



Parallel Programme for Victim Assistance Experts 29 November – 3 December 2010

Background:

The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration, with the support of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU), will once again convene a parallel programme for victim assistance experts. The purpose of the programme is to help support the States Parties, particularly those accountable to and responsible for the well-being of significant numbers of mine survivors, in fulfilling their Cartagena Summit commitment to “ensure the continued involvement and effective contribution in all relevant Convention related activities by health, rehabilitation, social services, education, employment, gender and disability rights experts.” In keeping with the Convention’s culture of openness and transparency, other experts representing other States Parties or relevant organisations are welcome to take part in the parallel programme.

Parallel programmes for States Parties’ victim assistance experts have been held regularly since April 2007. These programmes have provided a forum for experts to increase their knowledge on key components of victim assistance and its integration into broader contexts through training and the sharing of experiences. Particular emphasis has been given to the role of victim assistance in the broader contexts of disability, healthcare, rehabilitation, social services, and development.

The 29 November to 3 December 2010 Tenth Meeting of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (10MSP) provides a further opportunity for experts to exchange experiences, and to increase their understanding about how to apply the comprehensive and integrated approach to victim assistance that was agreed to by the States Parties at the 2004 Nairobi Summit on a Mine-Free World and reaffirmed at the 2009 Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World. Based upon feedback provided to the ISU by past participants, the 10MSP parallel programme has been developed as follows:

- Fewer topics will be dealt with in order that more in-depth discussions can take place.
- The main focus of the programme will be community-based rehabilitation (CBR) in order to take advantage presented by the launch, at the end of October, of the World Health Organisation’s *Guidelines for Community-Based Rehabilitation*. (See the attached background note on the *Guidelines*.)
- Community-based rehabilitation will be dealt with in a participatory workshop setting with a view to achieving the aim of experts having increased their understanding of the state of the art in this field and with an idea regarding how the *Guidelines for Community-Based Rehabilitation* could be applied in their national contexts.

- While the majority of the parallel programme will still take place in a traditional meeting room environment, other means will be used to provide for an exchange between experts and to build capacity. In particular, a field visit will take place that will enable time for experts to interact informally with one another and to explore a particular substantive topic: rehabilitation through culture, arts, recreation, leisure and sports.
- Experts will be asked to come prepared to engage in the main substantive topics. (See the attached *Guide to preparing for the parallel programme*.) Experts will also be asked to consider how what they have gained from this parallel programme will be applied within their countries. Feedback will be sought after the parallel programme has occurred to see if it has had an impact.

On the basis of these considerations, the following programme has been developed:

Programme:

Monday 29 November 2010

- 10:00 10MSP OPENING CEREMONY
An opening ceremony will take place in the Salle des Assemblées featuring the participation of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Albania and Switzerland and the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross. Delegates are asked to be in their seats promptly by 10:00. **(Note: Experts participating in the VA parallel programme are requested to leave the plenary room after the opening ceremony and be seated in Room 27 promptly by 11:30.)**
- 11:30 OPENING OF VICTIM ASSISTANCE PARALLEL PROGRAMME
- Welcome by Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration (Turkey and Peru)
 - Introduction of speakers and participants
 - Overview of the programme
- 12:00 GENEVA LAUNCH OF THE GUIDELINES ON COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION
- Alana Officer, Violence and Injury Prevention and Disability Unit, World Health Organization
 - Barbara Murray, Skills and Employability, International Labour Organization
 - Diane Mulligan, International Disability Development Consortium
 - Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration (Turkey and Peru)
- 12:15 UNDERSTANDING THE CONTEXT: VICTIM ASSISTANCE, THE CRPD, AND CBR AS A TOOL FOR IMPLEMENTATION
- The Cartagena Action Plan & CBR (Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration)
 - The Cartagena Action Plan, the Vientiane Action Plan & CBR (Firoz Ali Alizada, ICBL)
 - Victim Assistance, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & CBR (Diane Mulligan, International Disability and Development Consortium)
- 13:30 *Break for lunch*
- 15:00 WORKSHOP ON THE COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION GUIDELINES
- A) *An Overview of the Guidelines on Community-Based Rehabilitation*
Chapal Khasnabis, World Health Organisation
This introductory session will provide an overview of disability, the development of CBR, and the CBR matrix. The issue of managing CBR programmes will be introduced in advance of a more in-depth discussion later in the programme.

