COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
Day of General Discussion on "Accessibility"
OHCHR, Palais des Nations, Room XX (Building E)

Geneva, 7 October 2010
PROGRAMME

10:00-10:10   Opening remarks:
- Mr. Ronald McCallum, Chairperson, CRPD Committee

10: 10 – 10:25   **Key note address:**
Address by HRH Prince Ra'ad bin Zeid, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to be delivered by Mr. Mohammed Al-Tarawneh on His Royal Highness's behalf

10:25 – 10:35   Introduction to the Sessions:
- Mr. Craig Mokhiber, ai. Director, Research and Right to Development Division, OHCHR

10:35 – 10:50   Short Break

10:50-13:00	**Session-I The right to access on an equal basis with others to the physical environment and transportation**

Chairperson: Mr. Mohammed Al-Tarawneh, Vice-Chair of CRPD Committee, Chair of CRPD Working Group on Accessibility

Brief Presentation: Ms. Charlotte McClain-Nhlapo, Senior Operations Officer, East Asia and Pacific/ Africa, World Bank
Ms. Valerie Karr, Executive Director, the Atlas Council
followed by: **open discussions**

Resource person: Mr. Germán Xavier Torres Correa, Member, CRPD Committee

Rapporteurs: Ms. Edah Maina, Rapporteur, CRPD Committee
Mr. Cveto Uršič, Member, CRPD Committee

Discussion in this session will focus among others on: New proposals for the elimination of obstacles and barriers to physical accessibility; definition of international indicators of minimum standards and guidelines for the accessibility of facilities and services open or provided to the public; defining the concept of "Universal design"; measures concerning the provision of appropriate means of transportation; reservations to Article 9.

13:00-15:00   Lunch break

15:00-16:00	**Session II: The right to access on an equal basis with others to virtual and material information and communications**

Chairperson: Ms. Jia Yang, Vice-Chair of CRPD Committee, Member of the CRPD Working Group on Accessibility

Brief Presentations: Mr. Axel Leblois, Executive Director, G3ict - Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs
Mr. Paal Peterson, Member, World Federation of the Deaf Expert Group for CRPD
followed by: **open discussions**

Resource person: Ms. María Soledad Cisternas Reyes, Member, CRPD Committee

Rapporteurs: Mr. György Könczei, Member, CRPD Committee
Ms. Amna Al-Suwaidi, Member, CRPD Committee

Discussion in this session will focus among others on developing inclusive policies for persons with disabilities to access virtual and material information and knowledge; developing concrete and specific international indicators (standards) concerning virtual and material web accessibility, regarding computers and mobile phones; international cooperation and partnerships for the purposes of communication accessibility; raising awareness about existing opportunities for persons with disabilities.

16:00-16:15   Break

16:15-17:15	**Session III: Discussion of the best practices on the implementation and promotion of Accessibility**

Chairperson: **Mr. Monsur Ahmed Chowdhury, Member,** CRPD Working Group on Accessibility

Brief Presentation: Ms. Janet E. Lord, Legal Advisor, Disability Awareness, Rights and Education
followed by: **open discussions**

Resource person: Ms. Ana Peláez Narváez, Vice-Chair of the CRPD Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Lotfi Ben Lallahom, Member, CRPD Committee

Discussion in this session will focus among others on practical measures for the implementation and fulfillment of Accessibility; scope of Accessibility and its linkage with other rights; the challenges of the effective implementation of the obligations arising under Article 9 and practical measures to provide training for stakeholders on evaluating accessibility; the role of independent monitoring bodies.

17:15-17:25   Break

17:25 – 17:40   Presentation of Working Group conclusions by Rapporteurs
17:40-17:50   Concluding Comments:
   ▪ Mr. Mohammed Al-Tarawneh, Chair of CRPD Working Group on Accessibility
17:50-18:00   Closing remarks:
   ▪ Mr. Ronald McCallum, Chairperson, CRPD Committee
   ▪ Mr. Ibrahim Salama, Director, Human Rights Treaties Division, OHCHR