

#### **United Nations (UN)**

## United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

# PROPOSED LIST OF ISSUES FOR SUBMIT TO THE COLOMBIAN STATE

#### Submitted by the

Colombian Coalition for the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (*Coalición CDPD*)

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#### INTRODUCTION

The Colombian Coalition for the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (hereinafter referred to as the CDPD Coalition)<sup>1</sup> is a human rights platform that brings together persons with disabilities, various organizations of and for persons with disabilities, universities, and individuals interested in guaranteeing human rights in Colombia. In particular, it is concerned with respect for and compliance with the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in the country, and with the fulfillment of the obligations undertaken by the Colombian State when it ratified this convention in 2011. The Coalition has members in different parts of the country.

The Coalition was formed in October 2014 with the aim of drafting an alternative report to be presented to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (hereinafter, the CRPD Committee) and since then we have been working at the national and international level to ensure proper compliance with the CRPD. To this end, we have prepared various reports and documents for the inter-American system and the United Nations system, and we have worked in various spaces and in coordination with other human rights platforms and organizations and United Nations agencies in Colombia. We also actively participate in the promotion of the human rights of persons with disabilities through events, workshops, and interventions before national courts, such as the Constitutional Court.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For more information about the Colombian Coalition for the CRPD, its work, and its members, visit:

https://sites.google.com/site/coalicionconvencion/qui%C3%A9nes-somos?authuser=0



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#### Articles 1-4. Purpose/Definitions/General Principles/General Obligations.

Considering that the ratification of the CRPD, the jurisprudence of the Constitutional Court, and Law 1996 of 2019 have brought Colombia a new landscape in terms of the legal capacity of persons with disabilities, which transforms the basic principles of civil and criminal law, among others, please indicate:

- 1. What measures has Colombia taken to ensure that all civil, criminal, administrative, and labor laws are consistent with the recognition of the legal capacity of persons with disabilities, in compliance with the CRPD and Law 1996 of 2019? What is the current status of the review of these laws?
- 2. What actions has the Colombian State taken to identify and eliminate pejorative terminology in legislation, case law, regulations, and official documents when referring to persons with disabilities, particularly those with psychosocial and intellectual disabilities?
- 3. Have consultation processes been implemented with organizations of persons with disabilities and experts in the field to ensure that regulatory and terminological changes reflect international standards and the principles of dignity and respect?

Based on the fact that the Colombian government committed at the Global Disability Summit 2025 to publish public policy on disability through a CONPES and the Sectoral Action Plan (PAS)<sup>2</sup>, and that there is still no known document and Colombia does not have an updated public policy on disability (the previous one is from 2013 through CONPES 166), explain:

- 4. What are the deadlines for publication before the end of the current government's term?
- 5. What resources will be allocated for its effective implementation? Will these be allocated through a specific tax mechanism or of what nature?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The State pointed out in its commitment: "The National Government reaffirms its commitment to guaranteeing the rights, community life, and autonomy of persons with disabilities through the development of a new National Public Policy on Disability. This process, initiated in 2023 by the Vice Presidency and consolidated in 2024 under the direction of the Ministry of Equality and Equity, is being developed using a four-phase methodology, ensuring a participatory and interinstitutional approach. With the active participation of more than 1,700 people in regional meetings and the collaboration of 24 government sectors, 252 key actions have been defined to strengthen the institutional response to disability. Currently, progress is being made in roundtable discussions to consolidate the final CONPES document and the Sectoral Action Plan (PAS), ensuring its accessibility and public consultation. As part of this commitment, the Government will promote the socialization and dissemination of the new policy throughout the national territory, promoting a more just, equitable, and inclusive society for all persons with disabilities"



6. Is there a mechanism in place to allocate specific resources from general or specific taxes and to allow for accurate monitoring of the use of resources for the benefit of persons with disabilities?

Given that universal design is a fundamental pillar for ensuring equality and social inclusion for persons with disabilities, and considering that differentiated care approaches predominate in Colombia rather than the implementation of these measures, please explain:

- 7. What concrete measures has the State taken to ensure that essential public services (health, justice, transportation, communications) are provided under universal design criteria and not under differentiated care models that create segmentation and barriers to access?
- 8. What are the indicators or monitoring mechanisms for evaluating the effective implementation of universal design in public services in Colombia?

Recognizing the importance of assistive technologies, please indicate:

9. What public policy measures has it developed for the use of new technologies, including information and communications technologies, mobility aids, technical devices, and assistive technologies appropriate for persons with disabilities, giving priority to those that are affordable?

Considering that in 2016 the Committee urged the State to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention, and that it was not until 2024 that the process began in the Congress of the Republic for its approval as law:

- 10. What have been the main obstacles or reasons why the Colombian State has not completed the ratification of the Optional Protocol?
- 11. What concrete measures has the State taken to ensure its prompt ratification in the Congress of the Republic before the end of the legislative period?

#### Article 5. Equality and non-discrimination.

Taking into account that instruments such as Law 1752 of 2015 have been developed, which seeks to criminally punish cases of discrimination on the basis of discrimination, among others, as well as the Guide for Public Entities, Inclusive Service and Care, aimed at ensuring that public servants treat users with disabilities without engaging in discriminatory behavior and avoiding the use of pejorative terminology, please indicate:

- 12. What has been the impact of the Guide for Public Entities, Services, and Inclusive Care on the treatment of persons with disabilities by public servants, and what metrics are being implemented to observe this impact?
- 13. How many criminal complaints of discrimination on the basis of disability, within the framework of Law 1752 of 2015, have been filed, are pending, and have been resolved since 2015 to date? What have been the outcomes and decisions in these cases?



#### Articles 6, 17, and 23. Women with disabilities and respect for home and family.

Colombia currently has high rates of femicide and domestic violence this year, with more than 5,000 cases of domestic violence and more than 120 femicides in the period from January to April 2025, according to the 2025 report presented by the Ombudsman's Office this year<sup>3</sup>. These figures do not exclude women with disabilities, who are exposed to abuse that goes unnoticed because of their disability. In this regard, the State is requested to explain:

14. What strategies for preventing violence against women have been developed between 2016 and 2024 at the national level to raise awareness and educate people with disabilities (particularly women), families, and society about the violence experienced by girls, adolescents, and women with disabilities? Which entities have been in charge? What was the budgetary investment? What elements were incorporated to ensure that these actions were accessible to persons with disabilities?

