

International Disability Alliance (IDA)

Member Organizations:

Disabled Peoples' International, Down Syndrome International,
Inclusion International, International Federation of Hard of Hearing People,
World Blind Union, World Federation of the Deaf,
World Federation of the DeafBlind,
World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry,
Arab Organization of Disabled People, European Disability Forum,
Red Latinoamericana de Organizaciones no Gubernamentales de Personas con
Discapacidad y sus familias (RIADIS), Pacific Disability Forum

Suggestions for disability-relevant recommendations to be included in the Concluding Observations CEDAW Committee 50th Session (3-21 October 2011)

The International Disability Alliance (IDA) has prepared the following suggestions for the Concluding Observations, based on references to persons with disabilities to be found in the State Report, List of Issues, and Replies.

MAURITIUS

Mauritius ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on 8 January 2010.

State Report

Selected references to persons with disabilities in the state report:

17.3 Section 4 of the **Training and Employment of Disabled Persons Act** provides for a Board which shall prevent discrimination against **disabled persons** resulting from or arising out of their **disability**.

Accessibility and parking.

Section 15(A)(1) of the Building (Amendment) Act 2001, the Authority may, in respect of the construction of a building, or extensive alterations, additions or repairs to a building, to which the public may have access, impose such conditions as it thinks fit for the provision of suitable means of access to any part of the building, car park or cartilage for the use of the building and its facilities for **disabled persons**, and Section 15(A)(2), the Authority may, in respect of any new building, impose such conditions as it thinks fit for the provision of parking spaces.

List of Issues

No references to women and girls with disabilities.

Recommendations from IDA:

- Collect adequate data on women and girls with disabilities and use disaggregated data and results of studies to develop policies and programmes to promote equal opportunities for them in society
- Adopt measures to ensure that women with disabilities are consulted and participate in leadership roles in policy development.

- Raise awareness and provide more information about women and girls with disabilities, who are often subjected to multiple forms of discrimination, especially with regard to access to education, employment, access to health care and protection from violence.
- Ensure the provision of reasonable accommodation in employment and vocational training for women with disabilities, including accommodations for different types of disabilities.
- Address the heightened risk for girls and women with disabilities of becoming victims of domestic violence and abuse, and adopt urgent measures to ensure that both services and information for victims are made accessible to women and girls with disabilities.
- Ensure the provision of support services, including psychosocial support services, to assist families, including both mothers with disabilities, and mothers or women in the family who are the lead caregivers in their care for children with disabilities. In particular, ensure that services and assistance are rendered to permit women in families with children with disabilities, as well as mothers with disabilities, to continue their careers with an appropriate work/life balance.
- Adopt measures to ensure that all health care and services, provided to persons with disabilities, including all mental health care and services, is based on the free and informed consent of the person concerned, and that involuntary treatment and confinement are not permitted by law in accordance with the latest international standards.
- Adopt measures in the law to ensure the implementation of inclusive education of children with disabilities, such as the obligatory training of all teachers (beyond special education teachers), to require individual education plans for all students, ensure the availability of assistive devices and support in classrooms, educational materials and curricula, ensure the accessibility of physical school environments, encourage the teaching of sign language and disability culture, allocate budget for all of the above. Include inclusive education as an integral part of core teacher training curricula in universities to ensure that the values and principles of inclusive education are infused at the outset of teacher training and teaching careers.
- Adopt measures to ensure that all information, healthcare and services relating to sexual and reproductive health, both including physical treatment and psychological counselling, are made accessible to women and girls with disabilities, and that they are respectful of the dignity and integrity of persons with disabilities based on the free and informed consent of the individual concerned, and that consensual treatment such as the administration of contraception, or fertility treatments are not denied, while all non-consensual treatment, including that for which consent is given by a third party, is not permitted by law (including *inter alia* forced abortions, forced contraception, and forced sterilisation).
- Take steps to ratify the Optional Protocol to the CRPD.