



WFD NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF

APRIL 2010



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WFD WORLD CONGRESS 2011



FIRST TIME IN AFRICA

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CONTENTS

- 3 NEWS FROM THE WFD
- 9 INTERNATIONAL AND UN NEWS
- 12 NEWS FROM THE WFD MEMBERS
- 18 COMING EVENTS
- 20 BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

We welcome all news, articles, letters to the editor, and other contributions. We reserve the right of acceptance or rejection and the right to edit all submissions that we publish.

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WFD, the World Federation of the Deaf, is an umbrella organisation providing a wide range of support and advocacy services for national Deaf associations. The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) was established in 1951 in Rome, Italy during the first Deaf World Congress. As an international non-governmental organisation, it has a special consultative status in the United Nations (UN) system, where it is represented at the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC); the Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); the International Labour Organization (ILO); and World Health Organization (WHO). It also has participatory status with the Council of Europe (CoE). WFD currently has 130 national associations of the Deaf as its members. WFD provides a platform for cooperation and information exchange among its members and partners. As an international organisation and through national organisations, WFD is emphasizing on improving the human rights for Deaf persons, the status of national sign languages, better education for Deaf people, and improved access to information technology and services.

Cover pictures by ICC Durban and Bruno Druchen.

XVI WORLD CONGRESS OF THE WFD: GLOBAL DEAF RENAISSANCE



The next World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf is held in Durban, South Africa from 18 – 24 July 2011. It is the first WFD World Congress to be held in Africa. The congress participants will have a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the spirit of Ubuntu, A Zulu expression for 'humanity/compassion towards others'. This attitude is often described as the spirit of South Africa.

The WFD World Congress is considered to be the most significant Deaf event in the world that gathers individuals, researchers, experts and decision-makers all around the world to share latest developments and future challenges confronting Deaf communities. At the same time, it is an important social event consolidating and uniting the international community.

The Congress aims to inspire its attendees to take forward the concept of renaissance, a rebirth of Deaf communities worldwide.

Durban is a great location for the Congress. You can enjoy the atmosphere of a modern city or a number of attractions around Durban that include a diversity of marine, wildlife and eco-attractions. For example, spend one day seeking for the “Big 5” (Lion / Buffalo / Elephant / Rhino / Leopard) in a game reserve. For more attractions and tour bookings: <http://www.wfd2011.com/information/tours.html>. It is now time to start making travel plans for 2011.

The World Congress Second Announcement booklets are available from the organising committee of WFD Congress, which you can order at registration@wfd2011.com. The deadline for early bird registration is on 15 April 2011. Internet registration will soon be opened. For further information, please do check on WFD Congress website: www.wfd2011.com



Location of the World Congress: International Convention Centre in Durban
© ICC Durban

CALL FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS

The Scientific Committee for the XVI World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf invites the submission of abstracts for presentations. The official languages of the Congress are English, South African Sign Language and International Sign. The Organising Committee welcomes abstracts that focus on the XVI World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf Theme “Global Deaf Renaissance” from birth to adulthood on the following 4 sub-themes:

1. DEAF EDUCATION

EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATION

As the Deaf Community we seek to achieve Equal Access for all, regardless of race, gender, age, religion, or disability, to educational resources and opportunities. This goal is pursued through research, education, and legislation.

BECOMING MULTILINGUAL

This stream will look at the implementation of successful bilingual programs and how Deaf children can succeed as multilingual individuals in a globalised world.

2. SIGN LANGUAGES AND DEAF STUDIES

ACHIEVING LEGAL RECOGNITION OF SIGN LANGUAGE

This stream will offer case studies of successful efforts to achieve legal recognition of sign languages and the implications of this recognition for Deaf people's lives.

WHY DEAF?

Deaf communities worldwide are facing rapid changes, with genetic and demographic changes transforming communities worldwide. Deaf Studies scholars now face the question: Why should Deaf people exist? What do Deaf people offer to the world that other people cannot? Why would the world be a poorer place without Deaf people?

3. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

INTELLIGENT CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

This session will look into the various conflicts faced by developing countries in uniting their members. It will empower them with a range of skills in conflict management and ideas on how to build a better relationship with their members.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

To strengthen the spiritual, political, social and economic strength of Deaf individuals and Deaf communities around the globe and to be empowered by developing confidence in our own capacities.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS

- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- Convention on the Rights of the Child and Youth Programmes
- Human Rights Instruments

The four streams for the Human Rights Commission are designed to give Congress attendees knowledge of relevant human rights instruments. Presentations will offer Deaf people the opportunity to learn how to use these tools to efficiently lobby governments and civic institutions to implement full human rights. Presentations on the human rights of particular groups, such as youth and senior citizens, are welcomed.



Durban at night

© ICC Durban

WFD MEMBERS GET DISCOUNT

WFD's individual members will get a cheaper registration to the 16th World Congress. Send your application and become a WFD member. WFD Individual Application form is on page 21 or at www.wfdeaf.org.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 15TH WORLD CONGRESS OF THE WFD IN MADRID

The proceedings of the 15th World Congress is available now online – <http://www.cnse.es> or you can ask for a copy in PDF format from the WFD General Secretariat.

The other material from the Spanish National Association of the Deaf is a DVD (Spanish Sign



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Special Interest Group topics will cover:

- Deaf Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Bisexual People (LGBT);
- Deaf Ethnic Groups;
- CODAs – Children of Deaf Adults;
- Deafblind;
- Deaf Mental Health;
- Sign Language Interpreters; Families and Senior Citizens;
- Technology

The deadline for abstract submission is on 31 October 2010. Abstracts can be submitted online or by e-mail. For more information, please visit: www.wfd2011.com/abstracts



Panoramic foyer of the Congress Center, ICC Durban
© ICC Durban

NEWS FOR EXHIBITION:

Exhibition will be from 18 – 23 July 2011. The price per unit for this period will be 12 200 South African Rands. The price includes white walling (9 sq meters), 1 x fascia name, 1 x plug point and 2 x spotlights. If you are interested in reserving a booth at the World Congress, please be in contact with exhibition@wfd2011.com. More information is also provided in the Second Announcement booklet.

EARTHQUAKE IN CHILE:

NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN SIGN LANGUAGE

After the earthquake in Chile in March, WFD was informed about serious lack of information provided in sign language in Chile in the aftermath of the earthquake. World Federation of the Deaf is deeply concerned that Deaf people are easily forgotten in emergency situations. Deaf people's right to receive information in sign language in emergency situations must be specifically protected by authorities, otherwise, Deaf people have no access to information, which results to isolation without knowing what is happening in immediate society or having opportunity to protect for example from aftershocks or other consequences.

World Federation of the Deaf has supported the Association of the Deaf People of Chile, ASOCH's efforts by sending a letter to the President of Chile to address the Government to better guarantee access to sign language information by authorities and public television also during emergencies.

In addition, World Federation of the Deaf pleads international donor agencies that provide international assistance not to forget Deaf people and people with disabilities from emergency relief and reconstruction efforts.

World Federation of the Deaf expresses its deepest sympathies to all Chileans and especially those families that have been affected by the massive earthquake which caused many deaths and other extensive damage. World Federation of the Deaf wishes strength and courage to reconstruction, which hopefully results to prompt recovery.