The Bogotá district purple line is a guidance and information tool on the rights of women victims of violence and the services, routes, and mechanisms they can use to protect themselves. This line is and is staffed by psychologists, social workers, lawyers, and nurses 24 hours a day. However, this is a strategy that only covers Bogotá. Based on this, please answer:

- 15. Does the Bogotá district's purple hotline have a disability-focused approach to assisting victims of violence?
- 16. Is the national 155 hotline staffed by professionals who provide comprehensive care, as is the case with the purple hotline? Are the operators of the national 155 hotline trained to deal with women, girls, and adolescents with disabilities?

Sexual and reproductive rights are based on the ability of individuals to make free and non-discriminatory decisions about the possibility of living their sexuality safely and freely, regulating their fertility, forming a family, and having the information and means to do so. They also include access to services that guarantee safe motherhood and voluntary termination of pregnancy, among other services. In turn, there are regulations such as Law 115 of 1994, Resolution 3353 of 1993, and Law 2025 of 2020 that seek to implement Comprehensive Sexual Education in all educational institutions, including parents. On this point, please indicate:

- 17. What Comprehensive Sexual Education (CSE) programs, if any, are being developed in Colombia in educational institutions, ICBF regional centers, and other places that have a differential approach to disability?
- 18. Has the State developed a CSE curriculum with a differential approach, specifically for disability, that takes into account the age and maturity of children and young people, with a view to its implementation in educational institutions throughout the country? If so, how is its effective implementation ensured?
- 19. What progress has been made in producing information materials on comprehensive sexuality education in formats accessible to persons with disabilities? Please emphasize how such materials are provided in educational

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ombudsman's Office (2025). *123 femicides in three months, gender-based violence continues unabated.* Retrieved from:

https://www.defensoria.gov.co/-/123-feminicidios-en-tres-meses-la-violencia-de-genero-no-da-tregua#:~:text=123%20feminicides%20in%20three%20months,%20gender%20violence%20shows%20no%20signs%20of%20letup.20g%C3%A9nero%20no%20da%20tregua,-Mar%2C%2029%20abr&text=Entre%20enero%20y%20abril%20de,acciones%20de%20protecci%C3%B3n%20y%20justicia.



- institutions and those responsible for children and adolescents with disabilities, such as the ICBF.
- 20. How has the health sector been coordinated and what plans are currently in place to provide sexual and reproductive health information and promote the use of contraceptive methods for women, girls, and adolescents with disabilities, as well as for their families?
- 21. In the case of pregnant women and adolescents with disabilities, is there a care pathway or protocol developed by the Ministry of Health to ensure that they understand their options regarding pregnancy, the implications of carrying the pregnancy to term, and/or terminating it? How is their privacy and autonomy to make this decision guaranteed?

Resolution 1904 of 2017, in Article 17.3.3, establishes the obligation to "include in the training, induction, and re-induction processes for health professionals, health personnel, and administrative staff, topics related to the recognition of persons with disabilities as subjects of rights and mechanisms for access to information and communication required to interact with this population." On this point, please indicate:

22. What actions has the Ministry of Health taken to provide training and education to medical personnel on the sexual and reproductive rights of persons with disabilities? If such actions have been taken, how many medical professionals have received this training and in which parts of the country?

In Colombia, practices such as forced sterilization and the administration of fertility control methods are common, based on the authorization of families and treating physicians, which nullify the capacity and autonomy of girls, adolescents, and women with disabilities. Resolution 1904 of 2017 seeks to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to adequate and sufficient information about their sexual and reproductive rights and to promote their informed consent for procedures related to these rights.

23. What control and monitoring mechanisms have been established in medical centers to comply with the guidelines of Resolution 1904 of 2017, especially with regard to surgical contraceptive procedures?

The CRPD establishes that States Parties shall take appropriate measures to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to the support they may require in exercising their legal capacity, as well as to promote the sexual and reproductive integrity of persons with disabilities. It is therefore contrary to the Convention that practices based on the stigmatization of the sexual and reproductive life of persons with disabilities continue to exist. Please provide the following information:

- 24. What actions has the Ministry of Health taken to comply with Resolution 1904 of 2007 regarding informed consent of persons with disabilities in accessing sexual and reproductive health services, treatments, and procedures?
- 25. What actions, measures, or strategies has the Ministry of Health implemented to prevent health care providers from continuing to perform non-consensual sterilizations on adolescents and adults with disabilities in the country?



#### Article 7. Children with disabilities.

Paragraph 20 of Colombia's report to the Committee in 2021<sup>4</sup> states that the ICBF works to care for children and adolescents with disabilities, as the entity is the guarantor of the best interests of the child and guardian of minors in the process of having their rights restored or in a situation of adoptability. According to this:

- 26. Indicate how many children and adolescents with disabilities are in institutional care under the ICBF, including the different types of care, and indicate the institutional policies aimed at preventing these placements and promoting the maintenance of the family unit of these minors.
- 27. Indicate the proportion of children and adolescents with disabilities who are asylum seekers and refugees who have access to education, health, and social services, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, migrant status, and service sector.
- 28. What programs are in place within the ICBF's regional centers to strengthen the development, inclusion, and learning of children and adolescents with disabilities?
- 29. How many and which ICBF zonal centers have physical and communication accessibility measures for children and adolescents with disabilities?
- 30. How is it ensured that children and adolescents with disabilities actively participate in the process of choosing their permanent families, and what spaces and tools are provided to children and adolescents to express their feelings and concerns about this process?

Law 2089 of 2021 prohibits the use of physical punishment, cruel, humiliating, or degrading treatment, and any type of violence against children and adolescents. It also establishes that, through the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, and the ICBF, a national educational and prevention strategy would be launched, which would aim to include parents and educate them on how to educate and discipline without violence. With this in mind, please indicate:

- 31. What actions have been implemented to launch, monitor, and evaluate this strategy from 2021 to the present?
- 32. How does this strategy incorporate the disability perspective and highlight the right of children and adolescents with disabilities not to be subjected to physical punishment or cruel treatment within their homes?
- 33. Please indicate what measures have been taken to eliminate the forced restraint of children and adolescents with disabilities under ICB protection.

