



Human Rights Council**Sixty-first session**

23 February–31 March 2026

Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development****Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council
on 30 March 2026****61/9. The rights of persons with disabilities: disability-inclusive digital
technologies and infrastructure, including transport and housing***The Human Rights Council,**Reaffirming* the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto,*Recalling* the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the need for persons with disabilities to be guaranteed the full enjoyment of their human rights and freedoms without discrimination,*Recalling also* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and all other relevant international human rights instruments,*Reaffirming* all of its previous resolutions on the rights of persons with disabilities, the most recent of which was resolution 55/8 of 3 April 2024 on support systems to ensure community inclusion of persons with disabilities, and welcoming the efforts of all stakeholders to implement those resolutions,*Recalling* its resolutions 54/6 of 11 October 2023 on the centrality of care and support from a human rights perspective and 55/11 of 3 April 2024 on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and the right to non-discrimination in this context,*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 80/197 of 17 December 2025, entitled “Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto: amplified barriers in diverse contexts”,*Welcoming* the twentieth anniversary of the adoption, in 2006, of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,*Taking note* of the Amman-Berlin Declaration on Global Disability Inclusion, adopted at the third Global Disability Summit, held in Berlin on 2 and 3 April 2025,*Reaffirming* that disability is a social construct and that impairments must not be taken as a legitimate ground for denial or restriction of human rights,

Reaffirming also that discrimination against any person on the basis of disability is a violation of the inherent dignity and worth of the human person, while reaffirming further that the adoption of specific measures, including reasonable accommodation, that are necessary to accelerate or achieve de facto equality of persons with disabilities shall not be considered discrimination,

Expressing concern at the disproportionate impact of climate change, as well as the impact of other crises and armed conflicts, on all persons with disabilities and in particular individuals with multiple vulnerability factors, including women and girls, migrants and refugees, those living in small island developing States and those living in contexts of poverty and conflict, and emphasizing the need for States to take and to support adequate measures to address their specific needs and to ensure participation and leadership in disaster response planning for emergency situations and evacuations, humanitarian emergency response and healthcare services,

Reaffirming the need to mainstream gender and age perspectives and to take disability-inclusive measures to address multiple, aggravated and intersecting forms of discrimination, including ableism and ageism, in all efforts to promote gender equality and the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by persons with disabilities,

Recalling the general principles enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, including respect for inherent dignity, non-discrimination, full and effective participation and inclusion in society, respect for difference and acceptance of persons with disabilities as part of human diversity and humanity, equality of opportunity, accessibility, individual autonomy and independence of persons with disabilities, gender equality and respect for the evolving capacities of children with disabilities,

Recalling also that article 9 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities requires States Parties to ensure access for persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others, to the physical environment, to transport, to information and communications, including information and communications technologies and systems, and to other facilities and services open or provided to the public, both in urban and in rural areas, that article 19 requires States Parties to recognize the equal right of all persons with disabilities to live in the community, with choices equal to others, and to take effective and appropriate measures to facilitate full enjoyment by persons with disabilities of this right and their full inclusion and participation in the community, and that article 20 requires States Parties to take effective measures to ensure personal mobility with the greatest possible independence for persons with disabilities,

Recognizing that families often play an important role in care and support systems, including by fostering well-being and social inclusion and respecting the autonomy, agency and independence of persons with disabilities, and emphasizing that disability-inclusive infrastructure, including transport and housing, and digital technologies are essential to realizing the right of persons with disabilities to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their families, in accordance with article 28 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,

Noting that persons with disabilities, especially women, children and older persons, often lack equal access to adequate housing, transport, infrastructure and digital technologies that are accessible and appropriate to their needs, and noting also that this affects their equal right to live in their communities and their equal opportunity to live independently, to exercise their human rights and to participate fully in all aspects of life,

Noting also that the availability of support services and infrastructure that fully respect the human rights of persons with disabilities forms part of the right to an adequate standard of living, including adequate housing, and noting further that persons with disabilities living in rural areas often lack access to transport, housing and digital technologies,