Association of the Deaf People of Chile, ASOCH, is providing aid to support relief efforts of Deaf people in the most affected regions in Chile after the devastating earthquake. Association of the Deaf People of Chile, ASOCH, has created an account to help families of Deaf people who need help. To support Chilean Deaf victims, please make your donations directly to ASOCH. For more information: www.wfdeaf.org

"RECONSTRUCTION MUST ALSO BECOME A REALITY FOR THE DISABLED," SAYS UN EXPERT'S COMMITTEE

GENEVA (14 April 2010) – The UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities called on the Chilean government and the international community to include in the reconstruction plans -as a matter of priority- the needs of persons with disabilities, including accessibility to physical space, information, communications, transportation, products and services.

"Reconstruction in the areas affected by the devastating February earthquake and tsunami must also become a reality for the disabled," said the current Committee's chairperson, Ronald McCallum, noting that "a recent survey shows that an estimated 12.9% of the Chilean population has disabilities, and many in the affected areas were persons with various forms of disabilities."

In a recent statement, the 12-member UN Committee also recommended that relief measures take into account the special needs of persons with different forms of disabilities, in particular, in warning procedures, evacuation, information and communications.

"Equal attention shall be given to sign language and video captioning of public information regarding the emergency situation," noted the UN expert body, "in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities"

The Committee stressed the urgent need to focus on the habilitation and rehabilitation of the disabled, including post-traumatic stress care. They also called for "special support in rebuilding their homes, whether in urban or rural areas and those sites that host associations of persons with disabilities and centers that serve them, which have been destroyed or damaged."

While recognizing the efforts of the Chilean government in this emergency situation, the UN body noted that "Chile must take all necessary measures to ensure the protection and safety of persons with disabilities in situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and the occurrence of natural disasters," as a State Party to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The Committee is the body of independent experts monitoring the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which so far has been endorsed by 140 countries. The Convention was adopted on 13 December 2006 by the UN General Assembly, and entered into force on 3 May 2008.

Source: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

THE 94TH BOARD MEETING OF THE WFD HELD IN ISTANBUL

The WFD Board and the WFD General Secretariat would like to express thanks to the Turkish National Federation of the Deaf for organising the meeting at a short notice and also for their wonderful hospitality. The Board wishes all the best for their work and the deaf community in Turkey.

The 95th WFD Board meeting will be held in Jeju Island, in South Korea hosted by the Korean Association of the Deaf from 6 – 12 September 2010.

Right: President of the Turkish National Federation of the Deaf introducing the association's activities to Board Members



TURKISH NATIONAL FEDERATION CONTINUES TO INTENSIFY ITS INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Twice a year the board meeting of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) is held in two member federations' countries. It was the privilege of the Turkish National Federation of the Deaf to host the 94th Board Meeting of the WFD in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 – 28 March 2010. Although Turkish National Federation of the Deaf became an ordinary member of the WFD in 1963, it had never sought any opportunity of hosting a board meeting of the WFD in Turkey before. But this year it was very keen on hosting one of the board meetings of the WFD. Why?

First and foremost, Turkish National Federation of the Deaf wants to integrate the deaf of Turkey with the international deaf community. In order to provide this, the Federation has taken some concrete steps since 2007.

The establishment of the Balkan Association of the Deaf can be regarded as the starting point of these achievements. In 2008 the Balkan Association of the Deaf was established by the Turkish National Federation of the Deaf, the Union of the Deaf of Bulgaria, the Association of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Association of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing of Macedonia, the Association of the Deaf of Serbia. The main idea behind forming such an association was to strengthen cultural and technical cooperation between Balkan countries' deaf associations. The member associations have started to reap the fruits of this cooperation. A few days ago, Nebojsa Vavra, the President of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing of Bosnia and Herzegovina, applied to the headquarter of the Balkan Association of the Deaf to acquire a support letter which will be submitted to the relevant institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina for fundraising.

The second important achievement of the Turkish National Federation of the Deaf was turning the deaf festival which is celebrated by the Turkish National Federation of the Deaf in May into an international deaf festival. The First International Deaf Festival was celebrated in May 2009 with the participation of

the Union of the Deaf of Bulgaria, the Association of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing of Macedonia, the Association of the Deaf of Serbia, All Russian Society of the Deaf, the Ukrainian Society of the Deaf, the Uzbekistan Society of the Deaf and finally the Turkish National Federation of the Deaf. However, in 2010 the international deaf festival is going to be celebrated in September along with the 50th anniversary of the Turkish National Federation of the Deaf. We have already started laying strong foundations for the festival.

The third important achievement of the Federation was becoming a member of the European Union of the Deaf (EUD) in May 2009.

And finally starting from July 2009 we have started to release the Deaf Bulletin, which can be found at http://www.turkdeaf.org/pages/bulletin_page.html. The remarks and comments of the world deaf community for the first two volumes of the Deaf Bulletin are quite encouraging.

All these achievements cannot be overlooked, but are not enough. That is why Turkish National Federation of the Deaf wants to host the 17th World Congress of the WFD in Istanbul, Turkey in 2015. The world deaf community still does not know much about our activities. Turkish National Federation of the Deaf regards hosting the 17th World Congress of the WFD as an indispensable opportunity for informing the international deaf community about its activities and integrating the deaf of Turkey with the rest of the world.

In this sense, Turkish National Federation of the Deaf was keen on hosting the 94th Board Meeting of the WFD because it regarded the board meeting as the rehearsal of the 17th World Congress of the WFD. We do hope that all board members were content with holding the board meeting in Istanbul, Turkey and we proved that both Istanbul and the Turkish National Federation of the Deaf are ready for hosting such a glorious organization.

Source: Ibrahim Toraman, International Relations Coordinator, Turkish National Federation of the Deaf

WFD INVITES BIDS TO HOST 2013 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

For Ordinary, International and Associate Members only:

World Federation of the Deaf is inviting bids to host an International Conference in 2013. International Conference is arranged between World Congresses and it may be organized by an Ordinary, International or Associate Member of the World Federation of the Deaf. It is a smaller conference than the World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf focusing on certain selected topic. All received bids will be reviewed by the Board after the World Congress 2011.

Bids for an international conference must be submitted to the Board at least two (2) years prior to the proposed conference. The organiser hosting the international conference shall submit a proposed theme to the Board for approval. The host must assume all financial responsibilities for the conference arrangements.

If your organisation is interested to host a WFD conference in 2013, you are welcome to request any further information about the conference or to send your bid to the WFD General Secretariat.



Last time the WFD International Conference was held in Helsinki, Finland in 2005.