#### Article 8. Awareness.

In Colombia, there is a lack of awareness about disability and the rights-based approach to persons with disabilities, which impacts the families of children and adolescents with disabilities, who are not aware of the development, support needs, learning, and other aspects of children and adolescents with disabilities. This is a source of uncertainty for families and a factor that prevents children and adolescents with disabilities from developing fully. Furthermore, given that society is still in the process of learning about and adopting the social model of disability, please indicate:

34. What awareness-raising and support programs have been developed at the national level from 2016 to the present to support, bring together, and inform families of children with disabilities in order to promote family unity and the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Periodic report of Colombia (2021) under Article 35 of the Convention. October 10, 2023. CRPD/C/COL/2-4.



- development of children and adolescents with disabilities? Where in the country were these programs carried out?
- 35. Indicate the number and proportion of media companies (public and private) that have adopted explicit and documented policies, such as codes of ethics for news reporting, to address disability issues.

Given the importance of the media in Colombia and its potential to build a positive, informed, and social model-oriented narrative when dealing with disability issues, please report:

- 36. What guidelines or parameters has the State established to prevent the use of discriminatory terminology and discourse toward persons with disabilities on national television?
- 37. Indicate the number and proportion of persons with disabilities in the media who appear as news presenters, spokespersons, experts, and ordinary citizens in news content and current affairs, disaggregated by sex, age, and disability.

According to the State report<sup>5</sup>, the "*Red tejiendo justicia*" (Weaving Justice Network) is mentioned, which includes methods that reinforce lawyers' learning about the disability approach, as well as strategies such as the Guide for the Care of Persons with Disabilities in Access to Justice and the Protocol for Inclusive Care in Access to Justice for Persons with Disabilities of the Ministry of the Interior to train public servants. On this point, please specify:

38. In how many academic and government institutions has the "*Red tejiendo justicia*" tool been implemented? Specify in which areas of the country the institutions are located. Is the use of the tool mandatory for institutions?

#### Article 9. Accessibility.

The State report indicates<sup>6</sup> that Resolution 1519 of 2020 establishes guidelines for web access by persons with disabilities and requires the media (television) to ensure that all messages issued by the emergency authorities are transmitted in Colombian sign language. Given the importance of the official websites of government entities, please indicate:

- 39. Which government websites have accessibility measures for persons with disabilities? What are these accessibility measures and in which sectors are they found, for example, mailboxes for requests, complaints, and claims?
- 40. What accessibility strategies have been implemented since 2020 to bring accessibility to other areas of television besides emergency announcements, especially in national news and cultural programs?

Currently, Colombia lacks physical, communication, and conceptual accessibility across services that all people, including those with disabilities, must use on a daily basis and that are vital for people to enjoy their rights and enforce them before different authorities.

41. What measures has Colombia taken since 2016 to make notarial and judicial services with the State physically and communication-accessible throughout the country?

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Periodic report of Colombia (2021) under Article 35 of the Convention. October 10, 2023. CRPD/C/COL/2-4, paras. 24 and 25.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Ibid., para. 28.



42. How many government buildings in the country are physically accessible to persons with disabilities, and what measures have been taken within these buildings to make them accessible?

The State report notes<sup>7</sup> that projects such as the Relay Center ensure that persons with hearing disabilities can communicate easily, especially with entities such as the 123-emergency line, banks, and public service providers. In addition, the *ConverTIC* project seeks to promote access to digital content for people with visual disabilities, using Jaws and ZoomText software as fundamental tools. Please provide information on this.

- 43. When and how do you plan to restore the Relay Center service or similar strategies that have been suspended for nearly a year? Is there a plan to implement a public service of people who assist in person with communication for people with disabilities throughout the country, including rural areas?
- 44. If the programs mentioned are nationwide, how do they include all persons with disabilities, and how is it ensured that these services are permanent?
- 45. In what scenarios has access to programs such as the software described for persons with disabilities been financed and shared, and how do you plan to bring this technology to places that lack technological tools or internet access?

#### Article 10. Right to Life.

According to Article 250 of the Constitution, the Attorney General's Office is responsible for prosecuting crimes and investigating incidents that appear to constitute a crime that come to its attention. This work is carried out in conjunction with the National Police and its specialized unit, SIJIN (Judicial Intelligence and Investigation Section). Please indicate:

- 46. What training do officials from the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Police, and the SIJIN have in dealing with persons with disabilities after an event of violence and possible risk to the life of a person belonging to the population?
- 47. What is the protocol for care and protection for persons with disabilities who are victims of abuse and at risk of death at the time of reporting, protection, and physical and psychological care? Who are the actors involved in this protocol?

Given that the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP) has opened several macro cases on serious human rights violations, please indicate:

48. How many persons with disabilities are recognized as victims in the various macro cases of the Special Jurisdiction for Peace? Indicate by macro case.

Given the importance of the single national emergency line in Colombia as a channel for reporting and redirecting cases to the entities that a person with a disability may need to contact in an emergency, please indicate:

49. What training and capacity building do emergency line operators have to deal with, communicate with, and identify the needs of a person with a disability and know which entities to redirect them to?

#### Article 11. Risk Situations and Humanitarian Emergencies.

The State Report<sup>8</sup> indicates that the UARIV had managed to assist 1,197 victims with disabilities "through a comprehensive reparation strategy that strengthened capacities; 7,564 through a group-based emotional recovery strategy; and 1,457 through an individual emotional recovery strategy." With regard to these figures, please specify:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Ibid., para. 35.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., para. 40



- 50. How must a victim prove that they have a disability in order to access comprehensive care services and strategies, specifying the requirements, forms, and filters they must undergo to obtain this status?
- 51. How many victims with disabilities have been assisted by the UARIV through comprehensive reparation and emotional recovery strategies from 2016 to the present, disaggregated by persons with intellectual or cognit r disabilities, psychosocial, hearing, visual, and physical disabilities, as well as by gender, sexual orientation, age, and geographical location? Please also indicate the system used to identify them.
- 52. What specific actions have been taken to assist the disabled population who are victims of forced displacement, and what specific measures have been implemented to facilitate their return to the territory?
- 53. How many persons with disabilities have received administrative redress and how many are still awaiting redress?