- 16:00 B) *Guidelines on Community-Based Rehabilitation: Health Component*
Claude Tardif, International Committee of the Red Cross
CBR programmes have the potential to support people with disabilities in attaining their highest possible level of health, working across five key areas of health, promotion, prevention, medical care, rehabilitation and assistive devices. This session will examine the health component of the CBR matrix, and take a deeper look into these five key areas.

18:00 *Programme adjourns*

Tuesday 30 November 2010

10:00 WORKSHOP ON THE COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION GUIDELINES (CONTINUED)

- C) *Guidelines on Community-Based Rehabilitation: Education Component*
Diane Mulligan, International Disability and Development Consortium
The universal right to education is firmly established in international instruments that have global endorsement: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 26 (2), and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 28 (3). The focus on education will allow participants to understand how CBR can be used as a tool for the realisation of this right.

- D) *Guidelines on Community-Based Rehabilitation: Empowerment Component*
Diane Mulligan, International Disability and Development Consortium
The empowerment component focuses on the importance of empowering people with disabilities, their family members and communities to facilitate the mainstreaming of disability across each sector and to ensure that everybody is able to access their rights and entitlements. This session will examine themes of awareness and capacity building to facilitate the empowerment of persons with disabilities, their families and communities.

Guidelines on Community-Based Rehabilitation: Empowerment Component

Peer to Peer Support by Jesus Martinez and Bekele Gonfa

Peer support occurs when people provide common knowledge, experience, emotional, social or practical help to each other. Peer support is used among different groups of people who live in various types of trauma situation. Peer support has been successfully used for psychosocial support and empowerment of survivors and persons with disabilities in several landmine affected countries. Peer support is an effective way to empower landmine survivors and other persons with disabilities who are traumatized or live in isolation. Peer support is cost-effective and easy to perform.

13:00 *Break for lunch*

- 15:00 E) *Guidelines on Community-Based Rehabilitation: Livelihoods Component*
Barbara Murray, International Labour Organization
CBR programmes can help individuals and their families to secure the necessities of life and improve their economic and social situations. This session will examine the livelihoods component of the CBR Guidelines, focusing on key elements such as skills development, self-employment, financial services, wage employment and social protection.

- 17:00 F) *Guidelines on Community-Based Rehabilitation: Management of CBR Programmes*
Chapal Khasnabis, World Health Organization
This session will examine the management cycle in more detail to help participants to understand the important aspects of each stage and how they can be applied to develop and strengthen CBR programmes to ensure that they ultimately meet the needs of people with disabilities and their family members.

18.00 *Programme adjourns*

Wednesday 1 December 2010 (10MSP Plenary)

- 10:00 AGENDA ITEM 11(A) CONSIDERATION OF THE GENERAL STATUS AND OPERATION OF THE CONVENTION: ASSISTING THE VICTIMS
States Parties that have indicated that they are responsible for significant numbers of landmine survivors will be given the opportunity provide brief updates (6-8 minutes) on steps they have taken to apply actions #23 through #33 of the Cartagena Action Plan. All delegations will be given the opportunity to review and comment of the relevant portions of the draft Geneva Progress Report 2009-2010.
- 13:00 *Break for lunch*
- 15:00 AGENDA ITEM 11(A) CONSIDERATION OF THE GENERAL STATUS AND OPERATION OF THE CONVENTION: ASSISTING THE VICTIMS (CONTINUED)
- 18.00 *Programme / plenary adjourns*

Thursday 2 December 2010

- 07:30 DEPART FOR THE FIELD VISIT: INCLUSIVE RECREATION, LEISURE AND SPORTS IN ACTION
The CBR Guidelines have highlighted the important role that sports activities play in communities. The many benefits of such activities include improving the health and well being of individuals, contributing to individual empowerment, and promoting the development of inclusive communities.
- During this one-day field visit, participants will have the opportunity to learn about the work of Plusport, the umbrella organisation for sports for persons with a disability in Switzerland. The visit will be broken down into two parts; the first part will allow participants to engage in discussions about inclusive recreation and sporting activities; during the second part of the day, participants will have the opportunity to see Plusport training in action.
- 09:30 *Welcome coffee*
- 10:00 INCLUSIVE RECREATION AND SPORTING ACTIVITIES
- Promoting inclusive sports in Switzerland (Hanni Kломstein and Christof Baer, Plusport – Sport Handicap Suisse)
 - Enabling inclusive winter sports in Switzerland - an overview of programme design and equipment adaptation (Reini Linder, Plusport – Sport Handicap Suisse)
 - Sailability (Dr Willi Lutz, Sport-Wheel Chair Instructor)
- 12:30 *Break for lunch*
- 14:00 DEMONSTRATION OF INCLUSIVE SPORT
The right to participate in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport is contained within Article 30(5)(2) of the CRPD. Participation in recreation, leisure and sports activities may be one of the few opportunities people with disabilities have to engage in community life beyond their immediate families. Participants will be given the opportunity to see how the work of organizations such as Plusports enable people with disabilities to realize this right. Participants will be given the opportunity to see beneficiaries of Plusports sports training programmes in action.
- 16:00 Departure
- 18.00 Arrival in Geneva