For any further information about the conference bids, please contact Ms. Phillipa Sandholm, WFD Administrative Secretary by email: phillipa.sandholm@kl-deaf.fi

WFD REGIONAL SECRETARIAT FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

The 21st WFD Regional Secretariat for Asia and the Pacific (RSA/P) Representatives Meeting was held on November 25th to 27th 2009, in Gyeongju, Korea. Along with the delegates from 11 countries, approximately 250 people, including the observers, attended to the meeting. The delegates made presentations of their updated country reports, as well as led active discussions together with the chairperson, Ichiro Miyamoto, director of the WFD RSA/P. After the presentation of the WFD RSA/P annual report, Miyamoto stressed the needs of the monitoring by national Deaf associations to the governments of their countries, as well as to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) by the WFD RSA/P. The main decisions made in the meetings are as follows:

- Collection of the membership fees of the WFD RSA/P member countries



- Host of the 22nd WFD RSA/P Representative Meeting in 2010 (Manila, Philippines)
- Host of the WFD RSA/P Youth Camp in 2010 (Macau)
- Participation fee to the meeting for the delegates from the RSA/P Youth Section, WASLI-Asia and Oceania

ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT

World Federation of the Deaf would like to thank all Ordinary Members (37) that have paid their membership fees for 2010.

Unfortunately, there are still many members (93) that have not contributed their membership payment to the World Federation of the Deaf. WFD statutes regulate that those members that have not paid their

membership fees are not entitled to vote in the General Assembly or to nominate President or other candidates to the Board unless they fulfil their commitments to the WFD. All those members that have not paid, please make your payment as soon as possible for 2010 or any outstanding membership payment for previous years.

Again, WFD would like to thank those 37 members that have paid their membership fee for 2010:

ALBANIA	FRANCE	NETHERLANDS	SOUTH AFRICA
AUSTRALIA	HUNGARY	NORWAY	SPAIN
BELARUS	INDIA	PAKISTAN	SRI LANKA
BELGIUM	IRELAND	ROMANIA	SUDAN
BENIN	JAPAN	RUSSIA	SWITZERLAND
CROATIA	KOREA	SERBIA	TUNISIA
DENMARK	LATVIA	SINGAPORE	TURKEY
ERITREA	LITHUANIA	SLOVENIA	UGANDA
FINLAND	MACEDONIA	SOMALIA	UKRAINE
			UK

DONORS

WFD wishes to thank to those WFD members who have made a contribution to support the WFD. Here are the names of the list of the contributors:

NATSUMI EBATA
 CHIKA MURAKAMI
 TOMOKA TAHARA
 KOTONE KUBO
 MAMI INOUE
 MARIKO NAKAJIMA
 MARI USUI
 TAKAHIRO ONO
 NORIKO KAWADA
 HOTORI HUJIMOTO
 TAICHI MIYAKE
 SAYURI KATSUMI
 JUN SHIMOJIMA
 ANNA WATANABE
 MIKURU TEZUKA

DAIKI MIURA
 TAKAAKI ARAI
 EITA ENDO
 MASAKO HOSONO
 NAUTSUNE HOSONO
 KEIKO SAGARA
 HANNA PAULANTO
 ROBERT ADAM
 SATU WORSECK
 PAAL RICHARD PETERSON

Also warm thanks for the University of Sussex for hosting a Christmas Lecture on 'Deaf Ethnicity, Deafhood and Deaf Ethnosexuality' as part of the "Our Space" project, which seeks to strengthen the Deaf community in Sussex coastal towns by creating sustainable resources. In the lecture, the University raised £120 for WFD. Please visit Deaf History website: www.sussexdeafhistory.org.uk.

END POVERTY NOW

Nearly 1 billion people live on less than \$1 per day—yet the world has never been so prosperous. The world has enough money, resources and technology to end poverty forever.



Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (front, second from left) presents “Keeping the Promise”, his report for September 2010’s High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), at an informal meeting of the General Assembly. UN Photo/Devra Berkowitz

Year 2010 will be a critical year in determining which development pathways our world will pursue. In 2000, UN Member States agreed to the Millennium Declaration and committed themselves to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015.

On 20-22 September 2010, the General Assembly will hold, in New York, a High-level Plenary Meeting, also referred to as the “MDG Summit”. The Summit’s main focus will be to build on what we have learned during the past 10 years since the adoption of the Millennium Declaration and how to accelerate progress towards the internationally agreed development goals, in particular MDGs. The Summit will take stock of the successes, best practices, lessons learned, obstacles and gaps related to the MDGs and other development goals.

The UN General Assembly has given a resolution that recognises the upcoming high-level plenary meeting an important opportunity to enhance efforts to realize the Goals for all, in particular for persons with disabilities.

For more information: <http://endpoverty2015.org>
 General Assembly resolution (A/RES/64/131):
www.un.org/disabilities/documents/gadocs/a_res_64_131.doc

MDG’S LACK DISABILITY APPROACH

Currently, there are no references to persons with disabilities either in the MDGs themselves or in the accompanying body of guidelines and policies, programmes and conferences that are part of the on-going MDG efforts. In addition, the new revisions of the MDGs currently in process do not include persons with disabilities. The international community needs urgently to act to mainstream disability in the MDG processes. This requires policy makers and technical experts specifically tasked with the programming, monitoring and evaluation of current MDG programmes to begin to consider disability so that the next phase of the implementation of the MDGs will include disability as an important component of its core mission.

CONCLUSIONS FROM A UN EXPERT GROUP:

- The Millennium Development Goals cannot be achieved without the full and effective inclusion of persons with disabilities and their participation in all stages of the MDGs processes.
- The current MDGs framework, tools and mechanisms provide several opportunities to mainstream disability in the MDGs.
- The existing data gaps on disability within the context of the MDG evaluation and monitoring continues to be a major challenge. Available data, however, could be used to support the inclusion of disability in current MDG evaluation and monitoring processes, while on-going and new MDG evaluation and monitoring efforts should add a disability component as part of their overall data collection endeavours.
- Specific measures should be taken for mainstreaming disability at global, regional and national levels for short-term, medium-term and long-term results.
- With a view to the 2010 periodic review, priority should be given at this time to targeting actions at the global level in the context of monitoring.
- Collaborations should be initiated within the United Nations system and with relevant stakeholders to foster strategic thinking and planning on the MDGs and disability. In this regard, establishing an informal resource group could ensure that a platform for on-going dialogue and feed back is possible.

Source: UN Enable

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR DEAF ASSOCIATIONS ON CRPD

International Disability Alliance has prepared a questionnaire for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to obtain information about the reporting process from those countries that must submit their first country reports on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2010.

41 States Parties are obliged to present their first report to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD Committee) before the end of this year. The experience of other human rights treaty bodies shows that States do not always send their reports in time.

Based on the experience of other treaty bodies, the CRPD Committee will most likely schedule their review of States reports following the order in which they are received.

In order to ensure, as much as possible, that States reports are complemented by parallel reports from national NGOs of persons with disabilities, IDA is seeking to obtain updated information on which

States are planning to submit their reports, as well as information about parallel reports being prepared by organizations of persons with disabilities (DPOs) and other NGOs. The questionnaire also seeks information on whether States Parties have taken the decision on which body will be in charge of the independent national monitoring of the CRPD.

The questionnaire concerns those countries that must submit state reports in 2010. WFD encourages all its Ordinary Members that are listed to take part in this questionnaire. To obtain the questionnaire, please visit IDA website at <http://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/> or contact the WFD at wfd@kl-deaf.fi.