The State report<sup>9</sup> established that the National Disaster Risk Management Plan "A Development Strategy 2015-2025," an instrument of the National Disaster Risk Management System, the strategy "Informed and Aware Society in Disaster Risk Management" was included, which contains the implementation of evacuation routes aimed at the population with disabilities and which strengthen the inclusion of persons with disabilities in this area. That said, please specify:

- 54. What risk management plans for persons with disabilities have been implemented in the country to date in all municipalities of Colombia, specifying their location? Do these plans have a differential approach to disability that allows for their operation and accessibility?
- 55. Proportion of civil protection, rescue, and emergency personnel, humanitarian workers, and members of the security forces who have received training on inclusive evacuation and early warning systems.
- 56. Proportion of humanitarian aid and emergency assistance expenditure specifically allocated to ensuring inclusive and accessible programs and services for persons with disabilities
- 57. Proportion of persons with disabilities who have had access to safe and decent housing in response to a natural disaster or humanitarian emergency and proportion of total beneficiaries, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, geographical location, and nature of the emergency

In the 2020 Joint Statement on Persons with Disabilities and COVID-19, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities established that States must guarantee persons with disabilities access to health services of the same variety, quality, and level of medical care as provided to other persons. Thus, taking into account the discriminatory treatment of persons with disabilities and older adults during the COVID-19 emergency in Colombia, please indicate:

- 58. What prevention and hospital treatment plans have been implemented since 2020 to address the needs of persons with disabilities in epidemic and pandemic outbreaks?
- 59. How has the Colombian State complied with ruling T-237 of 2023, which establishes the obligation to "promote the regulatory adjustments it deems necessary to adopt a general and binding act containing the general technical, ethical, and legal framework, with a bioethical and human rights approach, on prioritization exercises in exceptional situations"?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Ibid., para. 45.



#### Article 12. Equal recognition as a person before the law.

Law 1996 of 2019, in Article 56, established a period of 36 months from the entry into force of said law for family judges who had initiated disqualification proceedings to review these measures and determine whether the persons with disabilities involved in them required a judicial award of support. This period expired in 2024 and the review of these disqualification measures was not completed. On this point, please indicate:

- 60. How many interdictions and disqualifications have been reviewed from 2021 to date? And how many interdiction and disqualification rulings are currently pending review?
- 61. What measures has the State taken to ensure that judges throughout the country, including those in courts in hard-to-reach areas, can apply the provisions of Law 1996 of 2019?
- 62. How many complaints and reports have been received regarding the denial of services in notary offices for the formalization of support since 2019 to date? How have these been addressed and what sanctions have been imposed in this regard?

Article 14 of Law 1996 of 2019 provides a mechanism that guarantees the necessary support for persons with disabilities who do not have trusted persons to designate as support, in which case the family judge will designate a personal defender from the Ombudsman's Office. On this point, please indicate:

63. How many personal defenders have been assigned from 2019 to the present, for what legal acts have they been designated, and in what parts of the country?

#### Article 13 - Access to justice.

Paragraph 58 of Colombia's report to the Committee in 2021 mentioned the implementation of the Single Criminal Information System as a module for receiving complaints, which allows information to be collected for criminal reports and enables the registration of any participants in the process who have a disability. Please indicate:

64. What are the complaint and public information systems on criminal proceedings that have accessibility measures for persons with disabilities so that they can file complaints and find out about the status of a proceeding?

The Colombian judicial system is often inaccessible to persons with disabilities, even when they are the subjects of protection in judicial proceedings. In addition, their ability to intervene in their own cases and express their wishes and opinions is often underestimated, and they are not provided with the necessary measures to participate in the justice system. Please indicate:

- 65. Number and proportion of persons with disabilities holding positions as judges, prosecutors, etc., within the judicial system and related institutions, disaggregated by age, sex, disability, position, and sector of the judiciary/judicial system.
- 66. Budget allocated and spent on measures to promote access to justice for persons with disabilities and their participation in the judicial system, explicitly including (a) legal aid for persons with dis r disabilities, (b) training for judges, prosecutors, etc., and (c) the provision of procedural accommodations for persons with disabilities.
- 67. What measures has the State taken to ensure the effective participation of persons with disabilities in judicial proceedings, including administrative, disciplinary, conciliatory, and other proceedings? (By participation, we mean



- access, participation in hearings, questioning, testimony, review, consultation of proceedings, among others).
- 68. What measures has the State adopted to incorporate differential approaches and ensure the effective participation of children and adolescents with disabilities in the development of judicial proceedings?

# Articles 14, 15, and 19. Liberty and security of the person / Protection from torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment / Inclusion in the community.

Institutionalization continues to violate the freedom of persons with disabilities, especially in the case of persons with psychosocial disabilities, who are institutionalized because they lack support systems, due to crisis situations, or because of their family members, among other reasons. Within the framework of institutionalization, mental health institutions have historically been involved in cruel and degrading treatment of persons with disabilities. Furthermore, the institutionalization of persons with disabilities leads to their isolation and lack of protection. With this in mind, indicate:

- 69. Number of persons with disabilities deprived of liberty in psychiatric centers for hospitalized patients or similar institutions, and proportion of those who have been informed of their rights to be released and to receive various forms of economic and social support.
- 70. Proportion of complaints received about deprivation of liberty on grounds of disability that have been investigated and resolved; proportion of these resolved in favor of the complainant, and proportion of the latter enforced by the government or the responsible party.
- 71. What are the complaint and legal advice mechanisms in cases of involuntary treatment or ill-treatment within mental health institutions and prisons in the country that have been established by the government?
- 72. What progress has been made in Colombia in terms of prohibiting coercive measures against persons with disabilities, including isolation, mechanical and pharmacological restraint, psychosurgery, forced medication, long-acting psychopharmacological injections, electroconvulsive therapy, and forced treatment in crisis situations?
- 73. What type of protocol or process do the authorities and health personnel follow in times of crisis to determine whether or not a person can give consent? What safeguards are in place at this time to prevent institutionalization?

The State Report<sup>10</sup> mentions that there are mental health units within prisons in Cali and Bogotá that have specialized staff to provide care. As of 2021, there were 95 people in these units. In addition, the Prison and Penitentiary Services Unit (USPEC) manages and operates the supply of goods, services, infrastructure, and logistical and administrative support to ensure that the prisons under the INPEC's responsibility function properly. Please indicate:

- 74. How many persons with disabilities are in prisons throughout the country? Please provide a breakdown by location, type of disability, gender, age, ethnicity, and race.
- 75. What criteria are used to determine which persons with disabilities should be taken to mental health units or prisons and how long they should remain there? Please differentiate between the types of care provided and where they are provided.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Ibid., paras. 72 and 73.



