



Permanent Mission of the Slovak Republic

Geneva

VN.15.153/2011

The Permanent Mission of the Slovak Republic to the Office of the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honour to attach the written response of the Slovak Republic to the communication related to the HRC resolution 16/15 concerning the human rights of persons with disabilities.

The Permanent Mission of the Slovak Republic avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 15 October 2011



Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Palais Wilson
Geneva

Annex: 1 page

OHCHR REGISTRY

24 OCT. 2011

Recipients :.....S. Walker
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Question No. 1:

None of the laws governing the issue of the Slovak Republic elections and referenda restrict persons with disabilities in the application of the right to vote or to be elected in any way.

Question No. 2:

There is a possibility for persons with disabilities provided by the law, to vote through the mobile ballot box at home, in hospitals or social service homes. When voting at a polling station, person with disability can be assisted by another elector administering the vote on the ballot paper according to the instructions of the person with disability. Separate lists of candidates specifically designed for eye impaired (or sound carriers of such lists of candidates) are provided by the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.

Question No. 3:

Communication and cooperation of persons with disabilities and of their respective organizations in relation to central government bodies and in relation to the development of policies, is mainly carried out through their participation in the work of the Committee for persons with disabilities, permanent expert body of the Slovak Government Council for Human Rights, National Minorities and Gender Equality, and its Secretariat. Just like other non-governmental organizations, organizations of persons with disabilities are supported by network of governmental granting schemes.

Question No. 4:

The provisions of the recently approved Statute of the Committee for People with Disabilities (June 27th 2011), follows the principle of direct participation and creates wide and relevant possibilities for people with disabilities to participate and influence the work of the Committee. Apart from the President of the umbrella organization (the Slovak Disability Council), two representatives from each group of organizations representing respective type of disability are Members of the Committee.

The Statute recognizes six different groups of organizations - intellectual disability, chronic illness, mental and behavioral disorder, hearing impairment, physical disability, and visual impairment. The two representatives from each group of organizations representing respective type of disability were elected by the organizations representing respective type of disability themselves, following a call for interest opened on July 4th 2011. In order to make the call widely accessible, it was marketed both on the internet and in one of the nationwide daily newspaper. In order to be considered, the organization had to be registered at the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic for at least two years and must have been primarily managed by people with disability or by those who assist such person by exercising his/her rights and freedoms (i.e. parent, child, sibling, spouse, grandparent, guardian or appointed representative of people with disabilities).

Question No. 5:

According to our knowledge, no such statistics exist— since elections are secret, there is no tracking of whether the person which took part has been disabled or not.

Question No. 6:

N/A