Noting further the need to promote universal design in the development of building standards and guidelines, as well as in the design of digital technologies, products and services, and to develop comprehensive accessibility plans for housing and support services, enabling persons with disabilities to live independently and be included in the community,

Recognizing that digital technologies and assistive devices, housing and transport are essential for all persons with disabilities to exercise their right to live independently and to participate fully in all areas of society, including the political, economic, social and cultural spheres, and that access to assistive technologies supports functional independence, enhances communication and facilitates mobility,

Reaffirming that effective measures to ensure personal mobility with the greatest possible independence include facilitating access to quality mobility aids, devices and assistive technologies at affordable cost and providing training in mobility skills for persons with disabilities and specialist staff,

Stressing the importance of ensuring that the development, use and regulation of digital technologies are in line with the international human rights framework to prevent the exclusion of persons with disabilities and to mitigate the adverse impact of such technologies on their human rights, and recognizing that co-design, co-creation and co-production of e-services are important steps to guarantee non-discrimination,

Recalling that, pursuant to the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, digital technology businesses should respect human rights by identifying, addressing and mitigating risks, including through human rights due diligence, transparent data practices, accessibility and inclusive non-discriminatory design, particularly for persons with disabilities, to ensure that innovations uphold privacy, equality, dignity and other rights,

Noting that, while digital technologies provide opportunities for advancing disability rights, the use of these technologies is also associated with significant risks for persons with disabilities, noting also the potential of artificial intelligence to improve accessibility, independence and personalized support for persons with disabilities, including in education, employment and healthcare, while acknowledging the risks posed by artificial intelligence for persons with disabilities, such as exclusion, discrimination and privacy violations, and noting further that artificial intelligence systems may overlook their rights and specific requirements, exacerbating inequalities,

Deeply concerned that women and girls with disabilities of all ages face multiple, aggravated and intersecting forms of stigma and discrimination, which constitute barriers to community inclusion not only compared to women and girls without disabilities but also compared to men and boys with disabilities, and are also disproportionately exposed to violence, including sexual and gender-based violence and abuse, as well as disproportionately affected by housing crises and mobility and digital technological barriers, and that existing infrastructure and technology may not adequately respond to the rights and needs of women and girls with disabilities,

Recognizing that children with disabilities may be particularly exposed and vulnerable to violence and discrimination that occurs through or is amplified by the use of technology, including cyberbullying, cyberstalking and sexual exploitation and abuse, which disproportionately impact girls with disabilities, and that there is a need to take steps to ensure that the digital environment is accessible, inclusive and safe,

Deeply concerned that persons with disabilities belonging to groups that have been historically discriminated against, disadvantaged or in vulnerable or marginalized situations, such as Indigenous Peoples, people of African descent, migrants, refugees and persons in situations of occupation, are disproportionately affected in their access to inclusive digital technologies and infrastructure, including transport and housing, and noting that this also impacts persons with disabilities who are internally displaced, asylum-seekers, living in conflict situations, stateless or deprived of their liberty,

Recognizing the right of persons with disabilities to participate in cultural life on an equal basis with others, as well as to have their own specific cultural and linguistic identities, including sign languages and deaf culture, and noting the importance of inclusive digital technologies and infrastructure to guarantee accessibility of persons with disabilities to cultural heritage,

Welcoming the work of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, and taking note with appreciation of the reports of the Special Rapporteur,¹

Welcoming also the work of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, taking note with appreciation of its general comments, and taking note also of its guidelines on deinstitutionalization, including in emergencies,²

Welcoming further the work undertaken by the task force on secretariat services, accessibility for persons with disabilities and use of information technology,

1. *Welcomes* the fact that, to date, 192 States and one regional integration organization have ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and that 108 States have ratified or acceded to the Optional Protocol to the Convention, and calls upon those States and regional integration organizations that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention and the Optional Protocol to consider doing so as a matter of priority;

2. *Encourages* States that have ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and have submitted one or more reservations to it to initiate a process to review regularly the effect and continued relevance of such reservations, and to consider the possibility of withdrawing them;

