

# Civil Society Forum under the auspice of the Global Disability Summit 2022

## 15 February 2021

### agenda

#### Background

In consultation with civil society partners, IDA and the Atlas Alliance will be organising a Civil Society Forum, as an addition to the Summit, to leverage the opportunity to amplify the voice and participation of persons with disabilities, through their individual participation and that of representative organizations (OPDs). The Forum is an opportunity to highlight current issues relevant to the global disability movement and realization of the CRPD, that will not specifically be addressed at the Summit. The intention is not to duplicate the points that will be made at the Summit, rather provide additional space for Civil Society to make its own contribution to the Summit. The Forum will also set the stage for the more specific dialogues at the Summit on the specific thematic areas.

#### Agenda (all times CET)

**14.00 – 14.30**

#### **Opening Session**

This session will be used as a scene setter and as an opportunity to tie the Civil Society Forum with the GDS mechanism. A draft declaration will be presented, to be finalized with inputs from the Forum itself.

Objectives:

- 1) to introduce the Civil Society Forum within the GDS mechanism, from local to global
- 2) to promote the cooperation between OPDs and NGOs for the implementation of the CRPD

**Forum Moderator:** Gagan Chhabra (Atlas Alliance)

**Opening speeches by:**

- Government of Norway
- Government of Ghana
- International Disability Alliance
- UN representative tbc

**14.30 – 15.30**

**Session 1: Creating synergies and partnerships**

**Session objective:**

In this session, we will focus on capacity-building of OPDs, looking both at organizational development and the way OPDs can work with each other and in synergy with other stakeholders to bring about change. Speakers would discuss opportunities for meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in the development agenda [funding and inclusive programming /OPD capacity building / coordination among OPDs and INGOs / meaningful engagement in advocacy efforts be that climate change, gender, youth]

**Attendees/persons with disabilities would address the following:**

- What is inclusive programming and budgeting
- How to secure coordination between OPDs and INGO's
- Enhancing Capacity , to ensure meaningful engagement of OPDs
- Advocacy: how OPDs can be involved in and lead the advocacy – steps to get there; good practices

30 minutes for interactive Q&A

Moderator: Eirin Naess-Sorensen (International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC)

1. Sif Holst (Disabled People's Organisation, Denmark)
2. Esther Kyozira (National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda)
3. Carlos Rios Espinosa (Human Rights Watch, Mexico)

**15.30 – 15.45: Break**

Video and music

**15.45 – 16.45**

**Session 2: Perspectives on an inclusive future – way forward after GDS**

**Session objective:**

This session will serve as a reflection on what are inclusive ways to progress as a society after GDS 2022.

**Attendees/persons with disabilities would address the following:**

- Covid and the CRPD – where do we need to act most urgently now?
- Testimonies on how it has impacted persons with disabilities, especially women and girls with disabilities, and particularly marginalized groups within the disability community
- Advocacy strategies towards fighting stigma & discrimination
- Tracking inclusive funding and programming

30 minutes for interactive Q&A

Moderator: Mary Keogh (CBM-Global)

1. Martine Abel-Williamson (World Blind Union)
2. Elham Youssefian (International Disability Alliance)
3. Mark Kato (World Federation of the Deafblind - WFDB)

**16.45 – 17.15**

**Closing session [adoption of the declaration / call for action]**

Presented by: Rita Kusi (Civil Society Reference Group)

\*\*\*