to be judged by the improvements made to the lives of persons with disabilities.

51. **Mr. Sarkhad** (Mongolia) said that, in accordance with the fundamental principle of leaving no one behind, which underpinned the Government's human rights policies, Mongolia had introduced a wide range of measures to implement the Convention. The various strategies and plans discussed during the dialogue had been developed in accordance with the Committee's valuable advice and recommendations. Indeed, it was thanks to the Committee that Mongolia had strengthened intersectoral cooperation, introduced new methodologies and incorporated new knowledge and experience into its efforts to uphold the rights of persons with disabilities. While good results had been achieved, some challenges remained. For example, it was critical to ensure that persons with disabilities were involved in policy development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The Government would strive to implement the Committee's recommendations through intersectoral activities and in conjunction with civil society.

52. **Ms. Thongkuay**, speaking also on behalf of her fellow Country Rapporteur Ms. Kim, said that she was grateful to the delegation for a constructive dialogue, which had provided the Committee with a clear overview of the State party's efforts to implement the Convention, including its efforts to develop national systems in the areas of regulation and policy. It remained critical to ensure that the needs and concerns of persons with disabilities were addressed in all areas and sectors. Disability issues and perspectives must be incorporated into all national, political, economic and sociocultural frameworks. It would be impossible to combat discrimination and ensure equal access to social justice and sustainable development if the rights and needs of the 3 per cent of the population with disabilities were ignored. Inclusive communications, universal design, assistive devices and technologies and reasonable accommodation should be foregrounded when considering investments in urban and rural development.

53. The State party might wish to consider creating a mechanism to facilitate broad cooperation among the various focal points for implementation of the Convention. In the context of efforts to strengthen the national monitoring mechanism, it was important to recognize the need for the close and meaningful participation of all disability constituencies at every level of the monitoring process. The successful implementation of the Convention required strong and determined political will and commitment with clear targets, budgets and time frames and the involvement of Mongolian organizations of persons with disabilities.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.