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**Written Submission**

**to the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

**on the Draft Guidelines on Deinstitutionalization,**

**including in emergencies**

Submitted by:

**Mr. T.**

With the support of

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I am a man diagnosed with an intellectual disability. I lived in institutions for 5 years and I have been living in the community since August 2021.

I would like to give the following feedback on the Guidelines.

About institutions:

* I did not even have my ID card and a residential card with me at the group home. They took them away from me. Even when I went to the doctor, I had to ask for permission, and someone always accompanied me. They wanted to know about everything.

Thoughts in relation to deinstitutionalisation and how to support independent living:

* After leaving the institution I found out what they said about me in the institution, that I couldn't manage money and that I couldn't get around independently. I don’t know what they were spending my money on. Now I have a bank card, I can use it and I can get around Budapest on my own. Nobody can be said not to be able to do these things.
* It is important that there is preparation for moving out of the institution. The residents should have the opportunity to control their financial assets even while they are in the institution. This would be a step toward preparation for life.
* Now I have bought a drone and I can take a video with that. I couldn't have bought that in the institution. I also bought an electric scooter to go to work. I couldn't have bought it inside the institution.
* Persons with disabilities, including residents of institutions, should have real jobs. This would help persons with disabilities living in institutions to move out. During the deinstitutionalisation process, persons with disabilities shall be offered living options close to their workplace.
* If you live in the community, you need to learn how to travel, and how to use public transportation.
* If I were ill, we wouldn't panic. I know where and how to buy medicines.

Complaining in the institution to facilitate deinstitutionalisation:

* Complaining in the institution? An institution is not a setting like that.
* Residents shall have access to external lawyers, and disability rights advocates.

In relation to Chapter IX on Remedies, reparations, redress:

* Among other things, it depends on the income/wealth whether a resident of an institution can come out. As for me, we should not sue either the institution or the State for this. They should pay compensation without being sued.

**NOTE: The views presented in this submission are of Mr. T. and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Validity that made it possible for Mr. T. to participate in the consultation process.**