3. *Welcomes* the reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the rights of persons with disabilities and digital technologies and devices, including assistive technologies,³ and on disability-inclusive infrastructure, including transport and housing,⁴ and calls upon all stakeholders to consider the findings and recommendations made in those reports with a view to implementing them;

4. *Calls upon* all States to take appropriate measures to ensure access to affordable and accessible digital technologies and devices, including quality assistive technologies, as well as accessible infrastructure, including transport and housing, so as to guarantee the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by persons with disabilities and ensure community inclusion of persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others and without discrimination, applying an approach that is gender-responsive and age-sensitive, by, for example:

(a) Through close consultations with and the active involvement of persons with disabilities, including through their representative organizations, in all design and decision-making processes related to infrastructure, including housing and transport, as well as digital technologies, including assistive technologies;

(b) Adopting accessibility standards, including universal design, with timelines and oversight mechanisms for transport and housing that are fully aligned with international human rights obligations, consistent with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

(c) Duly considering disability-related recommendations made by international human rights mechanisms, including human rights treaty bodies and the universal periodic review, related to national transport, housing and infrastructure planning;

(d) Taking measures, such as legislative, administrative and other measures, to address stigmatization and discrimination against persons with disabilities in transport and housing, including capacity development for public officials, transport staff and housing providers;

(e) Taking steps towards establishing transport systems that are accessible for all persons with disabilities, including in rural areas, through investment in adapted vehicles, accessible stations and ticketing systems, as well as paratransit, on-demand and door-to-door services;

¹ A/79/179, A/80/170, A/HRC/58/56 and A/HRC/61/46.

² CRPD/C/5.

³ A/HRC/58/33.

⁴ A/HRC/61/32.

(f) Integrating disability-inclusive infrastructure that is gender- and age-responsive into national development plans, policies and budgets, international cooperation and financing for development, where appropriate;

(g) Prohibiting all forms of discrimination against persons with disabilities, in the context of adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, by public and private entities;

(h) Leveraging digital and assistive technologies to enhance accessibility and service delivery across transport and housing infrastructure, ensuring that all digital systems are accessible, affordable and compliant with international human rights law and standards;

(i) Encouraging the establishment of rights-centred e-governance frameworks and regulation of digital technologies that ensure accessibility, anti-discrimination measures and transparency in data management regarding privacy rights and equality, ensuring the participation of persons with disabilities in policy co-design;

(j) Encouraging the establishment of independent oversight bodies to monitor e-governance systems, including their use of artificial intelligence, ensuring sufficient data protection and transparent data practices and aligning digital platforms with human rights law;

(k) Respecting the autonomy of persons with disabilities to have control over the support they receive, including through digital assistive products;

(l) Integrating assistive technologies into the design and budgets of care and support systems, addressing their limitations and benefits to enhance independence, access to environments and communication and reducing reliance on human support, particularly from women disproportionately involved in unpaid care and support work;

(m) Raising awareness by implementing targeted public education campaigns to bridge the knowledge gap on assistive technologies, partnering with organizations of persons with disabilities to leverage their digital platforms to broaden outreach and empowering persons with disabilities to make informed choices, increase demand and stimulate investment in accessible, affordable and high-quality assistive products;

(n) Exploring innovative, inclusive and practical digital and assistive technology solutions, including through the accessible digitalization of cultural heritage, to guarantee access by and the participation of persons with disabilities in cultural life and heritage and for the protection and promotion of disability-specific culture, such as the collaborative approach followed by the Virtual Museum on Cultural Heritage;

(o) Encouraging technology companies and public-private partnerships in transport, housing and digital infrastructure to include accessibility, affordability, non-discrimination and inclusion standards, in accordance with international human rights law and standards, including the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights;

(p) Recognizing the important role of community-based organizations, cooperatives, non-profit service providers and organizations of persons with disabilities in delivering accessible transport, housing, digital technologies and support services and emphasizing the centrality of co-design, co-creation and the meaningful participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in the planning, development, implementation and monitoring of such infrastructure and services;

