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International Disability In Sport Working Group

January 30, 2006

Agenda

- Welcome
- Introductions
- Description of the Working Group
  - UN Disability Treaty – Article 30
  - Mission, Goals & Objectives
  - Operational Policy
- Role Assignments Discussion

Article 30

Article 30
Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport

5. With a view to enabling persons with disabilities to participate on an equal basis with others in recreational, leisure and sporting activities, States Parties shall take appropriate measures:

(a) To encourage and promote the participation, to the fullest extent possible, of persons with disabilities in mainstream sporting activities at all levels;

(b) To ensure that persons with disabilities have an opportunity to organize, develop and participate in disability-specific sporting and recreational activities, and to this end, encourage the provision, on an equal basis with others, of appropriate instruction, training and resources;

(c) To ensure that persons with disabilities have access to sporting and recreational and tourism venues;

(d) To ensure that children with disabilities have equal access to participation in play, recreation, and leisure and sporting activities, including those in the school system;

(e) To ensure that persons with disabilities have access to services from those involved in the organization of recreational, tourism, leisure and sporting activities.

Mission

The mission of the International Disability In Sport Working Group, in accordance with Article 30 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights and Dignity of People with Disabilities, is to advance and protect people with disabilities' human rights as they relate to sport.

Goals & Objectives

1. To promote the advancement of human rights for people with disabilities as they relate to sport

- Increase awareness of people with disabilities' human rights related to sport through newsletters, conferences, and other educational campaigns.
- Facilitate the cooperation of key players of people with a disability in sport, including but not limited to, International Committee for Deaflympics, International Paralympic Committee, and Special Olympics International.
- Develop an Athletes Declaration outlining the human rights of athletes with disabilities.

Goals & Objectives

2. To monitor the status of people with a disabilities' right to sport in all regions of the world.

- Report the status of programmes and policies that target people with disabilities' right to sport.
- Develop and support national committees that create Situation Reports on the status of human rights for people with disabilities as they relate to sport in their respective countries and global regions.

Goals & Objectives

3. To develop and support research that enhances people with disabilities' human rights to sport.

- Provide resources and materials to organizations that conduct research supports the mission of the working group.
- Advocate for increased funding of research on the human rights of people with disabilities as they relate to sport.
- Provide professional consultation to individual researchers, universities, NGOs and GO's to advance the realization of the human rights of people with disabilities related to sport.

Goals & Objectives

4. To develop and support sport and physical activity programmes for people with disabilities.

- - Train and educate athletes, coaches, service providers, NGO's, GO's and communities on sport and human rights as they relate to people with disabilities.
- Provide a forum for organizations to network, disseminate programme ideas and program developments.

Operational Policy

1. Meetings

- Meetings take place, at minimum, on twice annual basis via phone conference.
- The initial IDISWG meeting will take place in person at the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee Meetings in New York City, January 2006.
- The official language of meetings will be English. If translation is needed, it is the responsibility of the member to provide it on their own behalf.
- Every four (4) years a Disability in Sport World Conference will be held. The country chosen to host the World Conference will be determined by IDISWG members.
- Observers are welcome with the approval of co-chairs.

Operational Policy

2. Leadership

- There will be two Co-Chairs directly responsible for the work of the IDISWG. One Co-Chair is preferably from the country hosting the next World Conference on Disability and Sport and is primarily responsible for the Conference. The second Co-Chair is selected by IDISWG members. Roles and duties are balanced between the Co-Chairs and allocated according to skills, experience and capacity.
- One Secretariat, selected by members, is charged with overseeing the two chairs and regional representatives.
- One regional representative will be elected from each of the following regions: Africa, Americas and the Caribbean, Asia, Europe, and Oceania. Regional members will be responsible for creating and maintaining networks within their geographic regions and providing the IDISWG with regional status updates.

Operational Policy

- **3. Membership.**
- There are two levels of membership: Organizational and Individual.
  - Organizations have the ability to cast one vote for secretariat, Co-Chairs and regional representatives. Organizations must have a demonstrated commitment to disability in sport and human rights. Organizations will be actively engaged in research and making contributions to monitoring reports provided that their organization is not being evaluated.
  - Individual members have the ability to cast votes for regional representatives in their respective region. Individual members must represent the diversity found in sports, including by geographic region, disability (or non-disability), skill level, and type of sport. Individual members must also have demonstrated commitment to disability in sport and human rights.

Timeline

- 1 week (2/6/06) – Meeting Minutes
- 2 weeks (2/13/06) – Comments
- 4 weeks (2/27/06) – Revised documents

Contact

IDISWG Secretariat
Sport in Society/Northeastern University
716 Columbus Ave., Suite 161
Boston, MA 02120
Phone: 617-373-8936
Fax: 617-373-4566
Email: idiswg@yahoo.com