**Note for the facilitator**

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| Module/topic | **Module 8: The Optional Protocol** |
| Session sequence | * Presentation * Group activity * Wrap-up |
| Total duration | 1 h 15 min   * 30 min: presentation * 45 min: group activity |
| Training material | * Computer slide presentation on the Optional Protocol * Note for facilitator (this note) * Instructions for group activity “bringing a case to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities” |
| Background reading for the facilitator | * On sources, references and websites used, see last slide * *Human Rights Training: A Manual on Human Rights Training Methodology*, Professional Training Series No. 6 * On training techniques, including compilation of icebreakers, see OHCHR METS materials * *From Exclusion to Equality: Realizing the Rights of Persons with Disabilities—Handbook for Parliamentarians on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional* Protocol (HR/PUB/07/6), pp. 25–49 |
| Handouts for participants | * Computer slide presentation (print 4 slides per page) * Instructions group activity |
| Reading material for participants | * Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities * *From Exclusion to Equality: Realizing the Rights of Persons with Disabilities—Handbook for Parliamentarians on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional* Protocol (HR/PUB/07/6) * Elements for an optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/CN.4/2006/WG.23/2) |

**Learning objectives (skills, knowledge, attitudes)**

At the end of this module, participants will be able to:

* Describe the main features of the communications and inquires procedures in the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
* Identify main roles of States, DPOs, and United Nations country teams in promoting the ratification of the Optional Protocol and ensuring appropriate follow-up

**Specific slides**

* Slide 1 – title
* Slide 2 – sets out the objectives and module flow
* Slide 3 – sets out the basic facts about the communications procedure under the Optional Protocol – what it is and also what it is not
* Slide 4 – illustrates the various steps in the process of submitting, considering and deciding on individual communications
* Slide 5 – provides a checklist for submission so that participants understand that there are certain issues to be identified and steps to be followed to ensure that the Committee can register the communication
* Slide 6 – sets out the admissibility criteria
* Slide 7 – discusses interim measures which may prevent irreparable damage to victims
* Slide 8 – sets out the steps in deciding on the merits, publishing the Committee’s views and following up with State parties
* Slide 9 – identifies the steps in the inquiry procedure. The facilitator might wish to read the inquiry undertaken by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women which is referred to in the notes so as to give greater substance to this slide with a concrete illustration
* Slide 10 – identifies some of the benefits of the Optional Protocol. It is important to stress that ratification of the Optional Protocol has advantages for States as well as for alleged victims
* Slide 11 – identifies some potential roles for States, civil society organizations and the United Nations to support the Optional Protocol. Slides 10 and 11 should be used to encourage discussion on the benefits of the Optional Protocol as well as the roles of various stakeholders in promoting it
* Slide 12 – provides sources of additional information