The State Report<sup>11</sup> mentions that one of the objectives of the 2018-2022 National Development Plan is to strengthen care for the social and productive inclusion of persons with disabilities and caregivers. This is reinforced by Law 2297 of 2023, which, in theory, seeks to contribute to the autonomy of persons with disabilities and the labor inclusion and opportunities of caregivers, but focuses only on the latter group. Please report on the following:

- 76. What community-based public care programs and services currently exist in the country and where are they located? Which institutions are responsible for them and how many people receive these care services?
- 77. What programs exist at the national level to train and certify support persons in their different modalities, such as personal assistance and home support? Which institutions are responsible for them?
- 78. What programs are available to train and support people who provide assistance and care within the home but are not specialized in providing this type of care? Specify the coverage of these programs, the area of the country they serve, the cost of these programs, and which institutions are responsible for them.

Given that there are care centers in the District of Bogotá, such as the *Centros Integrarte de atención interna*, designed for people who need 24-hour care and do not have a support system to provide it, and that these centers have long waiting lists and a large number of people inside, please answer the following questions:

- 79. What strategies does Colombia have in place to provide equitable care and support services for persons with disabilities living in poverty and social abandonment, especially outside the district of Bogotá?
- 80. What follow-up and review measures does Colombia establish for care centers for persons with disabilities in situations of social abandonment and poverty, in order to ensure that these persons have contact with the community and are in optimal conditions? How often are these reviews conducted?

In line with the deinstitutionalization guidelines issued by the CRPD Committee, which develop part of the content of the right to independent living in the community, please report on the following:

- 81. What progress has been made on the CRPD Committee's 2016 recommendation to implement a plan for the deinstitutionalization of persons with disabilities, in close consultation with organizations of persons with disabilities, with specific time frames and sufficient resources for its implementation?
- 82. What is the number and proportion of persons with disabilities currently living in permanent care institutions, broken down by age, sex, gender, ethnic origin, disability, type of institution, and length of institutionalization?

## Articles 16 and 17. Protection from exploitation, violence, and abuse, and protection of personal integrity

Given that violence of any kind is an act against personal integrity that also affects children, adolescents, and adults with disabilities, please provide information on:

83. What are the differential care protocols for persons with disabilities that the Attorney General's Office has in place for receiving complaints in cases involving adults with disabilities and the ICBF in cases involving minors?

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Ibid., para. 87.



84. Please indicate shelters and other temporary residences for victims of violence that are fully accessible in terms of physical environment and communication by city/region.

The State Report<sup>12</sup> mentions Resolution 429 of 2016, which "adopts the Comprehensive Health Care Policy," which has a Comprehensive Health Care Model that is relevant in cases of sexual abuse. Resolution 3202 of 2016 was also mentioned. which prioritizes persons with disabilities as one of the groups at risk of assault, accidents, and trauma. In this regard, please indicate:

- 85. How does comprehensive health care for victims with disabilities in cases of violence, exploitation, and abuse of various kinds work in detail? Be particularly specific in the case of hospitals with emergency services, where service is often slow and revictimizing.
- 86. How does the health system coordinate with the main reporting systems and other medical authorities, such as the National Institute of Legal Medicine, the police, or the public prosecutor's office, when a person with disabilities reports that they are suffering violence and/or exploitation?

In Colombia, social protest is a right that is constantly repressed by the security forces. especially by the then Mobile Anti-Riot Squad (ESMAD)<sup>13</sup>. In the context of the social unrest of 2019 and 2021, this repression left hundreds of victims, including people with eye injuries. In 2021 alone, from April 28 to July 20, 103 cases of eye injuries were reported through the GRITA platform of Temblores NGO, meaning that every 0.81 days there was an injury of this type in the context of the national strike<sup>14</sup>. Please indicate:

- 87. What is the status of the cases and investigations in favor of the victims of eye injuries in the context of the social unrest? What have been the results?
- 88. What measures have been taken to compensate victims of eye injuries in the context of the social unrest, and what have been the results of these measures?

#### Article 18. Freedom of movement and nationality.

Given that it is a right of persons with disabilities to move within and outside Colombia. both for the purpose of permanent migration to other territories, and for recreational and study purposes, among others, and that persons with disabilities traveling alone to other destinations may encounter administrative and attitudinal barriers to exercising this right, please indicate:

- 89. Number and proportion of stateless persons with disabilities compared to the total number of stateless persons, disaggregated by age, sex, and disability.
- 90. What are the adapted procedures, reasonable accommodations, and accessible formats provided to persons with disabilities in spaces such as airports to ensure their safe transit to other countries?
- 91. Number of requests for reasonable accommodation submitted by persons with disabilities and proportion of requests granted in relation to processes of: residence, naturalization/citizenship, and obtaining identity documents.
- 92. What training is provided to migration and border control personnel to enable them to deal with, communicate with, and provide reasonable accommodation to persons with disabilities in transit to other countries?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Ibid., para. 79.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Today it is known as the Dialogue and Order Maintenance Unit (UNDMO).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Temblores, PAIIS, Amnesty International (2021). Shots in plain sight: eye injuries during the national strike. Retrieved from:

https://www.amnesty.org/es/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2021/11/AMR2350052021SPANISH.pdf



93. Number and proportion of decisions granting or denying entry, exit, residence, nationality, asylum or refugee status, or the issuance of identity documents, disaggregated by age, sex, disability, ethnicity, country of origin and, where applicable, reason for denial.

The State Report indicates<sup>15</sup> that there are two ways to acquire Colombian nationality, namely by birth and by adoption. Likewise, Law 43 of February 1, 1993, "Establishing the rules governing the acquisition, loss, renunciation, and recovery of Colombian nationality," establishes in Article 8 the requirements for adopting Colombian nationality, which include knowledge tests. Please indicate:

94. Are there any measures to relax requirements in the adoption and renunciation of nationality processes, such as in knowledge tests, among other reasonable adjustments for persons with disabilities?

#### Article 20. Personal Mobility.

Given that Colombia lacks physical accessibility in public spaces such as transportation stations, bridges, sidewalks, public institutions, and parks, among others, and that these physical barriers impede people's mobility and their ability to spend time outdoors, please indicate:

- 95. Has Colombia conducted any studies to determine the architectural situation in cities and rural areas in terms of ease of travel and independent movement for persons with disabilities?
- 96. If so, what plans are currently being developed in the country to modify public spaces? Please specify the specific measures that will be implemented, the location of these improvements in the country, and their projected impact.

