



Disability Inclusion Checklist for Parliaments

This checklist offers a quick method for identifying opportunities for parliaments to support persons with disabilities in their work. Please note that this is a supplementary resource only. It is not intended to replace guidance from disability rights experts and DPOs.

Instructions

In co-ordination with parliamentary leaders and/or disability rights partners, answer each question as best as you can with “yes”, “no” or “not applicable (n/a)”. If needed, comments can be added to each section to clarify responses.

At the end, look over the responses to each question. A “yes” response indicates that disability rights work has already been done in that area. A “no” response indicates an opportunity to improve disability inclusion and/or accessibility. It is recommended that parliaments work with disability rights experts and DPOs to address opportunities identified by “no” responses.

Assessing Current Legislation

	YES	NO	N/A
1. Has the country ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Is there at least one national law that clearly mentions and protects the political rights of persons with disabilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Is there a national political party and/or election law that specifically mentions persons with disabilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. When reviewing national legislation regarding voter eligibility, are the phrases “incapacity”, “illness”, “inability” and/or “competency” either absent or clarified so that they do not exclude persons with disabilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. When reviewing national legislation regarding candidacy eligibility, are the phrases “incapacity”, “illness”, “inability” and/or “competency” either absent or clarified so that they do not exclude persons with disabilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Are persons with disabilities who have limited legal capacity still legally allowed to participate in political processes (e.g., to vote)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	YES	NO	N/A
7. Is there a national law, ordinance, action plan or strategy that establishes a public fund for reasonable accommodations for candidates with disabilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1. Is there a national law, ordinance, action plan or strategy that establishes a public fund for political parties to provide reasonable accommodations for members of the public?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. If there is no public accessibility fund available for candidates or political parties, are there political finance laws that provide support, exemptions or fewer restrictions for political parties and their candidates who will have to raise additional funds to cover the cost of reasonable accommodations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments: _____

Developing Legislation

	YES	NO	N/A
8. Is there a parliamentary working group or committee that focuses on disability rights?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Does the parliament regularly consult with DPOs when developing new laws?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Is there an agreement or standard within the country's region (e.g., Europe, Central Asia) for disability inclusion and accessibility in political parties?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Is there an agreement or standard within the country's region (e.g., Europe, Central Asia) for disability inclusion and accessibility in parliaments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments: _____

Communications Strategy

	YES	NO	N/A
12. Does parliament have a communications strategy that includes outreach to persons with disabilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Do the parliament's communications materials include text and photos of men and women with disabilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Does parliament have an accessible website that complies with level AA of the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Are parliament's communications materials available in easy-to-read format?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. Are Word documents, PDFs, Excel sheets and other similar electronic materials available online accessible for screen readers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Are captions and/or subtitles included with parliamentary videos?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Are audio descriptions included with parliamentary videos?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments: _____

Parliamentary Visitors and Programmes

	YES	NO	N/A
19. Has parliament worked with a DPO to conduct an accessibility audit of its building(s)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. If an accessibility audit has been conducted, does parliament have a clear plan to fund and implement any necessary modifications to improve accessibility?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. If tours or visits to parliamentary buildings are offered, are visitors notified that they can ask for and receive reasonable accommodations, such as a sign language interpreter?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. If parliament supports civic, leadership, internship or other public training programmes, does it actively encourage men and women with disabilities to apply for and participate in those programmes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments: _____

Internal Operations

	YES	NO	N/A
23. Does parliament have an accessibility policy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24. If there is a policy, are Members of Parliament (MPs), visitors to parliament, participants in programmes offered by parliament and parliamentary staff covered by the accessibility policy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25. If there is an accessibility policy, have parliamentary staff and MPs been made aware of the policy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26. If there is an accessibility policy, is it available in easy-to-read format, sign language and as an accessible PDF or webpage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27. Do parliamentary staff receive basic training in disability rights, including the use of appropriate language?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28. Is there a central fund available to support reasonable accommodations for MPs, parliamentary staff and visitors with disabilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29. Are the criteria for accessing the fund made clear to MPs and parliamentary staff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	YES	NO	N/A
30. Is there a clear procedure for receiving and processing reasonable accommodation requests from MPs and parliamentary staff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31. Is there a clear procedure for receiving and processing reasonable accommodation requests from members of the public?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
32. Does parliament have a non-discrimination policy that prohibits discriminating against qualified job applicants or employees because of their disability?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
33. Are qualified men and women with disabilities actively recruited and encouraged to apply for staff positions in parliament?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments: _____

