CRPD COSP16 - HIGH-LEVEL SIDE EVENT

Ensuring accessibility and inclusion for persons with disabilities in health and support services

Italy's DAMA (Disabled Advanced Medical Assistance) and other good practices from stakeholders

UN Headquarters, CR 7, Wednesday June 14, 1.15-2.30 pm
In person

PROGRAM

Opening Remarks

Moderator: **Gunta Anca**, Vice-President of European Disability Forum

- 1.15 p.m. Welcome words by the Italian Minister for Disabilities, **Alessandra Locatelli**

Panel

- 1.20 p.m. **Prof. Filippo Ghelma,** Researcher at the Department of Health Sciences, University of Milan, Medical Director of the Azienda Sociosanitaria Territoriale Santi Paolo e Carlo of Milan - University Pole, *Italy's DAMA experience*
- 1.40 p.m. **Mr. Konrad Swietek**, Austrian Ministry for Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection, *Sharing national best practices and strategies*
- 1.50 p.m. **Chuck Sweeder**, President, Keystone Human Services International, Providing human rights-based support for a more inclusive world
- 2.00 p.m. **Dominique Kantor**, Self-Advocate-Argentina, Inclusion International

Discussion

- 2.10 - 2.20 p.m. Interventions from the floor

Concluding Remarks

- 2.20 - 2.30 p.m. **Maria Soledad Cisterna Reyes**, Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General on Disability and Accessibility

Inclusion international
EUROPEAN DISABILITY FORUM
Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations in New York
Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
Permanent Mission of Italy UN - New York
Ministro per le disabilità

CONCEPT NOTE

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) enshrines the right of persons with disabilities to enjoy the highest standard of health and access to health care without discrimination.

Health facilities and services must be available, accessible, adaptable, inclusive and acceptable for persons with disabilities in their communities, including the direct support services required by persons with intellectual disabilities and/or high support needs including during hospitalizations, surgeries and medical consultations.

Individualized and accessible support services must be considered a right and a priority within the health and support services sector. For many persons with disabilities, access to a range of individualized support services is a precondition for well-being, health and independent living within the community.

Persons with disabilities have logistical and assistive support needs that must be known in order to build a health service offer that meets their needs and respects their rights in line with the CRPD. Examples of accessibility of medical care include the removal of an architectural barrier, the adaptation of a protocol, and ensuring information about care is delivered using easy to understand means of communications.

An example of full inclusion and accessibility of the healthcare system for persons with intellectual disabilities is the DAMA (Disabled Advanced Medical Assistance), a project developed and tested at the Milan San Paolo Hospital. DAMA offers a model that can follow, with a multidisciplinary approach, the person at every stage of the diagnostic and clinical pathway, and to support his or her family in dealing with the hospital.

A good practice of inclusive service provision methodology will be described during the side event by Keystone Human Services (KHS). KHS is a direct service provider in the United States and is currently working to implement the principles of accessibility, inclusion and human-rights based approach to their direct support services provision, in line with the UN CRPD as well as the Inclusion International's Listen Include Respect guidelines (LIR).

The LIR guidelines constitute a global standard for inclusion of persons with intellectual disabilities and high-support needs developed by Inclusion International (the global network of persons with intellectual disabilities and their families) and Down Syndrome International (the global federation of associations of persons with down syndrome).

The event will gather voices from Governments, civil society and the private sector to share and spread their experiences. The event will be broadcasted on UN TV, with interpretation in English, Italian, Spanish and ISL.