**Annex II**

Biographical data form of candidates to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

**(Please respect the specified amount of lines when completing this form)**

**Family name and first name**: Sir Robert George MARTIN (KNZM)

**Date and place of birth**: 13 August 1957, Wellington, New Zealand

**Place of residence**: Whanganui, New Zealand

**Nationality**: New Zealander

**Email address**: rgmartinmnnz@gmail.com

**United Nations working languages**: English

**Current position/function**: (Five lines maximum)

* Member of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).
* Member of the CRPD and CRC joint working group on children with disabilities.
* Life member of People First New Zealand, a Disabled Persons Organisation, run by and for people with intellectual disabilities.
* Committee member of Frozen Funds Charitable Trust dedicated to funding projects for people who use intellectual disability and mental health services.
* Fellow of the Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability.

**Other main activities on the rights of persons with disabilities**: (Ten lines maximum)

* Sir Robert is recognised internationally as an important leader and advocate for persons with disabilities. His role began as a civil rights campaigner in a small town in New Zealand and grew into a lifetime of international advocacy. In 2016, Sir Robert became the first person with an intellectual disability elected to any UN human rights treaty body. In recognition of his lifetime’s work, Sir Robert recently received a knighthood for his services to persons with disabilities.
* Sought-after speaker. Sir Robert has travelled the world speaking on panels and to organisations, families and persons with disabilities about topics such as the right to live in the community, de-institutionalisation, the right to work, the right to have the life of your choice and reasonable accommodation.
* Evaluator of New Zealand disability support services funded by the Government.

**Educational background, in particular on the rights of persons with disabilities:** (Five lines maximum)

Sir Robert has had limited formal education as he spent his childhood in institutions and foster homes throughout New Zealand. This experience has given him a great interest in ensuring that all persons with disabilities have the opportunity to live in their communities from birth. Sir Robert has continued to learn throughout his adult life, for instance teaching himself to read through his passion for books.

**Please indicate whether you identify yourself as a person with disability or elaborate on your lived experience related to persons with disabilities**.

(Three lines maximum)

Sir Robert identifies as a person with an intellectual disability. Sir Robert also experiences hearing and other physical impairments.

**Relevant expertise on the rights of persons with disabilities. Please elaborate on your areas of expertise under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and related experience.** (Five lines maximum)

As a member of the CRPD since 2017, Sir Robert has significant experience in the full range of the CRPD’s functions and responsibilities.

Sir Robert was a long-standing member of the Inclusion International Council and was Chairperson of Inclusion International’s Self Advocacy Taskforce from 1996 to 2008. As a representative of Inclusion International, Sir Robert played a significant role in the negotiations of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

**List of most recent publications in the field of the rights of persons with disabilities:** (Five lines maximum)

With Sir Robert’s help, John McRae wrote a book about Sir Robert’s life called “Becoming A Person: The Biography of Robert Martin” (Craig Potten Publishing, November 2014). Sir Robert has also made many speeches that have been heard by thousands of people around the world. His words have affected changes in policies and practices which have made a positive difference for persons with disabilities.