THE LIST OF STATES WHOSE REPORTING DEADLINE TO THE CRPD COMMITTEE IS IN 2010:

ARGENTINA: 2 OCTOBER 2010

AUSTRALIA: 17 AUGUST 2010

AUSTRIA: 26 OCTOBER 2010

BANGLADESH: 3 JUNE 2010

BRAZIL: 1 SEPTEMBER 2010

CHILE: 29 AUGUST 2010

CHINA: 1 SEPTEMBER 2010

COSTA RICA: 1 NOVEMBER 2010

CROATIA: 3 JUNE 2010

CUBA: 3 JUNE 2010

ECUADOR: 3 JUNE 2010

EGYPT: 3 JUNE 2010

EL SALVADOR: 3 JUNE 2010

GABON: 3 JUNE 2010

GUINEA: 3 JUNE 2010

HONDURAS: 3 JUNE 2010

HUNGARY: 3 JUNE 2010

INDIA: 3 JUNE 2010

JAMAICA: 3 JUNE 2010

JORDAN: 3 JUNE 2010

KENYA: 3 JUNE 2010

MALI: 3 JUNE 2010

MEXICO: 3 JUNE 2010

NAMIBIA: 3 JUNE 2010

NEW ZEALAND: 25 OCTOBER 2010

NICARAGUA: 3 JUNE 2010

NIGER: 24 JULY 2010

PANAMA: 3 JUNE 2010

PARAGUAY: 3 OCTOBER 2010

PERU: 3 JUNE 2010

PHILIPPINES: 3 JUNE 2010

QATAR: 13 JUNE 2010

SAUDI ARABIA: 24 JULY 2010

SLOVENIA: 3 JUNE 2010

SOUTH AFRICA: 3 JUNE 2010

SPAIN: 3 JUNE 2010

THAILAND: 29 AUGUST 2010

TUNISIA: 3 JUNE 2010

TURKMENISTAN: 4 OCTOBER 2010

UGANDA: 25 OCTOBER 2010

VANUATU: 23 NOVEMBER 2010

13TH SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Human Rights Council is discussing ways develop its accessibility and sign language interpretation at the United Nations. Stéphane Faustinelli from the Swiss Deaf Association represented World Federation of the Deaf in a historic panel of the Human Rights Council.

Geneva, 4 April 2010 The Human Rights Council met for its thirteenth session from 1-26 March 2010 in Geneva. During the session, the Council negotiated and then adopted a resolution on the rights of persons with disabilities (A/HRC/13/L.8) on national monitoring mechanisms and setting up the theme of next year's resolution to focus on international cooperation. The draft resolution was initially co-sponsored by Mexico and New Zealand and enjoyed very broad support by a large number of States who signed on as co-sponsors. The Council held a panel on the rights of persons with disabilities on the 5th of March. The IDA Secretariat maintained an active presence during the thirteenth session.

RESOLUTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The resolution calls upon States and regional organizations that have not yet done so to ratify the Convention and its Optional Protocol. It encourages States that have submitted reservations to review and consider withdrawing them. The Council also discussed UN's own measures to eliminate physical, technical and other barriers at the United Nations. As yet, no standards have been established for the production of documents in other formats, such as in sign language or which formats of Braille should be used. Similarly, standards for simultaneous interpretation had yet to be formalized, including on which language, sign language, simultaneous transcription, etc. It was hoped that these standards and guidelines on accessibility at the UN will

be taken up by the General Assembly as an issue of priority.

The resolution (A/HRC/13/L.8): <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/LTD/G10/122/63/PDF/G1012263.pdf?OpenElement>

PANEL ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

On March 5th 2010, the Human Rights Council held its annual interactive debate on the rights of persons with disabilities, which focused this year on the structure and role of national mechanisms for the implementation and monitoring of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Ms. Regina Atalla, President of RIADIS (Red Latinoamericana de Organizaciones no Gubernamentales de Personas con Discapacidad y sus Familias), member of the International Disability Alliance (IDA), was one of the panelists of this event.

WFD was represented at the panel by Stéphane Faustinelli from the Swiss Deaf Association, who was accompanied with two sign language interpreters. She made an intervention on sign language interpretation services at the interactive debate, which probably was the first time that sign language was used in a presentation in the Human Rights Council.

For detailed information on this panel, please visit <http://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=9879&LangID=E>.

Source: IDA and WFD

JOB ADVERT: TWO HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICERS

The International Disability Alliance (IDA) is a network of global and regional organisations of persons with disabilities. Its mission is to promote the full and effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

IDA is seeking two human rights officers for its new office, to be established in Geneva. One of the officers will be focused on the Human Rights Council and subsidiary bodies and the other will be focused on the work of the UN human rights treaty bodies, with particular attention to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The ideal candidates are committed to the human rights of persons with disabilities, and have at least two years experience of working with the UN human rights system, preferably in an NGO. Ability to work effectively in English is a prerequisite and being able

to work in at least one other UN official language is desired. IDA especially welcomes applications from persons with disabilities. Candidates wishing to apply for both positions, are required to submit two separate applications.

Gross starting salary: Commensurate with experience of the candidate.

Contract: Indefinite

Closing date for receipt of applications: 12 May 2010

Applications : CVs will not be accepted. Only completed and signed application forms will be taken into consideration.

Date of the interview: Last week of May

Starting Date: June/July 2010

Further information on IDA and both application packs are available from the IDA website: www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org

NEWS FROM THE WFD MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

BELGIUM

SCOOP FOR ATOMIUM

The Atomium has already a certain number of traditional guided tours as well as audio guides, but both are inaccessible for the deaf and hearing impaired.

Fevlado vzw, Associations for the Flemish Deaf Organizations, wanted to change this, together with Atomium vzw and the result is a digital guide in no less than 6 languages, among which sign languages!

A visit to a museum or monument is not very interesting for a lot of deaf or hearing impaired. The hearing have no problems to understand the spoken words, but the deaf or hearing impaired are excluded from the information, because audio guides are not accessible.

Therefore, the Fevlado vzw wants to make the visits to the museums and monuments fully and interesting.

So Fevlado made a digital guide for the Atomium, a monument built for Expo '58 in Belgium, in association with FFSB (Federation of French-Speaking Deaf People in Belgium),

The Atomium, futuristic and universal since 1958, strives through its rich and different cultural programme for progression and improvement for mankind. Hence it was obvious that Atomium vzw was immediately willing to collaborate and to make the much-frequented Atomium accessible for the deaf and hearing-impaired.

The users of the digital guide can choose between Flemish Sign Language, French-Belgian Sign Language and International Signs.

But for those who do not know sign languages, there will be texts available in Dutch, French and English.

Thanks to the support of the Jeanne and Pierre Beeckman Fund, administered by the Foundation King Boudewijn, the contribution of Ravi bvba, Signfuse, FFSB we obtained a wonderful result, which can be an example to all Belgian museum and monuments.

View also the video report of FFSB on <http://www.ffsb.be/?q=node/1728>

Source: Belgian Federation of the Deaf

CANADA

21ST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON THE EDUCATION OF THE DEAF (ICED)

The 21st International Congress on Education of the Deaf (ICED) will be held in Vancouver, Canada from July 18 to 22, 2010. Educators and researchers in Deaf education have met regularly since their inaugural conference held in Paris in 1878 to discuss various issues in Deaf education. In the second ICED conference in Milan in 1880, the congress passed a number of resolutions that have had a lasting and negative effect on the education and lives of millions of Deaf people across the world, in particular, by removing the use of sign language from educational programs promoting strict adherence to a oralist education.