Friday 3 December 2010 (10MSP Plenary)

- 10:00 AGENDA ITEM 12: EVALUATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT UNIT
Delegations may wish to participate in the discussion on the outcomes of the work of the “ISU Task Force”, which has overseen efforts to evaluate the ISU.

AGENDA ITEM 11(E)(I) – (III)

- Transparency and the exchange of information
- Preventing and suppressing prohibited activities and facilitating compliance
- Implementation Support

13:00 *Lunch for Victim Assistance Experts (by invitation only)*

15:00 10MSP CONTINUES

- Consideration of Article 5 Extension Requests
- Preparations for the Eleventh Meeting of the States Parties
- Adoption of the final report of the 10MSP

18.00 *Closure of the 10MSP*

BACKGROUND NOTE: GUIDELINES FOR COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION

Community-based rehabilitation – or “CBR” – is a strategy for rehabilitation, equalisation of opportunities, poverty reduction and social inclusion of people with disabilities. It is a concept first introduced by the World Health Organisation in 1978.

The goals of CBR are to ensure the benefits of the Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities reach the majority by:

- supporting people with disabilities to maximize their physical and mental abilities, to access regular services and opportunities, and to become active contributors to the community and society at large;
- activating communities to promote and protect the human rights of people with disabilities for example by removing barriers to participation; and,
- facilitating capacity building, empowerment and community mobilization of people with disabilities and their families.

At the Cartagena Summit, it was noted that since 2005, the States Parties have come to recognise that CBR is “an appropriate mechanism in some States Parties to strengthen, and improve access to, services for mine survivors” and that CBR is a “strategy within general community development for enhancing the quality of life of persons with disabilities, including landmine survivors, and their families by improving service delivery for rehabilitation, equalisation of opportunities, poverty reduction and social inclusion of persons with disabilities.”

Although CBR is practiced in the majority of countries around the world and is part of many national strategies, most CBR follow a vertical approach, mostly focusing on health and often exclusively on physical rehabilitation. The needs of women, girls, boys and men are multi-dimensional and human development requires well-being in different domains. To ensure persons with disabilities have a good life with freedom and dignity, CBR needs to adopt a multi-sectoral comprehensive approach addressing the key domains of well-being.

Given this concept, the question remained: how to do it? The WHO, ILO and UNESCO agreed that guidelines could provide the necessary impetus to make CBR an effective multi-sectoral strategy and encourage inter-sectoral activities. Such guidelines would also set up a framework to implement the provisions of the UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities at community level, gradually scaling up to national level. Work has been carried out on *Guidelines for Community-Based Rehabilitation* since 2004.

The purpose of the *Guidelines for Community-Based Rehabilitation* is to provide support on how to initiate a CBR programme or how to strengthen an existing CBR programme. The target group for the Guidelines is mainly CBR managers including personnel from local and international NGOs, government ministries, development organizations, primary health care programmes, education programmes and organizations of people with disabilities. They are designed as a practical guide to strengthen the delivery of CBR.

GUIDE TO PREPARING FOR THE PARALLEL PROGRAMME

A participatory workshop on the international guidelines on community-based rehabilitation (CBR) will take place on Monday 29 November and Tuesday 30 November. In order to be well prepared for the workshop, participants are requested to familiarise themselves with the guidelines and to reflect upon the following set of questions:

1. Are there CBR programmes being implemented in your country? If yes, please provide examples.
2. Considering your national context, what do you consider to be the benefits of establishing CBR programmes within your country?
3. What are the challenges to implementing CBR programmes in your country?
4. In your experience, how do the CBR programmes in your country link to the obligations contained within the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities?

Copies of the guidelines on community-based rehabilitation (CBR) can be downloaded as follows:

<http://www.who.int/disabilities/cbr/guidelines/en/index.html> (pdf version)

http://www.sightsavers.org/our_work/how_we_help/working_with_blindness/social_inclusion/13942.html (in Microsoft Word and MP3 format):)