



The EU Disability Action Plan 2008-2009 and the Role of Social Service Providers

Martin Ohridski
Public Affairs Officer
Workability Europe

Workability Europe Annual Conference
21 May 2008, San Sebastian, Spain

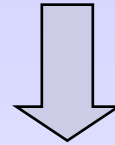
EU's long-term disability strategy (civil, political, economic, social and environmental rights)

Anti-discrimination

Elimination of barriers

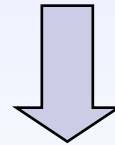
Mainstreaming of EU policies

Long-term Disability Strategy



Disability Action Plan 2004-2010

Overall objective:
promote independent living of people with disabilities



DAP 2004 - 2005 First phase
DAP 2006 - 2007 Second phase
DAP 2008 - 2009 Third phase

- Gives insight into direction of European disability policies and employment trends
- Influences national disability policies
- Analyses developments and successful approaches in EU Member States
- Includes best practice examples in the EU
- Outlines role of employers/social service providers
- Informs about upcoming funding opportunities

- Communication (11 p.) + Annex (32 p.)
http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/index/7003_en.html

- Composed of three key parts:
 - Analyses developments in the situation of disabled people
 - Reports on achievements of the second phase of the DAP 2006-2007
 - Defines priorities for 2008-2009 to meet the strategic objectives of the DAP

1. Fostering **accessibility**
(*physical, labour market, goods & services...*)



Disability Action Plan 2008-2009

2. Supporting the implementation
of the **UN Convention**

- Nothing on Social Services of General Interest
- Nothing on State Aid

1. Fostering accessibility of the labour market

PRIORITY ACTION	INSTRUMENT
Exploring flexicurity measures for pwd	Review of practices
Encouraging supported employment	Discussion paper for the DHLG
Incorporating social criteria into public procurement	Elaboration of Guide on the basis of a study
Improving integration of pwd in education	LLP with a specific priority in 2008-2009 Calls

2. Boosting accessibility of mainstream goods, services & infrastructure

PRIORITY ACTION	INSTRUMENT
Transport systems & services – (air, rail, maritime, bus) enforcing/establishing rights of pwd	Various legislative instruments
ICT – increasing support for projects on ICT for ageing and/or disability under the 7FP	Calls for proposals for disability-related research projects
Public built environment – fostering accessibility	Standardisation measures under the Public Procurement Directive
Business case – promoting the business case for employing pwd	Community strategic guidelines on Cohesion

3. Consolidating the EU's analytical capacity

PRIORITY ACTION	INSTRUMENT
Measuring health & disability in Europe	Survey module
Measuring the social integration in society of pwd	Survey module
Launching the European Academic Network on Disability	Tender PROGRESS Programme (2007)
Evaluating the EU DAP	Tender PROGRESS Programme (2007)

4. Actions towards full enjoyment of fundamental rights

PRIORITY ACTION	INSTRUMENT
Supporting the implementation of the UN Convention	Exchange of information and good practices at the DHLG
Supporting awareness-raising for effective implementation of the UN Convention	Transnational project funded by PROGRESS
Complementing the Community legislative framework of protection against discrimination	Proposal for a Directive based on Art. 13 of the Treaty implementing the principle of equal treatment outside employment inter alia on grounds of disability

- Adopted in December 2006, opened for signature on 30 March 2007, entered into force in May 2008
- First human rights Convention of the 21st century
- Does not establish new rights – defines obligations on States to promote, protect and ensure the rights of pwd
- Bans discrimination, sets out steps States should take to create an enabling environment
- Contains definitions, principles, obligations, rights
- A policy instrument which is cross-disability and cross-sectoral
- Specific Articles on Rehabilitation (26) and Work & Employment (27)
- Legally binding
 - States who ratify the Convention – legally bound to respects the standards in the Convention
 - For other States – international standards that they should endeavour to respect
- Important role of civil society in negotiation and monitoring

Preamble

1. Purpose
2. Definitions
3. General principles
4. General obligations
5. Equality and non-discrimination
6. Women with disabilities
7. Children with disabilities
8. Awareness-raising
9. Accessibility
10. Right to life
11. Situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies
12. Equal recognition before the law
13. Access to justice
14. Liberty and security of the person
15. Freedom from torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
16. Freedom from exploitation, violence and abuse
17. Protecting the integrity of the person
18. Liberty of movement and nationality
19. Living independently and being included in the community

- 20. Personal mobility
- 21. Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information
- 22. Respect for privacy
- 23. Respect for home and the family
- 24. Education
- 25. Health
- 26. Habilitation and Rehabilitation**
- 27. Work and Employment**
- 28. Adequate standard of living and social protection

- 29. Participation in political and public life
- 30. Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport
- 31. Statistics and data collection
- 32. International cooperation
- 33. National implementation and monitoring
- 34 to 40. International monitoring mechanism
- 41 to 50. Final clauses
- Optional protocol

United Nations Secretariat for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

www.un.org/disabilities

www.ohchr.org

enable@un.org

Article 26: Habilitation & Rehabilitation

“1)...States Parties shall organize, strengthen and extend comprehensive habilitation and rehabilitation services and programmes, particularly in the areas of health, employment, education and social services...”

“2) States Parties shall promote the development of initial and continuing training for professionals and staff working in habilitation and rehabilitation services.”



Article 27: Work & Employment

“1a)...States Parties shall [take appropriate steps to]...prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability with regard to ..all forms of employment...”

“1d)...States Parties shall [take appropriate steps to]...enable persons with disabilities to have effective access to general technical and vocational guidance programmes, placement services and vocational and continuing training...”

“1k)...States Parties shall [take appropriate steps to]...promote vocational and professional rehabilitation, job retention and return-to-work programmes for persons with disabilities.”



- Input into WE position papers
- Send us your good practices
- Feed in statistics
- Lobby your Ministry representatives in the HLG on Disability and your MEPs
- Promote the UN Convention
- Put forward innovative projects

Thank you for your attention!



Martin Ohridski
Public Affairs Officer
Rue de Spa 15, B-1000, Brussels, Belgium
Tel +32 2 235 66 64
Fax +32 2 736 86 22
Email: publicaffairs@workability-europe.org
www.workability-europe.org