Given that the National Development Plan (2018-2026) includes the obligation to create a National Accessibility Plan, and that this had been recommended by the Committee itself in its Concluding Observations to Colombia in 2016, please indicate:

- 1. What regulatory progress has been made on air, rail, sea, river, and road passenger transport that incorporates mandatory accessibility standards for persons with disabilities in these modes of transport?
- 2. What is the status of compliance with the National Accessibility Plan?

In the district of Bogotá, there is a transport subsidy for persons with disabilities consisting of a monthly contribution of 29,500 pesos that is credited to *TuLlave* cards for access to the *Transmilenio*. The UN's 2021 Situational Analysis of Persons with Disabilities<sup>16</sup> found that, despite the fact that the Ministry of Transport had issued 16 administrative acts regulating Statutory Law 1618 of 2013 to guarantee universal mobility and accessibility for all persons to air, land, and water transport systems, this remains a highly unsatisfactory system for persons with disabilities. Please indicate your response to this.

- 97. What public transportation accessibility projects for people with disabilities have been proposed by the Ministry of Transportation and implemented or planned for the future in national transportation systems?
- 98. Are there currently any measures proposed by the Ministry of Transport to guarantee free access or subsidies, such as those in Bogotá, for persons with disabilities to public transport systems throughout the country?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Periodic report of Colombia (2021) under Article 35 of the Convention. October 10, 2023. CRPD/C/COL/2-4, paras. 85 and 86.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women (2021). Situational analysis of persons with disabilities. Retrieved from:

https://colombia.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2022-05/Discapacidad.pdf



In the report, the State mentions<sup>17</sup> that the Health Benefits Plan (PBS) covers all types of hearing aids, external prostheses and orthoses of any kind, and items such as ocular prostheses and external ophthalmic lenses. On the other hand, it was established that the State grants certain mobility aids such as walkers, canes, and crutches on loan. However, the frequency and permanent nature of the need for these technological assistance devices makes it essential that there be a wide and renewed supply of these items in the country. Based on this, indicate:

- 99. Number of persons with disabilities who benefit from specific measures, such as tax and customs exemptions, and from financial assistance or subsidies to purchase mobility aids, devices, and technologies, broken down by age, sex, disability, geographical location, and type of measure.
- 100. What actions are being taken to ensure that medical devices recognized in Chapter 5 of Resolution No. 2718 of 2024, such as walkers, canes, and crutches, are provided permanently and free of charge to persons with disabilities. rather than on loan?

#### Article 21. Freedom of Expression, Opinion, and Access to Information.

The State Report states<sup>18</sup> that the *MinTIC*, through Resolution 1519 of 2020, promotes the use of Colombian sign language and information in formats accessible to persons with disabilities in both public and private institutions. According to this, report:

- 101. Proportion of television broadcasts and proportion of time that includes sign language interpretation, audio description, subtitling, and other accessibility features and media, broken down by media ownership (private/public), type of broadcast (news/other programs, including children's programs), and the accessibility tools or features offered
- 102. Are there courses in public higher education or technical training institutions such as SENA that facilitate and certify the learning of sign language, so that more people have the opportunity to train to provide this service? In which institutions are these courses given, where in the country are they located, and what type of accreditation do they provide?
- 103. Are there regulations that make it mandatory for the mass media to cover events of national interest with accessibility and interpretation measures in order to be able to broadcast them?

### Articles 22, 25, and 26. Respect for Privacy / Right to Health / Right to Rehabilitation

To guarantee the right to privacy, it is essential to enable persons with disabilities to know their own rights. This is the case with the lack of information about their sexual and reproductive rights, which results in their choices being conditioned by the opinion and intervention of third parties in processes that should be individual and private. Indicate:

104. Number of private actors, in particular health and rehabilitation service providers and institutions, that have adopted a privacy policy that is inclusive of persons with disabilities, including measures against the unjustified disclosure of personal information relating to disability and health.

There are attitudinal, physical, and information access barriers that prevent persons with disabilities from enjoying their right to health. This is because consultations,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Ibid., paras. 88 and 89.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Ibid., para. 90.



materials, and infrastructure in medical centers are inaccessible to persons with disabilities. In this regard, please report:

- 105. Proportion of clinics, hospitals, and other facilities providing health services that meet national accessibility standards, including accessibility to buildings and environments, medical and health equipment, information, and communications. What has been the annual investment of the health sector to guarantee the right to health of persons with disabilities for the years 2017-2025, and how is its implementation monitored? Disaggregate by care segments (promotion, prevention, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, and territorial levels).
- 106. Are there specific health care guidelines for persons with disabilities? List them and specify how they are implemented in health centers throughout the country.
- 107. What protocols has the Ministry of Health developed to ensure that persons whose disability hinders their communication can attend medical consultations and meet their medical needs on an equal basis with others? How is compliance with these protocols monitored in health care providers?
- 108. What protocols have been implemented in the country's health centers to ensure that medical, surgical, pharmacological, and other treatments are carried out only with the free and informed consent of the person with a disability, eliminating practices such as authorizations from caregivers without direct consultation?
- 109. What mechanisms does the Superintendency of Health use to monitor and control administrative and physical barriers that hinder timely access to medical appointments, specialized treatment, and rehabilitation for persons with disabilities in the various health care providers in the country?

The Colombian Prison and Penitentiary Code provides for the existence of detention facilities for persons who are not criminally responsible due to permanent or temporary mental disorders with a pathological basis, and that these facilities are intended to house and rehabilitate persons who have committed a criminal offense and have a supervening mental disorder. According to the Ministry of Justice<sup>19</sup>, there are thousands of people with different types of disabilities in prisons within the country. Please explain:

- 110. How is the health and survival of persons with disabilities in prisons in the country and in detention facilities for persons with permanent or temporary mental disorders who are not criminally responsible guaranteed? How many persons with knowledge of disabilities are there per prison in the country?
- 111. What medical and rehabilitation treatment is available to persons with disabilities in prisons in the country? For what types of treatment must they leave prison?
- 112. How should persons with disabilities request medical and rehabilitation treatment, to whom should they apply, how long does it take for approval, and what are the steps to ensure that they receive it?

