



Asian Perspective on Mobility Disabilities – ICTs and Policies

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By

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UN General Assembly Resolution 59(1)

Freedom of information is a fundamental human right and ... the touchstone of all the freedoms to which the UN is consecrated.



Article 19 of the ICCPR

1. **Everyone shall have the right to hold opinions without interference**
2. **Everyone shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of his choice.**
3. **The exercise of the rights provided for in paragraph 2 of this article carries with it special duties and responsibilities. It may therefore be subject to certain restrictions, but these shall only be such as are provided by law and are necessary.**



Nature of obligations under Human Rights Law

- ❑ **Civil and political rights - capable of immediate implementation**
- ❑ **Economic, social and cultural rights - progressively realized and are non justciable**



Purpose to guarantee Access in International Human Rights Law

- To eliminate obstacles created by culture, traditions and other practices.
- To ensure availability and affordability of public goods and services to all.
- To prevent exclusion of persons with disabilities by encouraging barrier-free inclusive design concept.



Study of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

“All points of access to the structures of everyday life – the world of education, of work, of family or of social interaction – are set largely by reference to the dominant norm of the able-bodied.”



Accessibility

Definition by UN Economic and Social Commission in Asia and the Pacific

“The measure or condition of things and services that can readily be reached or used (at the physical, visual, auditory and/or cognitive levels) by people including those with disabilities...”



Draft Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities

Draft Article 9 – Accessibility

“States Parties to this Convention shall take appropriate measures to ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities by identifying and eliminating obstacles to the built environment, to transportation, to information and communications, including information and communications technologies, and to other services...”

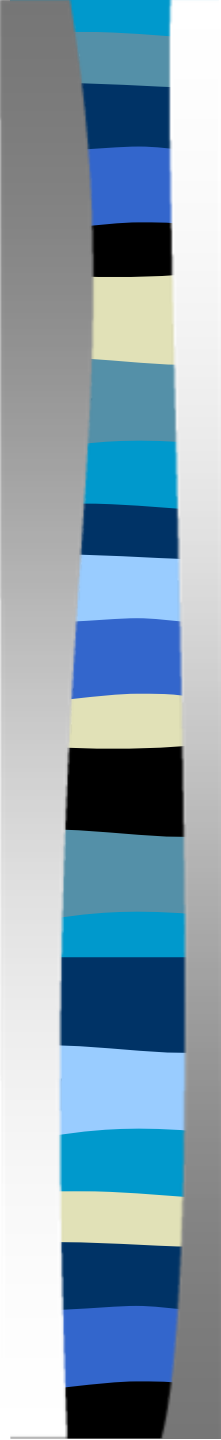


Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

General Comment No. 5

Public and Private Freedoms

“..In a context in which arrangements for the provision of public services are increasingly being privatized and in which the free market is being relied on to an ever greater extent, it is essential that private employers, private suppliers of goods and services, and other non-public entities be subject to both non-discrimination and equality norms in relation to persons with disabilities.”



Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an Inclusive, Barrier-Free and Rights- Based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific (2002 – 2013)

- Equal access to the Internet and related services.
- International organizations to incorporate accessibility standards in the ICTs.
- Governments to adopt ICT accessibility guidelines .
- Governments to develop and coordinate a standardized sign language, finger Braille, tactile sign language.
- Governments to train and dispatch sign language interpreters.