In 2008, a rather historic campaign was launched to request a rejection of the resolution passed in 1880 and issued a demand for a formal apology from educators and researchers meeting in Vancouver in 2010. The campaign originally started in British Columbia, Canada and spread to the US and many parts of the world. These proposals led to negotiations with the ICED 2010 planning committee. The final declaration is a collaboration between a group of Deaf grassroots activists and the ICED2010 planning committee and it will be presented at the ICED conference's opening meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Highlighting the linguistic human right aspect, the declaration calls upon all Nations to adhere to the principles of the United Nations emphasising especially those outlined in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and calls for the endorsement of the resolutions adopted by the WFD Madrid Congress in 2007. In addition, the declaration includes a call for a commitment by the Congress to devote itself for working in partnership with Deaf people in order to ensure the educational rights of Deaf globally.

This declaration presents a historical moment for the Deaf community acknowledging the errors of the 1880 Milan Congress and the harmful consequences that have resulted from these resolutions. The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) board discussed the drafted declaration in its most recent meeting in Turkey and will make its comments known to the committee preparing the document. WFD is likely to be represented in the ICED conference in Vancouver by its president Mr. Markku Jokinen.

CHILE

CHILE REWARDS ITS LOCAL HEROES

In the presence of more than 100 members of the Association of the Deaf in Chile, President Nelson Weitzel delivered in a simple and moving ceremony of the “Medal of Merit” to the eight (8) members of the “Solidarity Caravan Force Deaf”. The medal is a recognition for these young people, who helped people in the south of Chile, where the earthquake occurred. During the event photographs of aid activities in the south were displayed and also some touching experiences shared.

SENADIS of Chile who formed the Emergency Committee was very grateful for the information provided about Deaf persons in the region. Moreover, the Association of the Deaf in Chile will continue its awareness campaign for the achievement of the volunteers and the captions on TV.



President Nelson Weitzel rewards members of the Solidarity Caravan Force Deaf

Source: Association of the Deaf of Chile

CHINA

LAWS CHANGED IN APRIL TO ALLOW MORE PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES OR HEARING LOSS TO DRIVE

More people with disabilities or hearing loss will now be able to drive in China, according to Xinhua/China Radio International. The government has revised driver's license regulations that have taken effect on April 1. The newly revised “Regulations on Application and Use Of Driver's Licenses” now allow paraplegics to drive. People with hearing loss can drive if they wear a hearing aid. Applicants must have a health check at a designated medical institute to prove they are capable of driving.

Source: World without Hearing News

DENMARK

CLOSURE OF SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER EDUCATION IN AARHUS

The department of Sign Language Interpreter education in Aarhus is closing down because of too few students to obtain a financial and professional sound place of education. This is stated in a press release which the Profession High School UCC has sent to the press, partners and institutions.

The Danish Deaf Association (DDL) thinks it is so sad that the Sign Language Interpreter education in Aarhus is closing. No doubt it will affect deaf interpreter users in Jutland. DDL will follow the development closely and secure that the present shortage of interpreters does not increase because of the closure of UCC Aarhus, DDL President Mr. Asger Bergmann says and continues:

UCC Aarhus is the place where linguists and language experts throughout the years have acknowledged expertise and inspiration and I fear that this possibility is lost with the closure.

Danish Deaf Association looks at the situation very seriously and is now forming a general view of the situation.

VENDSYSSEL DEAF CLUB ABOLISHED

Denmark's smallest, perhaps the world's smallest deaf club is abolished March 31st 2010.

Vendsyssel Deaf club is one of DDL's affiliated clubs. For several years the club has had 12-13 members, but in Autumn 2009 there were only 8 members.

All members in Vendsyssel Deaf club are older people. It has therefore been decided to close Vendsyssel Deaf club.

The 8 members will in the future be members of Aalborg Sign Language club who welcome them.

Vendsyssel Deaf club was founded in April 28th 1946 and has existed in 64 years.

TWO DEAF SCHOOLS MIGHT MERGE

Region South Denmark is considering merging Nyborgskolen and Center of Hard of Hearing in Fredericia.

Both Nyborgskolen and Center of Hard of Hearing (former Fredericia school) lies in Region South Denmark. In the region the management on the social area is investigating the possibilities of merging the two deaf schools

The merging of the two schools is considered because of falling numbers of students at the deaf schools. The region will talk with the employees and the boards on both schools and expects a final decision by the end of the school year 2009/2010.

Source: Danish Deaf Association

EGYPT

THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING KIDS WON THE CUPS IN THE ROBOT COMPETITION AND REPRESENT EGYPT IN AN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR ROBOTS

The deaf and hard of hearing kids won the cups in the robot competition and represent Egypt in the FLL International competition for robots in USA.

At the end of the local competition for robot and scientific research {First LEGO League - Egypt} loud applause was heard in the Alexandria Centre for Innovation after announcing {Falcon Eye} team, The deaf and hard of hearing team, to be the winner as first place all over Egypt .The final included 15 teams. This success was under the supervision of ASDAA' Association for Serving the Hearing Impaired and the Arab Academy for Science and Technology.

Notably, ASDAA' Association participated with two teams of the deaf and hard hearing kids in this competition under technical support of the Arab Academy for Science and Technology (AAST) represented in the Regional Center for Information (RIC) sponsored by (Lafarge for cement) which provided the two teams financially support to cause their success. This full distinguished technical support is from the Arab Academy in charge of training and educational preparation of the teams.

These two teams are the only deaf participants in this competition in Egypt, Arab area and in the international level for the third time. It's the first time that this team of the deaf to participate in the (FLL-World Festival) that will be held between 15 -17 April 2010 in Atlanta, USA. This team will participate, sponsored by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, IEEE Egypt and Arab Academy for Science and Technology

In the last few years this team of the deaf made many achievements under the supervision of the Academy and ASDAA' Association to represent Egypt in the Open Asian Championship FLL in Tokyo in April 2008 under auspices of the Minister of Education. They also participated in FLL-Arabia competition in Jordan in March 2009 sponsored by Egypt Air. They were honored for their honorable performance and their winning of many prizes and medals.

Besides winning the first place in the national competition of Egypt 2010, they got the prize of the best design of a robot .they were distinguished in their usage of the Sign Language which every one admired.

The achievement of the Falcon Eye team of deaf kids was:

- The cup of the first place in Alexandria round among (22) teams on 17-18 February 2010
- The cup of the best design of a robot in Alexandria competition

The finals: of the republic from 5-6 March 2010, among 15 teams, the Falcon Eye team of deaf kids won with the following:-

- The cup of the first place and representing Egypt in the International competition of robot in the USA.
- The cup of the best design of a robot.

In the scientific research the (Falcon Eye) team showed the problem that their parents, teachers and



those who live with them; don't know Sign Language. They presented a solution of (Smart Sign Language Interpreter) which translate the Sign Language into Arabic Language.