5. *Encourages* all relevant business enterprises, in particular those involved in the provision of disability-inclusive digital technologies, including assistive technology, and infrastructure, including transport and housing, to conduct human rights impact assessments to ensure maximum respect for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, with the active involvement of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations;

6. *Calls upon* States to engage in international cooperation efforts at all levels to promote disability-inclusive digital technologies and infrastructure, including transport and housing, and to ensure that all international cooperation and humanitarian action are inclusive of persons with disabilities and do not contribute to creating new barriers for them, as well as to encourage the mobilization of public and private resources on a sustainable basis to

mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities into development, and invites the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and relevant United Nations agencies, and other donor mechanisms and partnerships, to consider ways to foster international cooperation activities in that regard, in close consultation with persons with disabilities and their representative organizations;

7. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to share its technical expertise with other United Nations agencies involved with disability-inclusive digital technologies and infrastructure, including transport and housing, in order to promote the integration of a human rights-based approach to persons with disabilities;

8. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to present an oral report to the Human Rights Council on the implementation of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy across its programmes and operations at its sixty-fifth and sixty-eighth sessions, with international sign interpretation and captioning, and also requests the Office to make its report to the Secretary-General on the Strategy publicly available in an easy-to-read version and in an accessible format;

9. *Decides* that its next annual interactive debate on the rights of persons with disabilities will be held at its sixty-fourth session, and will focus on the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: lessons learned and challenges in the development of human rights standards and norms, and will have international sign interpretation and captioning;

10. *Also decides* to hold, at its sixty-seventh session, an interactive debate on the rights of persons with disabilities, which will focus on measures to prevent all forms of exploitation, violence and abuse of persons with disabilities, and will have international sign interpretation and captioning;

11. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to prepare its next annual thematic study on the rights of persons with disabilities on the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: lessons learned and challenges in the development of human rights standards and norms, and to prepare its subsequent study on measures to prevent all forms of exploitation, violence and abuse of persons with disabilities, in consultation with States and other relevant stakeholders, regional organizations, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities and other relevant special procedure mandate holders, civil society organizations, including organizations of persons with disabilities, and national human rights institutions, requiring contributions to be submitted in an accessible format, and requests that such stakeholder contributions, the studies themselves and an easy-to-read-version of them be made available on the website of the Office, in an accessible format, prior to the sixty-fourth and sixty-seventh sessions of the Human Rights Council;

12. *Encourages* the task force on secretariat services and accessibility for persons with disabilities to report orally to the Human Rights Council on its work and on the progress made in the implementation of its accessibility plan;

13. *Urges* States to consider further integrating and mainstreaming the perspective and rights of persons with disabilities into the work of the Human Rights Council, such as by mandating international sign interpretation and captioning for all meetings of the Council;

14. *Regrets* that, due to the United Nations budgetary and liquidity crisis, the Secretary-General was not able to prepare and submit to the Human Rights Council, at its fifty-ninth session, a study defining the administrative procedures and budget required to make all Council resolutions accessible, including in easy-to-understand language, as accessibility resources and tools for persons with disabilities, in consultation with and ensuring the active engagement and participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations, as well as relevant United Nations entities, including the Office of the High Commissioner, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, and other stakeholders such as civil society and representative organizations;

15. *Encourages* representative organizations of persons with disabilities, civil society, national mechanisms as described in article 33 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and national human rights institutions to participate actively in the debates referred to in paragraphs 9 and 10 above and in regular and special sessions of the Human Rights Council and its working groups;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and United Nations offices to continue to work collaboratively on the progressive implementation of standards and guidelines for the accessibility of facilities and services of the United Nations system, taking into account relevant provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and underlines that the Human Rights Council, including its Internet resources, should be fully accessible to persons with disabilities;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the work of the Office of the High Commissioner with respect to the rights of persons with disabilities and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is adequately resourced for the fulfilment of their tasks;

18. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

*52nd meeting
30 March 2026*

[Adopted without a vote.]
