



General Assembly

Distr.: General
14 October 2024

Original: English

Human Rights Council

Fifty-seventh session

9 September–11 October 2024

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 10 October 2024

57/16. Promoting accessibility for the full enjoyment of all human rights by all

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 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 also the obligations of States parties to take appropriate accessibility measures to ensure persons with disabilities access on an equal basis with others, in accordance with article 9 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, taking into account universal design and reasonable accommodation, and recognizing the need to implement such measures for persons with disabilities as a standard, which can benefit all in the full and equal enjoyment of their human rights,

Recalling the Political Declaration and Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, which calls for the promotion of accessibility for all, without discrimination, including those in vulnerable situations,

Recalling also the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and its pledge to “leave no one behind”, which includes focuses on providing universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces and to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems and increasing access to information and communications technology,

Recognizing the resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council, in which they underscored the rights of persons with disabilities, older persons and other persons in vulnerable situations, and the importance of accessibility in achieving sustainable development and ensuring that everyone, without discrimination, can enjoy all of their human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development,

Recognizing also the work of the task force on secretariat services, accessibility for persons with disabilities and the use of information technology, and acknowledging its adoption of a workplan to guarantee comprehensive and inclusive access to services and information for all,



Noting with appreciation the contributions of the Steering Committee on Accessibility to improving the accessibility of United Nations premises, conferences and meetings, and information and communications, and the ongoing implementation of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy,

Acknowledging the importance of accessibility for all, including persons with disabilities, older persons and other persons in vulnerable situations, to participate in all aspects of life and enjoy all their human rights and fundamental freedoms fully, equally and effectively,

Recognizing that physical, digital, social, economic, legal and policy barriers to accessibility may hinder the enjoyment of all human rights, and emphasizing the need for the removal of such barriers through laws, policies, standards, training, technologies and care and support systems, with a human rights focus on empowering women and girls,

Noting with appreciation the significant progress made by Member States and the United Nations system in taking measures on accessibility, while acknowledging that further efforts are needed to promote accessibility for all to fully enjoy human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recognizing that new and emerging digital technologies, together with assistive technologies, have the potential to facilitate efforts to improve accessibility and to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, and recognizing also the importance of prioritizing innovation, inclusiveness and sustainability to accommodate the multiple and evolving needs of accessibility for all,

Recognizing also the positive role of civil society organizations in the promotion and implementation of accessibility, and stressing the importance of closely consulting and actively involving users of accessible formats and environments,

1. *Recognizes* the importance of promoting accessibility to fully enjoy all human rights for all, including persons with disabilities, older persons and other persons in vulnerable situations;

2. *Encourages* States to take into account the promotion of accessibility in national laws, development plans and policies, urban and rural planning and public service delivery and to take appropriate measures to raise awareness throughout society to create accessible environments for all;

3. *Calls upon* States, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society organizations, to promote and strengthen international cooperation and coordination, and to facilitate and support capacity-building initiatives aimed at, inter alia, fostering the exchange of technical knowledge, information and programmes at the regional and international levels relating to good practices in the implementation of measures on accessibility for all, particularly in the context of new and emerging digital technologies;

4. *Invites* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide technical assistance and capacity-building support to States upon their request in developing and implementing policies and programmes on accessibility, to continue to share its expertise with the relevant intergovernmental organizations and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and to assist the relevant special procedure mandate holders and treaty bodies, especially those related to persons with disabilities, older persons and other persons in vulnerable situations, to integrate the view of accessibility for all from the perspective of the full enjoyment of all human rights into their work, including ongoing and future research and reports, in close consultation with the relevant stakeholders;

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

47th meeting
10 October 2024

[Adopted without a vote.]