Law 1618 of 2013 establishes that all ministries and entities of the national government shall guarantee comprehensive habilitation and rehabilitation services for children with disabilities so that they can enjoy their rights at all times and structure and maintain mechanisms for guidance and support for their families.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Ministry of Justice and Law (2020). *Demographic situation of persons with disabilities in prisons and detention centers*. Retrieved from:

https://repositorio.minjusticia.gov.co/politicacriminal/CAPSULA%20PERSONAS%20EN%20CONDICION%20DISCAPACIDAD.pdf



It also establishes that the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, or whoever acts on its behalf, shall establish mechanisms to guarantee research, detection services, and comprehensive early care for disabilities. In this regard, please indicate:

- 113. What comprehensive habilitation and rehabilitation programs for children and adolescents with disabilities currently exist and where in the country are they implemented? How is it ensured that children and adolescents in state custody have access to these services?
- 114. What is the budget and what research programs are currently aimed at finding better forms of treatment and rehabilitation for persons with disabilities, as well as early detection of disabilities?

#### Article 24. Education.

Given that Colombia has not provided precise figures on children and adolescents with disabilities who are in the education system, please provide the following information:

- 115. Rates of persons with disabilities in relation to enrollment, attendance, promotion by grade, completion
- 116. School dropout rates in regular primary, secondary, and higher education institutions, vocational training, and lifelong learning courses, compared to other persons, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, minority, indigenous origin, grade, and level of education.

<sup>20</sup>The State Report refers to the strategy of actively seeking to enroll children over the age of 5 in educational establishments close to their place of residence. Please explain:

- 117. What are the results and how do you plan to continue these search campaigns for children with disabilities in terms of actual enrolment? Please emphasize rural areas of the country.
- 118. Are there mechanisms for monitoring and supervising the education provided to children and adolescents with disabilities in educational institutions that report having this type of student in order to monitor the quality of education and the adjustments provided? If so, explain how this is done, in which parts of the country, how often, and what the results are.
- <sup>21</sup> Also mentions that Colombia has provided accessible resources and materials to develop cultural, artistic, and recreational experiences that promote diversity, play, literature, and artistic expression. In addition, a diploma course entitled "DUA: Strategies and Resources for Addressing Diversity" was held, and INCI printed 32,811 books, texts, and materials for people with visual disabilities, as well as offering courses for people with visual disabilities. In light of the above, please answer the following questions:
  - 119. What are the institutions and processes that guarantee the distribution and use of educational resources for persons with disabilities in all areas of the country? How have these been distributed, broken down by educational level, area of the country, and type of material?
  - 120. What technological development programs has the Ministry of Education implemented from 2016 to the present to ensure that children, adolescents, and adults with disabilities have access to technological resources and means to fully participate in educational and recreational activities? Report on the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Ibid., para. 102.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Ibid., para. 103.



progress in the implementation of these programs, disaggregated by number of institutions, their location, and the technology programs being implemented.

In Colombia, students with disabilities face difficulties in continuing their education. First, there are obstacles in the transition from secondary to higher education, as well as barriers to entry and retention in higher education, due to the lack of clear regulations that oblige universities to implement inclusion and accessibility tools such as reasonable adjustments. This is due to the university autonomy established by Law 30 of 1992. Please explain:

- 121. What public vocational guidance programs have been developed at the national level to provide practical tools, knowledge, and vocational guidance to persons with disabilities who are nearing the completion of their secondary education? Report on where in the country and how this type of guidance has been provided to young persons with disabilities.
- 122. Are there currently any bills aimed at extending the application of inclusion and accessibility tools, such as those provided for in Decree 1421 of 2017, to higher education, given that there are currently no clear regulations in this regard?

Colombia has worrying illiteracy rates among persons with disabilities, who account for 17% of the illiterate population, compared to only 5% of the general population. This reflects a lack of access to education for persons with disabilities, even in adulthood. Please respond to the following questions:

123. What educational initiatives have been implemented since 2016 to include adults with disabilities who are not enrolled in school in the education system, and what are the enrollment rates of adults with disabilities in the national education system? Please describe this, broken down by location in the country and type of institution.

#### **Article 27. Work and Employment**

The report mentions<sup>22</sup> that in 2017, the Ministry of Labor went from issuing 607 certificates to employers with workers with disabilities on their payroll to issuing 4,290 certificates as of December 2020, representing an increase of more than seven times those issued before Decree 392 of February 26, 2018. "Regulating paragraphs 1 and 8 of Article 13 of Law 1618 of 2013 on incentives in hiring processes in favor of persons with disabilities." Taking this into account, please indicate:

124. What is the number of persons with disabilities of working age who are employed under an employment or service contract? Describe this by disaggregating by gender, type of disability, age, location in the country, type of contract, salary range, and position held. In addition, indicate what mechanisms exist to verify that persons with disabilities in employment receive the same pay for the same work, as well as opportunities for promotion in employment.

The main function of occupational risk insurance companies in Colombia is to work with companies to identify and control risks in the workplace, which applies to persons with disabilities in the workplace. In addition, in order to prevent occupational accidents and illnesses, occupational risk insurance companies must provide training programs on topics related to risk prevention and improving quality of life at work. Based on the above, please indicate:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Ibid., para. 119.



- 125. How do Occupational Risk Insurance Companies verify the suitability of reasonable adjustments in the jobs held by persons with disabilities, and what criteria do they use to do so?
- 126. How does Colombian labor legislation enforce reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities in the workplace, and what monitoring and enforcement mechanisms exist for companies that do not implement them?

It is also reported<sup>23</sup> that Colombia promotes and guarantees the right to work in formal employment. Thus, to encourage the hiring of persons with disabilities in the private sector, it is stipulated that state entities must award one percent (1%) of the total points established in the specifications to bidders who can prove that they have workers with disabilities on their staff. On this point, please report:

- 127. Which companies listed in the RUP have disabled staff? Report on where in the country they are located, as well as the type of contract, gender, and type of disability of the workers.
- 128. What are the labor inclusion policies that exist in 2025 and that are projected for the following years to effectively and on a larger scale stimulate the hiring of workers with disabilities in different areas of the private sector?

Colombia reports<sup>24</sup> that in 2021, the Public Employment Service Unit made a virtual course available to the PES provider network for civil servants with the aim of strengthening skills for the labor inclusion of persons with disabilities. Within the framework of this course, 205 trainees from 73 employment centers have been certified. Please indicate:

129. How is the impact of awareness-raising courses such as those offered by the PES on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in employment measured? Are there plans to offer this type of course to private sector employers in order to strengthen their skills in the inclusion of persons with disabilities?