The shape of hands and their position towards the body, the positions of the fingers and the movement of the hands were the elements for understanding the Sign Language vocabularies. The project was creative and distinguished.

The team of the deaf could through this competition to integrate themselves with the society, they had put their motto on the chests of all the participants in the competition and the judges to assure to Egypt and the world that this motto is a grater on the chest of every Egyptian and to change the vision of the society to the deaf from pity and inferiority to admiration and respect.

Samy Saeed the head of ASDAA' Association assured that this success was as a result of the cooperation between the Arab Academy for Science and Technology and Asdaa' Association also for the full coordination among the trainers, the supervisors and the members of the team.

ASDAA' Association for Serving the Hearing Impaired vowed to develop the deaf society in all fields and to become their real home (home of the family and to give examples for true help and sincerity towards deaf community.

ASDAA' was established in 2000. It has given the chance to the deaf to get scholarship for study in the USA (Ohlone College – California) through the Fulbright organization, and other scholarship to get the ICDL in English.

Besides the support of the Association to the deaf community to participate in the Information competitions organized by the Regional Center for Information (RIC) in the Arab Academy for Science and Technology (AAST) such as the Egyptian Olympic for Information, Hunter and Hunted Robot competition and many other programs to help the deaf to go on with the present age and to reach the required standard for the job market to be successful.

Source: Association for Serving the Hearing Impaired, Egypt

FINLAND

A TIMELY REMINDER: DON'T FORGET THE MAJORITY OF THE WORLD'S PEOPLE

Finnish development organisations' campaign for more effective action on cross-cutting themes in Finland's development cooperation is drawing to a close. The campaign, which particularly targeted MPs, culminated in a meeting between NGO representatives and President Tarja Halonen.

Finland's official development policy includes three major cross-cutting themes concerning women's rights, marginalised groups, and HIV/AIDS.

The President fully supports the way development organisations have highlighted these important issues. The Parliamentary Global Affairs Group is now likely to make these cross-cutting themes one of its main topics. And the Foreign Affairs Committee is already running an initiative on cross-cutting themes.

These developments are among the accomplishments of the Don't Forget the Majority campaign. The campaign has particularly focused on vulnerable groups including women, children and persons with disabilities, whose rights are supported throughout Finland's development policies.

"Addressing cross-cutting themes is crucial for development. Without action on these issues, there can be no development," says Niina Pitkänen, advocacy and policy officer of KEPA (the Finnish Service Centre for Development Cooperation).

But Pitkänen believes that this definition of cross-cutting themes has not in practice significantly benefited these groups, who make up the majority of the world's people. Recent evaluations have proven that cross-cutting themes need more attention at the implementation stage of Finnish development cooperation. "Once a theme becomes cross-cutting, it actually seems to receive less support," says Pitkänen.

Development NGOs believe the Finnish government should develop a strategy extending beyond electoral terms to ensure that adequate resources are allocated for future work on cross-cutting themes.

Don't Forget the Majority was a low profile campaign involving no media stunts or public demonstrations, although campaigners sent various gifts to Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Paavo Väyrynen, and also met the Minister, several MPs and Foreign Ministry advisors.

ICING ON THE CAKE: MEETING THE PRESIDENT

The campaign reached its peak on 25 March 2010 when a group of NGO representatives met President Tarja Halonen in her official residence.

"As a group we do not believe development cooperation funds have been wasted, but there is always room for improvement, and that's what this campaign has set out to highlight," says Markku Niskala, chair of KEPA's board.

NGOs feel it is important for Finland's head-of-state to be fully aware of the realities faced by the world's majority as she travels the world. President Halonen is

known as an outspoken supporter of the interests of women, children and the disabled.

"Supporting you in this campaign is not difficult," Halonen told the campaign delegation. "It takes courage to speak out for the majority of the world's people, but this needs to be done."

President Halonen said she strongly believes progress is being made towards gender equality.

CAMPAIGN ENDS, BUT WORK CONTINUES

After a year of active campaigning Don't Forget the Majority is now drawing to a close, but its core message remains an integral part of development work within NGOs and on national level in Finland.

MPs as the main target group of the campaign have now been made more aware the importance of the cross-cutting themes. A Foreign Affairs Committee initiative on cross-cutting themes is already under way, and the Parliamentary Group on Global Affairs is in the process of making cross-cutting themes a priority issue for 2010.



NGO representatives meet the President of Finland, Ms Tarja Halonen. Ms Liisa Kauppinen (left) represented WFD in this meeting.

Organisations participating in the *Don't Forget the Majority* campaign included FinnWID – Finnish Women in Development, The Service Centre for Development Cooperation (KEPA), Finn Church Aid, the World Federation of the Deaf, Save the Children Finland, Plan Finland, International Solidarity Foundation, Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission, UNICEF Finland, World Vision Finland, Finnish Disabled People's International Development Association (FIDIDA), and the Family Federation.

Esa Salminen (KEPA)

English translation by Tuuli Hakkarainen

SERBIA

THE FIRST SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETING SERVICE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED IN BELGRADE

Sign Language Interpreting Service provides interpreting services free of charge for Deaf and hard of hearing people on the territory of Belgrade in different settings such as: legal settings, police, health, local governmental bodies and institutions, procedure of creating legal documents (testaments, contracts etc), employment, individual needs and support to independent living (using public services, complaints, bank, parents meetings in schools, marriages, funerals, filling in different forms, writing and translating unofficial letters, phone calls, video interpreting, etc). Service is available for every Deaf person provided that the setting is on the territory of the city of Belgrade, regardless of potential user's city of residence.

It is a pilot project of the Organization of the Deaf of Belgrade and the Department for Protection of Persons with Disabilities of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy of Serbia.

The goal of this project is to provide sign language interpreting service free of charge for Deaf and hard of hearing people, but also to collect and analyze data on different issues, such as: need for interpreters within the Deaf community, settings in which sign language interpreters are most needed, finances needed to support this kind of service by Government.

The future forms of support to this kind of service depend a lot from the results of this pilot project and from the survey that will be carried out within it. Serbian government is currently preparing a law on the use of Sign language so it is necessary to find the most suitable ways to legally regulate this kind of service by the Government.

The project has prepared a leaflet and a video with necessary information related to the Service, in Serbian language and in Serbian Sign language. The project team has been attending numerous mass meetings in the Deaf Club in Belgrade to inform the Deaf community about this new service, and held many meetings with the Ministry to prepare the survey, which will be carried out at the same time.

In first three month, 110 individual Deaf users have already used this service and every day there are more



and more people coming to use this service. According to the feedback of our users, so far we have met their expectations and needs fully and adequately, and we expect more and more new clients every day. At the moment there are two full time interpreters and three freelance interpreters.

This pilot project will last until May 2010. We hope and we will do our best to make it continue and to arrive to the point when it will be a service provided permanently by government and arranged by law.

