

International Disability Alliance (IDA)

Disabled Peoples' International, Down Syndrome International, Inclusion International, International Federation of Hard of Hearing People, Rehabilitation International, World Blind Union, World Federation of the Deaf, World Federation of the DeafBlind, World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry, Arab Organization of Disabled People, European Disability Forum, Red Latinoamericana de Organizaciones no Gubernamentales de Personas con Discapacidad y sus familias (RIADIS)

Suggestions for disability-relevant recommendations to be included in the Concluding Observations CEDAW Committee 46th Session (12 to 30 July 2010, NY)

The International Disability Alliance (IDA) has prepared the following suggestions for the concluding observations, based on references to persons with disabilities to be found in the reports on Albania.

ALBANIA

Written Replies

32. The report is silent on the situation of older women, women with disabilities, refugee and migrant women and girls. Please provide such information, in particular the economic and social situation and measures in place to support these groups of women.

143. **Information on women with limited capacities:** women with limited capacities are treated within the groups of persons with limited abilities PAK and random are treated specifically. Women PAK as well as men PAK benefit from social services and payments given for limited abilities. Law on "Status of Paraplegic and Tetraplegic Invalid", no. 8626, of 22.6.2000 (changed) offers support in all the fields for persons with limited capacities pre and tetraplegic. Law on "Status of Blind Persons" No.8098, (of 28.03.1996), changed, offers support in all the fields for the blind persons with limited capabilities. Mentioned legal acts, just like the Status of Work Invalids, have treated them under the general term of the person with limited capabilities, women and girls with limited capabilities, without seeing the problems that this group has. Law on "Promotion of Employment", no.7995, of 29.9.1995 (changed) aims at determining the general policies to support and ensure full, productive and freely chosen employment for every individual. Articles 15-16 of this law, specifically refer to promotion of employment for the category of limited capacity persons, defining sanctioned measures in case of not hiring one limited capacity person every 24 persons. Law on "Education and Professional Formation in the Republic of Albania" no.8872, of 29.3.2002, expresses and protects the right of citizens for education and professional formation, in spite of their social status or health situation. Article 5/c of this law determines that persons who benefit from

professional education and training are also special groups desiring professional rehabilitation, as well as persons with limited capabilities, mothers with many children, persons under 18 years, long-term unemployed persons etc. Even in the sub legal acts issued in application of this law, special attention has been paid to ensuring professional formation with reduced prices or free of charge for groups of people in need, including persons with limited capabilities.

144. Law on "Social Assistance and Services" no.9355, of 10.03.2005, provides for conditions and services for benefiting economic assistance and social services; that benefiting from social services (article 6) based on this law are the children, young people up to 25 years, senior people, persons with limited capacities, as well as girls and women in need. Meanwhile girls and women with limited capacities are included with the general term of the person with limited capacities. Also this law (article 7) provides that persons with limited abilities enjoy the right to gain a monthly payment due to their limited capabilities or the right to a caretaker, for the first group. This right is guaranteed both for women and girls with limited capacities.

145. Decision of Council of Ministers no.632/18.9.2003 "On the program of promotion of employment of women unemployed job-seekers", issued in application of law No. 7995/20.9.1995 "On promotion of employment", says that financial support is received from employers, who hire females especially from categories like: Roma females, females over 35 years etc. Decision No.394 of 23.02.2004 of the Minister of Labor and Social Issues "On fees of the Professional Training System" determines that registration fees for the categories: Roma Community, trafficked and violated women and girls etc. are zero for courses of professional training offered from Public Centers of Professional Training. These courses aim at qualifying and increasing professional abilities of these target groups of women, creating possibilities to cope with the contemporary requests of the today's labor market.

146. A political document specifically promoting the rights of the limited capacity persons is "National Strategy for Limited Capacity Persons" (CMD no.7 of 8.01.2005). In the focus of this strategy there are the objectives and main goals of the Albanian Government and other actors interested in the field of environment, services, education, employment and professional education, in the field of legislation and research for limited capacity persons. This strategy does not specifically include women with limited capacities.

147. Currently Albania has signed Convention on the Rights of Persons with Limited Capacities, in 22 December 2009 and currently it's following procedures for its ratification and entering into force.

148. Whereas National Strategy of Gender and Domestic Violence treats the rights of limited capacity women in framework of rights of women in general, whereas the plan of action of this strategy determines a series of measures, which mostly are addressed to groups in need. Indirectly this document has a special treatment for women with limited capacities, as one of the groups in need.

Recommendations from IDA

- To consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol.

- To adopt effective measures, including rescinding legislation where necessary, to prevent and eliminate discrimination against girls and women with disabilities and ensure that measures taken to address the needs of women with disabilities conform to the requirements of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.