#### Article 28. Adequate Standard of Living and Social Protection.

Given that the population with disabilities in Colombia is a group that is particularly vulnerable to problems such as unemployment, lack of education, and the inability to live independently, which in turn translates into higher levels of poverty and lower quality of life, please indicate:

- 130. How many persons with disabilities are in income quintiles 1, 2, and 3 in Colombia? Disaggregate by gender, age range, type of disability, and geographic location.
- 131. With regard to persons with disabilities who are registered with SISBEN, how many of them are classified in groups A (extreme poverty), B (moderate poverty), and C (vulnerability)? Classify this information by gender, age, type of disability, and geographical location.
- 132. How many persons with disabilities are currently affiliated with the Social Security System with pension contributions, and how many are currently receiving pensions? Classify this information by gender, age, type of disability, and geographic location.
- 133. What institutional subsidies or cash transfers and other benefits are available to address the economic difficulties of persons with disabilities? If none exist, please indicate what mechanisms have been proposed to provide economic support and services specifically for persons with disabilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Ibid., para. 122.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Ibid., para. 217.



134. What subsidies and assistance do the State provide to promote access to housing for persons with disabilities in order to facilitate their independent living? How can persons with disabilities access these subsidies and how many have benefited from them?

#### Article 29. Participation in Political and Public Life.

In compliance with the provisions of the CRPD regarding the duty to promote and ensure the political participation of persons with disabilities in society, Colombia issued Decree 1350 of 2018, which establishes measures for the creation and operation of organizations of persons with disabilities that represent them. Regarding the above, please indicate:

- 135. How are consultations with organizations representing persons with disabilities being carried out in the design of plans, public policies, and regulatory mechanisms that affect them? In what plans, public policies, and regulatory mechanisms have they been consulted?
- 136. Is there any obligation to consult and obtain the approval of representative organizations and persons with disabilities in cases involving public policies, government plans, and regulations that are intended to impact the population with disabilities?
- 137. Of the entities and groups that make up the National Disability System, how many and which organizations representing persons with disabilities have been participating in the system since 2018?
- 138. How is the leadership of persons with disabilities in the National Disability System guaranteed?

Colombia indicates<sup>25</sup> that reasonable adjustments and affirmative actions have been implemented, such as accessibility at polling stations, the protocol for assisting persons with disabilities in registering to vote, support materials in Braille, and voting companions during elections. Please answer the following guestions:

- 139. Where in the country and how have reasonable adjustments and affirmative action been implemented in the electoral process? Please differentiate between voter registration, support materials in Braille, and assistance at polling stations.
- 140. What investment has been made in training electoral witnesses with disabilities in electoral processes, and what have been the results of this participation?
- 141. How has the right to vote and participate been promoted and guaranteed for persons with disabilities institutionalized in psychiatric facilities and persons with disabilities deprived of their liberty?
- 142. What education and information strategies and campaigns are in place with regard to the levels of political participation and the rights of persons with disabilities to exercise them, targeting this population and their families?
- 143. How many persons with disabilities participate in representative positions at different levels of participation and how many of them are elected? Please describe this, specifying the municipal, departmental, and national levels.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Ibid., para. 135.



## Article 30. Participation in Cultural Life, Recreational Activities, Leisure, and Sports.

<sup>26</sup>The State indicates that it has promoted the National Program for Cultural Coordination (PNCC) to facilitate and raise awareness of cultural activities of common interest through the provision of financial resources. Thus, one of the lines of this program is "Cultural Practices of Persons with Disabilities." In turn, it is explained that for the 2016-2020 period, *MinCultura* supported 272 projects in this line, with cofinancing corresponding to \$4,343,800,000 COP. On this, indicate:

- 144. What projects has the National Cultural Coordination Program supported from 2020 to the present with regard to artistic and cultural projects for persons with disabilities? How many people have benefited from these artistic projects and in which cities of the country where they carried out?
- 145. What is the budget that Colombia has allocated and will allocate to the areas of art, culture, and sports for persons with disabilities? How do you plan to distribute this budget?

In 2024, Colombia ranked 19th in the Paris Paralympic Games with a total of 28 medals. Colombia thus performed better in the Paralympics than in the Olympics, despite the difficulties that athletes with disabilities can face in terms of funding and opportunities. Please indicate:

- 146. What financial assistance and incentives, including the provision of sports and recreational equipment, are provided to sports and recreation centers that work with persons with disabilities in the country? What is the nature of this assistance, where in the country is it provided, and how many persons with disabilities benefit from it?
- 147. What measures to promote and finance sport for persons with disabilities are currently in place and planned for the future to ensure better opportunities for sports development and competition for persons with disabilities?
- 148. What are the standards and channels of national coverage that will be provided for future Paralympic Games, as well as other sporting competitions in which persons with disabilities are registered, in order to ensure that they receive the same visibility as competitions for persons without disabilities?

#### Article 31. Data collection and statistics.

There are currently several database systems in Colombia that register persons with disabilities, such as the Single Victims Registry, the Integrated Social Protection Information System, and others such as the Single Location and Characterization Registry, whose purpose is to register all persons with disabilities in the country. In this regard, please indicate:

- 149. What actions is the State taking to unify or enable effective crossreferencing of information between databases so that intersectional and comprehensive data on persons with disabilities can be obtained?
- 150. What advertising and information campaigns have been developed since 2016 to communicate the existence, importance, and benefits for a person with a disability of being registered in the Single Registry for Location and Characterization? Through what media has this advertising and information been disseminated?

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Ibid., para. 139.



Colombia mentions<sup>27</sup> that information on persons with disabilities is collected throughout the country from the Quality-of-Life Survey (ECV), which is conducted annually, as well as from the National Population and Housing Census (CNPV). However, persons with disabilities are underreported in the country due to a variety of factors, such as lack of knowledge about disability and the formulation of disparate questions, which are collected in a manner that is not very rigorous. In this regard, please answer the following:

- 151. How often are the standards and characteristics measured in the Quality-of-Life Survey (ECV) and the National Population and Housing Census (CNPV) updated in Colombia, and on what factors are these updates based?
- 152. How are the standards of the Washington Group or the United Nations Statistical Commission study group implemented in DANE surveys? What plans exist to implement a comprehensive survey to investigate in depth the number, location, and characteristics of the population with disabilities in Colombia, taking into account these standards?
- 153. Are the people who conduct the surveys throughout the country trained to ask questions about disability and to communicate with people who do in fact have a disability?
- 154. How does DANE work to ensure that it reaches rural and peripheral locations in the country where persons with disabilities can be found to be surveyed?



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Ibid., para. 145.