SECRETARIAT FOR ACCESS TO RIGHTS AND EQUITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL INCLUSION

COMMEMORATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES-2020

On October 14th 1992, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 3 December as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, with the aim of promoting the rights, quality of life, and human development of this group of citizens in all areas of society, by raising awareness of their life situation which, according to the Global Disability Report produced in 2011, it is characterized by negative health and academic outcomes, lower economic participation and higher poverty rates than people without disabilities, due to the multiple barriers they face to access to health, education, employment, transport, or information.

To narrow the gap caused by discrimination, society's awareness is critical, followed by quality education and real decent work opportunities as a key tool to reduce poverty, equality gaps, and create more opportunities. From the Organization of American States (OAS) important steps have been taken towards this objective, the first being the materialization of the first specialized normative instrument in this area, namely the Inter-American Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (CIADDIS), adopted by the OAS General Assembly on 7 June 1999, and which entered into force on 14 September 2001. The objectives of the Convention are: "the prevention and elimination of all forms of discrimination against persons with disabilities and to promote their full social inclusion". To this end, States Parties undertook to adopt the legislative, social, educational, labor or other measures necessary to eliminate discrimination against persons with disabilities and to promote their full inclusion into society.

In addition, on June 15th, 2018, the OAS General Assembly adopted, by its Resolution 2928, a new Program of Action for the Decade of the Americas for the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities 2016-2026 (PAD), where States Parties made a commitment to prevent persons with disabilities from being victims of multiple discrimination; carry out programs at the national, regional and local levels, recognizing, promoting and protecting their human rights to mitigate the harmful impact of poverty and inequality; harmonizing their domestic legislation with the principles and standards of the international human rights law, and removing administrative, judicial or other practices that are not compatible with the PAD’s vision and objectives, among other measures.

The Department of Social Inclusion (DSI) of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity (SARE), together with the Group of Countries Friends of Persons with Disabilities, is pleased to invite the OAS Member States and Observers to the following activities to be held on December 2nd and 4th, 2020 aimed to spaces that promote the work done at the institutional and national levels to respond to the rights of persons with disabilities within the framework of two important situations that have impacted the year 2020: the pandemic by COVID-19 and migration flows in the Americas.
## PROGRAM

**COMMEMORATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Wednesday, December 2, 2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agenda</td>
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<td>▪ Inclusive responses at the institutional and governmental levels to the COVID-19 pandemic regarding persons with disabilities</td>
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<td>10:15 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.</td>
<td>▪ Initiatives promoted from the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity to support Member States during the COVID-19 pandemic in their political responses process.</td>
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<td>- <em>Practical Guide to Inclusive and Rights based Responses to COVID-19 in the Americas.</em> Betilde Muñoz-Pogossian, Director of the Department of Social Inclusion. (5 minutes)</td>
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<td>- Presentation of Chapter III of the <em>Practical Guide to Inclusive and Rights Based Responses to COVID-19 in the Americas</em> in accessible format. Lorena Julio, President of the COMPARLANTE Foundation (5 minutes)</td>
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<td>▪ Exercise of the rights of persons with disabilities within the context of the pandemic.</td>
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<td>- Health: Antony Duttine, Advisor, Disability and Rehabilitation, Pan American Health Organization (8 minutes)</td>
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<td>- Work. Stefan Tromel, Senior Disability Advisor at the International Labour Organization (8 minutes)</td>
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<td>- Education: Mel Ainscow, Professor at the University of Manchester, Expert in Inclusive Education and Pamela Molina, Disability Specialist of the Department of Social Inclusion (8 minutes each expositor)</td>
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<td>▪ Dialogue between delegations.</td>
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**VIRTUAL SEMINAR**  
"Accessibility as a human right and cross-cutting element of inclusion"  
DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY

Virtual mode  
Moderator: Pamela Molina, Disability Specialist of the OAS Department of Social Inclusion

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Friday, December 4, 2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td><a href="https://www.facebook.com/OEAInclusion/">https://www.facebook.com/OEAInclusion/</a></td>
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| Language   | Spanish  
*Due to budgetary constraints this event will not have interpretation services to other languages.  
*ASL and ISL interpretation will be provided  
*Captioning services will be provided |

**Tentative program**

| 10:00 A.M.   | Opening remarks  
Farah Urrutia, Secretary of Access to Rights and Equity. |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 10:05 A.M.   | Digital skills and persons with disabilities  
Maite Capra, Regional Project Coordinator, *The Trust for the Americas*  
- Basics on Digital Literacy  
- Impact on learning, job performance and communications.  
- Initiatives promoted from the *Trust for the Americas.* |
| 10:45 A.M.   | Accessibility in digital content  
Ximena Quiroz Peters, Audiovisual Communicator, Chile. PUPA Studio Creative.  
- Functional Diversity and Universal Accessibility.  
- Sensory Disability.  
- Accessibility to Culture and Communications.  
- Audiovisual Accessibility (Subtitles for Deaf People, Sign Language Interpretation, Audio-description).  
- Accessibility in the posts and content we share on websites and social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, WhatsApp: written description, accessible designs, easy reading, accessibility and support tools, etc.).  
- Accessibility Chain. |
| 11:30 A.M.   | Q&A session. |


ROUND TABLE
MIGRANTS WITH DISABILITIES

Virtual mode

Date
Friday, December 4, 2020

Address
https://www.facebook.com/OEAInclusion/

Language
Original
* The panelists will speak in Spanish or English according to their preferred language.
* Due to budgetary constraints this event will not have interpretation services from English to Spanish or Spanish to English.
* ASL and ISL interpretation will be provided.
* Captioning services will be provided for Spanish-speaker panelist.

Tentative program

2:00 P.M.
- Event Opening
  Farah Urrutia, Secretary of Access to Rights and Equity.

2:05 P.M.
- An approximation of migration flows in the Americas
  Betilde Munoz-Pogossian, Director of the OAS Department of Social Inclusion.
- Migration and Disability in 2020
- Intersectionality between the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
  María Soledad Cisternas, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on Disability and Accessibility.

3:00 P.M.
- Q&A session.

3:30 P.M.
- Closing remarks
  Anderson Sant’Anna de Oliveira, Chairman of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities, CEDDIS.