|  |
| --- |
| Minutes of the Meeting of the EU Framework  to promote, protect and monitor  the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) to prepare the Framework’s session at the 14 May ENNHRI CRPD Working Group Meeting  **Wednesday, 8 May 2019**  10.00 – 11.00  Rue Montoyer 30  FRA joined by videolink |

**Participants**

European Ombudsman/Chair (EO): Rosita Hickey

European Parliament (EP):Monika Makay, Katja Vatter

European Disability Forum (EDF): Marine Uldry

Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA): Robert-Jan Uhl, Monia Guezoun

1. **Welcome and opening**

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

1. **Approval of the agenda**

The agenda was approved with no amendments.

1. **Meeting of EU Framework with national monitoring mechanisms**

* The EU framework will meet the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI) on 14 May in Brussels. Robert Jan, Rosita, Marine and Katja will attend the forum.
* The framework discussed the structure of the exchange with ENNHRI and decided to combine some questions. The topics of the exchange will be sent to ENNHRI before the meeting.

*Action point:*

* FRA to follow-up on the presence of a UN member in the meeting, according to ENNHRI’s initiative.

1. **Implementation table for the Work Programme 2017-2018**

* The framework agreed to revise the formatting of the work programme, in order to make it more digestable. The notes section as well as the timeframe will be deleted. The title of the document will change to reflect the implementation phase (e.g. work programme implementation report).
* The document including the EP’s track changes will serve as draft document.

*Action points:*

* Robert Jan to check with FRA colleagues if any activities are missing and need to be added.
* Robert to add FRA’s activities regarding point 7 of the programme.
* FRA to disseminate the revised implementation report for a last round of comments by Framework Members.
* Final implementation report to be adopted by the Framework by end of June.

1. **Adoption of the Work Programme 2019-2020**

* The activities described in tier 3 are repetitive, the wording will be merged.
* EDF will take the lead on the discussion paper on promising practices in establishment and functioning of national monitoring mechanisms. FRA will provide support.

*Action points:*

* FRA to disseminate the revised Work Proramme 2019-2020.
* Framework to adopt the final Work Programme by end of June.

1. **Updates from EU Framework members on activities to promote, protect, monitor the implementation of the CRPD**

EP: noted discussions on petitions from Finland, Poland (access to education of disabled children). The EP noted a decrease in the number of petitions regarding disability, which has not received any official explanation.

FRA: the Agency continues to communicate its work on the right to independent living of people with disabilities: presentations are planned at UNIA (Brussels) and with the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (Dublin); there are also plans for a seminar with the Finnish Ombudsman.

Robert will consider visiting the EO during his mission in Brussels.

EDF:

* EDF Annual General Assembly will take place on the 1rst and 2nd of June in Brussels. On the 2nd afternoon, EDF organises a seminar on the UN CEDAW Committee and how organisations of persons with disabilities can engage to mainstream the rights of women and girls with disabilities.
* EDF will attend the Civil Society Forum and Conference of States Parties to the CRPD in New York in June. EDF will organise a side event on accessible public procurement, and participate in several other side-events on the disability card (organised by the European Commission), political participation of people with disabilities, ICT, disability and ageing, tech for employment, advocacy and visibility in media, and on international cooperation.

EO: EPSO replied to the Ombudsman’s recommendations in the inquiry concerning visually impaired candidates. The Commission replied to the Ombudsman in a case concerning deinstitutionalistion in Hungary. The EO’s letter to the Commission had referred to FRA’s report on independent living.

1. **AOB**

* FRA will contribute to the next European Disability Strategy.
* The last meeting’s minutes will be sent to the Commission for approval and published on FRA’s website.
* The South-African Human Rights Commission is planning on going to Brussels, to collect good practices on how to set up a monitoring framework. There has been a suggestion from the External Action Service that there could be a meeting with the EU Framework, possibly in November 2019 (Robert is in touch with the EEAS on this and will keep members posted).
* Another EO staff member will take over the work Elpida Apostolidou has been doing on disabilities.