

Excellencies,

I speak on behalf of IDA and IDDC, representing persons with disabilities.

We strongly welcome the revised outcome document and commend the co-facilitators on their work in particular strengthening the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities throughout the new Agenda.

Consequently, we have two final requests:

ONE: please maintain all the references to persons with disabilities.

TWO: we would like to request that paragraph 21 includes a reference to persons with disabilities, in the second to the last sentence and reads as follows:

All forms of gender-based discrimination and violence against women, children and persons with disabilities will be eliminated, including through the engagement of men and boys.

The reason for our request is that

- **Persons with disabilities are 2 to 3 times more likely to be victims of violence than persons without disabilities.**
- **Persons with disabilities experience forms of violence unique to them, but are not relevant for other groups.** For example: the withholding of medication and assistive devices; refusal of caregivers to assist with daily living; denial of food or water; verbal abuse and ridicule relating to the disability;...etc

Excellencies, our understanding is that some Member States already brought this issue to your attention, therefore allow me to reinforce the strong request on behalf of persons with disabilities to be included in paragraph 21.

Thank you.