The Sign Language Interpreting Service of Belgrade of Serbia would like to express special thanks to Mr. Colin Allen, WFD Board Member who has been their friend, mentor and biggest support through all these years. And also thanks to their Hungarian friends from the National Association of Sign language interpreters (JOSZ). Having heard the presentation of the Serbian representative in the EFSLI meeting in Switzerland in 2007, they offered to share their knowledge and experience with Serbian and other colleagues who still didn't have an organized and established system of state funded sign language interpreting services at this time. They organized several wonderful learning days in Budapest, Hungary for all of the Serbian sign language interpreters. And it has been a really great support which has empowered them to make this giant step towards this goal!

Source: Vera Jovanović i Deasnka Žižić, Sign Language Interpreting Service of Belgrade

SLOVAKIA

DEAF PHOTO-MARATHON

In Slovakia, the deaf have created a Deaf-photo-marathon. It is a contest where every deaf can demonstrate what they can do with their camera in a few hours. This means to meet one day in one place with other deaf people, register and start their own walk round Bratislava streets where everyone has over 6 hours of photographing according to predetermined themes.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.deafphotomathon.com/p/home/>.

MALAYSIA

MALAYSIA TO RATIFY UN CONVENTION ON RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Malaysia will ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) in April this year, Women, Family and Community Development Minister Datuk Seri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil said.

In ratifying the convention, the ministry has targeted two areas, mainly accessibility and employment as priorities for this year.

Gallaudet University's College of Professional Studies and Outreach (CPSO) provides a comprehensive array of exemplary personal and professional development, leadership, and outreach programs. These services are designed for deaf and hard of hearing individuals, their families, communities, and professionals working with them across the globe.



Facilitator

Dr. Vasishta is an Associate Professor in the Department of Administration and Supervision at Gallaudet University, a former school superintendent, and an author on topics related to Leadership and Deaf Education.

Program Fee: \$890 (includes housing and meal plan).

Financial aid and scholarship support are not available.

To register: Go online to regonline.com/grassroots_advocacy.

Registration deadline: April 30, 2010

Contact tracey.kempton@gallaudet.edu for more information.



Gallaudet University
Washington, DC
gallaudet.edu

**Grassroots Advocacy Leadership
Training for International Deaf and
Hard of Hearing Individuals
June 27 - July 3, 2010
Gallaudet University
Washington, D.C.**

This intensive seven-day program focuses on the development of leadership skills among emerging and promising leaders from around the world. The presenters of the program will offer extensive training in the areas of creative thinking, organizing dynamic forces, collaborating with government and non-government agencies, advocacy, and empowerment.

The program, which is being offered in collaboration with the World Federation of the Deaf, is sure to provide the hands-on training on strategic planning and goal setting for participant leaders of the international deaf community.

This program is presented in American Sign Language and Int. Signs. Other sign language and voice interpreting services will be the responsibility of the participants.



Center for International Programs & Services
cips@gallaudet.edu

In collaboration with the



World Federation of the Deaf
wfdeaf.org

COMING EVENTS

WWW2010 19TH International World Wide Web Conference

Date: 26 - 30 April 2010

Place: Raleigh, North Carolina, USA

Website: <http://www2010.org>

The 10th Gulf Disability Society Forum

Theme: Rehabilitation programs in the Gulf
Cooperation Council: The diagnosis of reality and exploring the future.

Date: 27 – 29 April, 2010.

Place: Dammam, Saudi Arabia.

Organizers: Gulf Disability Society & Shumua Al-Amal for Special Education and Rehabilitation Co.

Email: disabiliyforum@shumua.net
president@gulfdisability.com

Website: <http://gulfdisability.com/>

Deaf Rave Hat Party

Date: 1 May 2010 9.00 – 05.00 (9am – 5am)

Address: Hub

2 Goulston Street

LONDON, E1 7TP

United Kingdom

For more information, see this website: <http://www.deafrave.com/?action=events&id=69>

13th World Deaf Magicians Festival

Date: 23 – 30 May 2010

Place: Cattolica, Italy

Email: info@2010wdmf.com

Website: www.2010WDMF.com

Also it is possible to see more information in Facebook

Business Convention and Expo of the Deaf

Date: 27 – 30 May 2010

Place: Houston, Texas, USA

Registration: <http://wpress.deafbiz.org/registration>

Website: <http://wpress.deafbiz.org/>

2nd International Congress on Deafness Communication and Learning. Advances in the Oral Modality

Date: 3 – 5 June 2010

Place: Barcelona, Spain

Organiser: GISTAL, University of Barcelona

Contact: Technical Secretariat

Manners

Manresa 8, 1r 1 a

08003 Barcelona

SPAIN

Telephone: +34 93 319 63 23

Fax: +34 93 310 33 77

Email: congrescergistal@manners.es

Website: www.congres.cergistal-uab.cat

Between You and Me: Local pronouns across modalities Workshop

Date: 7 – 8 June 2010

Place: Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Email: local.pronouns@gmail.com

Website: http://www.ru.nl/optimalcommunication/events/workshop_history/localpronouns/local_pronouns/

15th World Congress of Inclusion International

Theme: Transforming Rights into Action

Date: 16 – 19 June 2010

Place: Berlin, Germany

Contact: Alejandra Laiton

Communications Officer

Inclusion Europe

Tel: +32 2 502 28 15

Fax: +32 2 502 80 10

E-mail: a.laiton@inclusion-europe.org

Website: <http://www.inclusion-international.org/en/news/114.html>

21st International Congress on Education of the Deaf (ICED)

Theme: Partners in Education

Date: 18 – 22 June 2010

Vancouver, Canada

Email: iced2010@advance-group.com

Website: www.iced2010.com

XVIII International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2010)

Theme: Rights Here, Right Now

Date: 18 – 23 July 2010

Place: Vienna, Austria

Website: <http://www.aids2010.org>.

6th Biennial Deaf Lesbian Festival

Theme: Let us be liberated; A Journey into Dykehood

Date: 23 – 27 June 2010

Place: Islandia, New York, USA

Email: deaflesbianfestival@gmail.com

Website: www.deaflesbianfestival.org

4th World Forum on Human Rights

Theme: In a world in crisis, what about Human Rights?

Date: 28 June – 1 July 2010

Place: Nantes, France

Contact: Cité Internationale des Congrès Nantes
5 rue de Valmy BP 24102

44041 NANTES, FRANCE

Fax: +33 2 51 88 20 43

Email: registration@congres-nantes.fr

Nordic Cultural Festival for the Deaf

Date: 28 June – 3 July 2010

Place: Stockholm, Sweden

Website: www.dovkulturfestival2010.se

DeafNation World Conference & Expo

Date: 18 – 22 July 2010

Place: Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

Organiser: DeafNation

Website: <http://deafnation.com/deafnationworldexpo>

4th Conference of the International Society for Gesture Studies (ISGS)

Theme: Gesture – Evolution, Brain, and Linguistic Structures

Date: 25 – 30 July 2010

Place: European University Viadrina Frankfurt/Oder, (near Berlin)

Germany

Website: <http://www.isgs2010.de/>

World Deaf Laser Party

Date: 6 - 8 August 2010

Place: Odderøya Amfi

Kristiansand

NORWAY

E-mail: events@twod.no

Website: <http://www.twod.no/events/wdlp>

(International sign video - come soon)

Ticket: <http://www.billettsservice.no> - Search for "World Deaf Laser Party."

