

Participation of PDPI and Estanara Group Executives in a Provincial Consultative Workshop on **Pakistan Disability Bill- UN Convention for the Rights of Persons with disabilities Country Report** jointly organized by Ministry of Law, Justice & Human Rights and World Health Organization WHO.



On December 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> 2014, a very effective workshop was organized by WHO & Human Rights in collaboration with Ministry of Law & Justice. The aim behind this consultative workshop was the training and advancement of the participants with the consultation on Disability Legislation in the light of UN Convention for the Rights of persons with disabilities UNCRPD and to take initiatives towards its implementation by the provincial government.



On Dec 18<sup>th</sup> 2014 the first session was held at Hotel Marriot and the participants present in this session were the representatives from Disability Movement, Disabled People's Organizations, Non-government Organizations, Disability Rights & Advisory council Unit of Human Rights and WHO, Government officials, Ministry of law & Justice, Social Welfare Department, Medical Rehabilitation Centers, Advocacy &



Support organizations and the civil society.



Day first, the session started with welcoming remarks by Huma Chughtai a representative from Ministry of Law, Justice and Human Rights and its was carried out by Maryam Mallick , Technical Advisor Medical Rehabilitation, WHO gave a detailed presentation on UNCRPD following up the agenda. After the presentation a discussion was held over the Disability legislation and the participants were asked to give there inputs, suggestions over the country report and the Disability Right Act Pakistan which was already circulated among them.



A very productive approach was carried out during the session which let the Leaders of Disability movement to raise the voice for the rights of persons with disability, sharing their real life experiences to the participants. The session ended with a briefing to the agenda of next session.



Day second, the session was held at Provincial Assembly Sindh with the participation of Husnain Ali Mirza Member of Provincial Assembly, **Convener** of the MDGs Task Force and some MPAs were also present to discuss the legislation process with the registered participants. The Session started with the in depth discussion of the implementation of UNCRPD by the local government and it carried out to the Disability Right Act Pakistan which has to be presented to the Assembly by the respected



Representatives of the parliament.



The participants overviewed the Act and also discussed their views, for a collective approach, their views and suggestion were considered and they were amended on spot with the willingness of all the participants present that day. MPA Husnain Mirza also reviewed the Act and gave his proficient contribution towards an applicable Act which was appreciated by all the participants.

M. Mobin Uddin-President of Pakistan Disabled People’s International (PDPI) contributed in the Disability Right Act with his suggestion over the ground realities and current scenario and requested to correct a few clauses. Jawaid Raees- General Secretary was also contributing in the discussing with his supportive suggestion in the same regard, which made the participation of PDPI very beneficial for the workshop.



After the Disability Right Act Pakistan was reviewed completely, a Motivational Video Song made by PDPI and Estanara Group was played which was enjoyed by all the participants and was very much appreciated. Executives of Estanara group: Bilal Ahmed, M. Afzal Uddin and Hamza Ali were also contributed with their presence assisting the senior leadership of Disability.

This effective Initiative would lead to a milestone in the history of Pakistan Disability movement. An analysis of possible impacts, including the results of extensive community consultation, will also be completed and table in Parliament, together with the act by the respected representative of provincial assembly and with a very high expectations the bill is going to be passed soon.

Reported By:  
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