

Maximising the power of CEDAW to effect disability inclusion in and through sport

Concept Note: CEDAW Committee Briefing on Sport during the Spring 2019 session.

Proposers: UNESCO, UNESCO Chair, Commonwealth Secretariat, Centre for Sports and Human Rights, the International Paralympic Committee, Special Olympics International, Disability in Sport International, Inclusion4Development, Global Partnership for Children with Disabilities Physical Activity and Sport Taskforce.

Proposal: The proposers are herein proposing a 1-hour briefing with the Committee of CEDAW during its spring 2019 meeting. The briefing will update the committee on significant developments in global sports policy that support the full realisation of article CEDAW especially as it relates to Article 10 and Article 13. This briefing will show renewed and significant momentum across the sports sector to proactively support the realisation of the **Article 10 b/c/h and specifically (g) The same Opportunities to participate actively in sports and physical education; and also, Article 13 (c) The right to participate in recreational activities, sports and all aspects of cultural life.** With state and non-state actors gearing up to deliver on KAP, the human rights approach adopted for the KAP follow-up framework delivery presents an opportunity to align reporting on KAP with reporting on CEDAW. Advocacy tools, mapping tools and reporting templates will be presented to the committee to exemplify how sport via KAP can support CEDAW implementation.

Context: The 2017 sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport ([MINEPS VI](#)), convened by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) was held in Kazan, Russian Federation in July 2017. MINEPS VI adopted the [Kazan Action Plan \(KAP\)](#) “to facilitate international and multi-stakeholder policy convergence, ease international cooperation and foster capacity-building efforts of governmental authorities and sport organisations”.

Marking a shift from mere declarations of policy intent towards action, the KAP consists of five priority areas of multi-stakeholder cooperation at international, regional and national levels, as well as a MINEPS sport policy follow-up framework designed to measure progress. This framework is fully integrated within the SDG framework while embedding human rights at its core. It is structured around three main policy areas:

- I. Developing a comprehensive vision of inclusive access for all.
- II. Maximizing the contributions of sport to sustainable development and peace.
- III. Protecting the integrity of sport.

The five specific policy areas of interest to inclusion of women and the double discrimination experienced by women with disabilities are:

- I.5. Enforce gender equality/Empower girls and women
- I.7. Foster empowerment and inclusive participation
- II.4. Build peaceful, inclusive and equitable societies
- II.6. Advance gender equality and empower all women and girls
- III.2. Protect children, youth and other vulnerable groups

The General Conference of UNESCO in November 2017 welcomed the Kazan Action Plan as a “voluntary, overarching reference for fostering international convergence amongst policy-makers in the fields of physical education, physical activity and sport, as well as a tool for aligning international and national policy in these fields with the United Nations 2030 Agenda”.

At its 37th session in the Human Rights Council adopted resolution [37/18](#) entitled 'Promoting Human Rights through Sport and the Olympic Ideal' acknowledged the Kazan Action Plan and particularly policy area III of its follow-up framework.

The renewed momentum by UNDESA to reinvigorate sport, within and beyond the UN system, together with UNESCO's remit through MINEPS and its Intergovernmental Committee, CIGEPS, has resulted in definitive and positive progress in consolidating the commitment of the UN and other agencies in sport, including civic society to the sustainable development agenda.

The provisional agenda of the seventy-third session of the UN General Assembly ([A/73/150](#)), beginning in September 2018, includes the report of the Secretary-General, [A/73/325](#) "Strengthening the global framework for leveraging sport for development and peace". Adoption of the resolution as proposed, confirms top-level political acknowledgement of the central role of the Kazan Action Plan in the Sport agenda across the UN system. KAP 'can be used as a basis upon which to build strengthened coherence and coordination across the United Nations system'.

Session Objective: Given the significant commitment and momentum to advance the objectives of KAP in relation to human rights since July 2017, the proposers would welcome the opportunity to address the committee of the CEDAW in order to present the actions of the sector to the committee. This session will:

1. Demonstrate how we can leverage KAP momentum among state and non-state actors to support and advocate for the implementation of CEDAW as it relates to sport through the production of specific advocacy tools.
2. Map Sport through KAP Specific Action areas I.5, I.7, II.4, II.6, III.2, as a significant tool in CEDAW implementation across article 10 and 13 and transversally through Articles 11, 14, 22 (specific report from women in sport??)
3. Illustrate reporting templates specific to sport and CEDAW for use by state and non-state reporting. These templates will align with KAP Specific Action Areas I.5, I.7, II.4, II.6, III.2.
4. Elaborate on the draft recommendations put forward by the proposers at the Human Rights Social Forum 2018 relating to sport and human rights with view to facilitating due diligence on Treaty Body Reporting by bringing sport and human rights closer together. (item 4- 8 below)
5. Present the Kazan Action Plan and Sports Policy Follow-up Frameworks as pivotal instruments to coordinate CEDAW implementation through sport.
6. Present the Intergovernmental Committee of Physical Education and Sport CIGEPS, as an appropriate forum to drive and monitor the sports policy agenda as it intersects with CEDAW.
7. Outline capacity-building possibilities to encourage state and non-state actors to consider issues related to universal access for all to sport and physical activity in the Universal Periodic Review process in complement to the work of CEDAW as it relates to sport.
8. Take a human rights based approach referencing CEDAW to the development of indicators on sport and the SDGs being developed under the auspices of the Kazan Action Plan and UN Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace.
9. Advocate for the committee to recommend sport-related indicators in the suite of statistical indicators developed by OHCHR.
10. Advocate for a Human Rights Fact Sheet aligning Sport with the treaty bodies under the auspices of OHCHR. This would help consolidate sport as a human rights tool.

Bridging the gap with KAP: Sport for Human Rights