



info sheet Human Rights

CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (CRPD)

PURPOSE

The purpose of the present Convention is to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity.

Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- Respect for inherent dignity, individual autonomy including the freedom to make one's own choices, and independence of persons;
- Non-discrimination;
- Full and effective participation and inclusion in society;
- Respect for difference and acceptance of persons with disabilities as part of human diversity and humanity;
- Equality of opportunity;
- Accessibility;
- Equality between men and women;
- Respect for the evolving capacities of children with disabilities and respect for the right of children with disabilities to preserve their identities.

STATE OBLIGATIONS

States to undertake to ensure and promote the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all persons with disabilities without discrimination of any kind on the basis of disability through measures including among others:

- adopt all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the rights recognized in the CRPD
- take into account the protection and promotion of the human rights of persons with disabilities in all policies and programmes
- ensure the full and effective participation and inclusion of PWDs in decision-making processes and other areas of society that impact them
- support and fund the strengthening of capacity within civil society, in particular organizations of persons with disabilities to ensure their effective participation in the implementation and monitoring of the Convention
- take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability by any person, organization or private enterprise
- provide accessible information to persons with disabilities about various forms of assistance, support services and facilities
- promote the training of professionals and staff working with persons with disabilities so as to better provide the assistance and services
- provide reasonable accommodation to ensure to persons with disabilities the enjoyment or exercise on an equal basis with others of all human rights and fundamental freedoms
- respect for the evolving capacities of children with disabilities and respect for the right of children with disabilities to preserve their identities.

KEY DEFINITIONS

"Communication" includes languages, display of text, Braille, tactile communication, large print, accessible multimedia as well as written, audio, plain-language, human-reader and augmentative and alternative modes, means and formats of communication, including accessible information and communication technology;

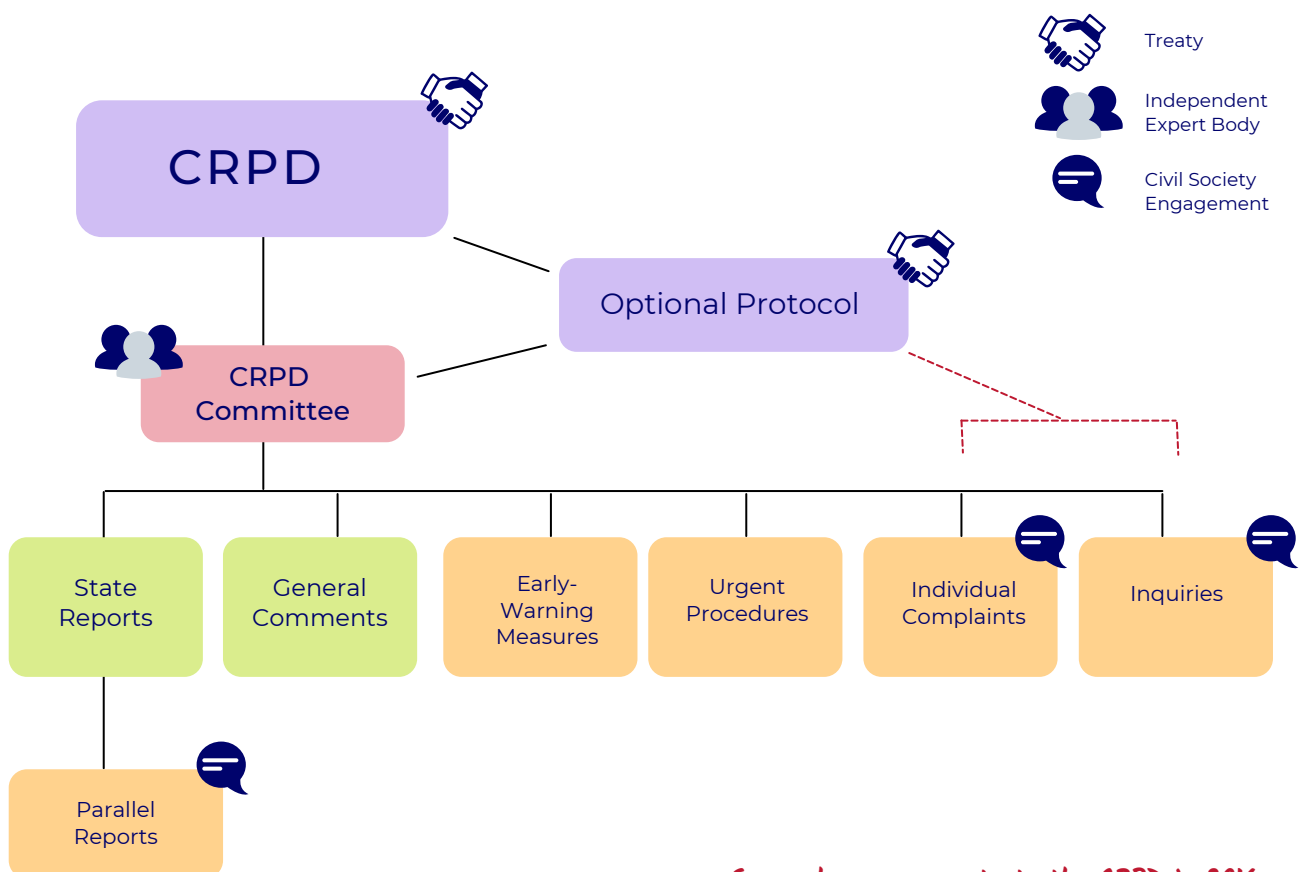
"Language" includes spoken and signed languages and other forms of non-spoken languages;

"Discrimination on the basis of disability" means any distinction, exclusion or restriction on the basis of disability which has the purpose or effect of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on an equal basis with others, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field. It includes all forms of discrimination, including denial of reasonable accommodation;

"Reasonable accommodation" means necessary and appropriate modification and adjustments not imposing a disproportionate or undue burden, where needed in a particular case, to ensure to persons with disabilities the enjoyment or exercise on an equal basis with others of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

"Universal design" means the design of products, environments, programmes and services to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design. "Universal design" shall not exclude assistive devices for particular groups of persons with disabilities where this is needed.

CRPD OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE



Samoa became a party to the CRPD in 2016