(Change to english language, if problem, send e-mail to events@twod.no)

Video: <http://vimeo.com/8635051> or <http://www.youtube.com> - Search for

"World Deaf Laser Party". (Include map to WDLP)

2nd WFD Children's Camp

Date: 8 – 15 August 2009

Place: Margarita Island, Venezuela

Contact: World Federation of the Deaf Youth Section (WFDYS)

Website: www.wfdys.org

10th Conference Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research (TISLR10)

Date: 30 September – 2 October 2010

Place: Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA

Contact: Beering Hall of Liberal Arts and Education
Room 1289

100 N. University Street

West Lafayette, IN 47907-2098

USA

Website: <http://www.purdue.edu/TISLR10/>

WORLDDEAF Cinema Festival

Date: 4 – 7 November 2010

Place: Gallaudet University

800 Florida Avenue, NE

Washington, DC 20002, USA

Website: <http://wdcf.gallaudet.edu>

5th International Deaf Academics and Researchers

Theme: Inclusion of Deaf at the University

Date: 21 – 24 November 2010

Place: Florianópolis – SC, Brazil

Organiser: Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina / UFSC

Website: www.deafacademics2010.com

New Zealand Sign Language Teachers Association – 11th National Conference

Theme: Challenges in Sign Language Teaching

Date: 27 – 28 November 2010

Place: Wellington, New Zealand

Email: conference@nzslta.org.nz

Call for Papers: deadline 31 May 2010

2nd International Deaf Expo: Conference on Empowering Technologies in Education of the Deaf/ Hard of Hearing

Date: 13 – 17 December 2010

Place: New Delhi, India

Contact: DEAF LEADERS,

DEAF EXPO 2010

C/o. S.K. Rai,

16/10, New Faiz Road,

Crossing, Karol Bagh,

New Delhi 110 005

INDIA

Website: www.deafexpo2010.com

E: Mail: info@deafexpo2010.com / deafleaders@airtelmail.in

Mobile: +91 98940 58898

16th World Congress of the WFD

Theme: Global Deaf Renaissance

Date: 18 – 24 July 2011

Place: Durban, South Africa

Telephone: +27 11 482 1610

Fax: +27 11 726 5873

Email: [secretariat\(at\)wfd2011.com](mailto:secretariat(at)wfd2011.com)

[personalassistant\(at\)wfd2011.com](mailto:personalassistant(at)wfd2011.com)

Website: <http://www.wfd2011.com>

Deaf World Cruise 2013

Date: August 2013 (after the 22nd Summer Deaflympics in Athens, Greece)

Contact: Ben Pena, CEO

VIP Travel Network LLC

DBA: Deaf Cruise

14700 N. Frank Lloyd Wright Blvd #157 PMB #379

Scottsdale, AZ 85260

USA

Email: mark.morales@deafcruise.com

Phone number: +1 480 553 8350

Fax Number: +1 480 657 0744

Website: <http://www.DeafWorldCruise.com>

8th Deaf History International Conference

Theme: Telling Deaf Lives: Biographies & Autobiographies

Date: 24 – 29 July 2012

Place: Toronto, Canada

More information will be announced later

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

COUNTRY NAME-SIGN

A popular book published for WFD (2003) - Collection of data: Japan Institute for Sign Language Studies and Tomas Hedberg, Swedish National Association of the Deaf. The Country Name-Sign books are available in the WFD General Secretariat. If you would like to order a copy, please do contact by email: orders@wfdeaf.org and then we will send you an invoice for payment of the order.

DEAF PEOPLE & HUMAN RIGHTS

A report written by Ms Hilde Haualand, researcher and Mr Colin Allen, project coordinator and report assistant.

The “Deaf People and Human Rights” report is based on a survey that is, up until now, the largest knowledge database on the situation of Deaf people. The lives of Deaf people in 93 countries, most of which are developing countries, are addressed. The Swedish National Association of the Deaf and the World Federation of the Deaf initiated the survey, with funding from the Swedish Agency for International Development Co-operation (Sida) and the Swedish Organisations of Disabled Persons International Aid Association (Shia).

The report is available on the WFD Website in English and International Sign. You can also order a DVD of the report in International Sign for postage fee (11 €).

If you wish to receive the DVD, please contact WFD General Secretariat Office at orders@wfdeaf.org.

The Intersection of CEDAW and CRPD (2010)

Special report: The Intersection of Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (CRPD) Author: Rangita de Silva-de Alwis, LL.M., S.J.D.

This report examines a new model built on advancing an intersectional human rights platform of action. The four country project in the Asian region provided a powerful locus, for an innovative human rights praxis, which integrated a dialectical interaction between different social movements, analytical insights, concrete political strategies and practices. The praxis model of four pilot projects in the Asia region was built on a framework that put into action an intersectional analysis of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) so as to challenge multiple forms of human rights violations against women and children with disabilities. Discrimination is often compounded for women and children on the grounds

of gender, age and minority status. A holistic approach to human rights advocacy promotes the understanding that the human rights framework is indivisible and inter related. This report explores the programmatic ways in which this conceptual analysis was put into practice.

This product is available as: PDF (<http://bit.ly/dmxVSG> (Wellesley))

HIV/AIDS

The sign-language version of 26 Scenarios from Africa short films on HIV/AIDS on YouTube is available on

<http://www.youtube.com/user/ScenariosAfrica#g/c/2B73DFBBC46B8979>

The sign-language version was produced by Mr. Frank van der Maas and his colleagues in Nigeria, with generous support from the Liliane Foundation.

The team will be creating the sign-language version of more Scenarios from Africa films in the course of 2010. If you would like to be informed each time they upload a new film to YouTube, please consider subscribing to their YouTube channel (<http://www.youtube.com/user/ScenariosAfrica>).

The Scenarios films are based on ideas written by young Africans and are created by some of the continent’s leading filmmakers.

It is also possible to watch and download for free of the Scenarios from Africa films in 28 languages, including ASL, at www.scenariosfilms.com The team encourage you to download the films to your computer and then share copies with others, as much as you wish, for example on USBflash drives.

Detailed information about Scenarios from Africa is available at www.globaldialogues.org



Legal Seat – Helsinki, Finland

WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF

An International Non-Governmental Organisation in official liaison with ECOSOC, UNESCO, ILO and WHO

PO Box 65, 00401 Helsinki, FINLAND
FAX: +358 9 580 3572
www.wfdeaf.org

President
MARKKU JOKINEN
Email: wfd@kl-deaf.fi

APPLICATION FORM

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

I would like to become an INDIVIDUAL Member of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD).

Understanding that my application is subject to approval by the President or General Secretary of WFD, I give below reasons for my interest in membership.

If my application is approved, I agree to pay the membership fee fixed for Individual Members, which is currently 50, 00 € (EUROS) annually.

I understand that payment of the annual fee entitles me to receive the **WFD NEWS** magazine for one year, plus other information.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Country: _____ Email address: _____

I am DEAF / HARD OF HEARING / HEARING
(Please circle which applies)

Reasons for interest in membership of the WFD:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail or fax this form to:

WFD General Secretariat
PO Box 65
FIN 00401 Helsinki
FINLAND
Fax: +358 9 580 3572
Email: memberships@wfdeaf.org