



Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

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Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Thirty-second session

Summary record (partial)* of the 786th meeting**

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Friday, 21 March 2025, at 3 p.m.

Chair: Ms. Kim Mi Yeon

Contents

Adoption of the report on the thirty-second session

Future meetings

Cooperation with other United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, organizations of persons with disabilities and other competent bodies (*continued*)

Closure of the session

* No summary record was prepared for the rest of the meeting.

** No summary records were issued for the 776th to 785th meetings.

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Any corrected records of the public meetings of the Committee at this session will be reissued for technical reasons after the end of the session.



The discussion covered in the summary record began at 4.15 p.m.

Adoption of the report on the thirty-second session

1. **Ms. Jacobs** (Rapporteur), summarizing the draft report on the thirty-second session, subsequently to be issued as document [CRPD/C/32/2](#), said that the Committee had adopted concluding observations in relation to the initial reports of Palau, Tuvalu, and Viet Nam and the combined second and third periodic reports of Canada, the Dominican Republic and the European Union.
2. The Committee had examined three individual communications submitted for its consideration under the Optional Protocol to the Convention. It had found violations of the Convention in two of them and found that the facts before it did not disclose a violation in the third. The Committee had also considered matters related to inquiries pursuant to the Optional Protocol.
3. The Committee had continued the process of drafting its general comment No. 9, on article 11 of the Convention. It had also held a day of general discussion on the right of persons with disabilities to participate in political and public life, as a step towards the drafting of a general comment on article 29 of the Convention.
4. The Committee had decided to continue engaging with the United Nations Office at Geneva and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) with a view to improving the provision of accessible conference services and reasonable accommodation to members of the Committee and participants with disabilities at its meetings.
5. The Committee had adopted a statement on migrant women and girls with disabilities. It had also adopted a statement on the provision of sign language interpretation to the Committee and support for deaf members of the Committee. In the statement, the Committee called on the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy Secretariat to work with the United Nations Office at Geneva and OHCHR to restore the previous standard of national sign language interpretation provided to the Committee and ensure that Mr. Tamon received the necessary support to discharge his duties effectively. It called upon the United Nations Office at Geneva to reconsider and reverse the decision to discontinue national sign language interpretation for the Committee; to engage meaningfully with the Committee and the World Federation of the Deaf to ensure the continued provision of both international and national sign language interpretation to the meetings of the Committee; and to ensure that at least two interpreters proficient in American Sign Language were available to support Mr. Tamon fully during meetings. The Committee called on OHCHR to allocate additional resources, including extra-budgetary funds, to support Mr. Tamon's interpretation needs; to establish or expand a voluntary fund on reasonable accommodation to ensure that all right holders covered under the OHCHR reasonable accommodation policy had access to the necessary support; and to ensure that the Committee operated in a fully accessible and inclusive manner in line with the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy.
6. The Committee and its various working groups were working to contribute to the twentieth anniversary of the Convention, including through preparing specific guidelines which would complement the general comments already adopted by the Committee.
7. With 192 States Parties, the Convention was the second most ratified human rights treaty. However, the Committee reiterated its concern that that status was not reflected in the meeting time and resources allocated to it. The Committee called on Member States and on the competent United Nations bodies to rectify the situation by granting it a third session of at least three weeks of meeting time. Additional meeting time and resources would enable the Committee to address the backlog of State party reports pending consideration.
8. The Committee called upon States parties whose reports were long overdue to submit them as expeditiously as possible. Together with the OHCHR treaty body capacity-building programme, the Committee had decided to engage actively with States parties whose reports were more than 10 years overdue.
9. *The report on the thirty-second session of the Committee was adopted.*

Future meetings

10. **Ms. Jacobs** (Rapporteur) said that, subject to the availability of funding, the thirty-third session of the Committee would be held in Geneva from 11 to 29 August 2025 and would be followed by the twenty-first meeting of the pre-sessional working group, from 1 to 5 September 2025.

Cooperation with other United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, organizations of persons with disabilities and other competent bodies *(continued)*

11. **A representative of the International Disability Alliance** said that his organization deeply regretted the retrogressions in the area of sign language interpretation, in particular in respect of national sign language interpretation for the interactive dialogues with States Parties and the insufficient support for Mr. Tamon. The International Disability Alliance had not yet received a formal response from OHCHR and the United Nations Office at Geneva to a letter it had sent jointly with the World Federation of the Deaf and the World Association of Sign Language Interpreters in December 2024. His organization welcomed the initiatives taken by the Committee in that connection.

12. The International Disability Alliance looked forward to the participation of some members of the Committee in the upcoming Global Disability Summit in Berlin, which it would be co-hosting with the Governments of Germany and Jordan.

13. Given the generalized lack of resources for the Committee's meetings and the sometimes limited availability of interpretation services, it would be helpful if the Committee could pay closer attention to the assignment of members to country task forces based on their languages and areas of expertise so as to facilitate interaction with civil society.

Closure of the session

14. After the customary exchange of courtesies, **the Chair** declared the thirty-second session of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities closed.

The meeting rose at 4.30 p.m.