

National Strategy for Disability

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Background

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was ratified by Portugal. States Parties recognize the importance of international cooperation and its promotion, in support of national efforts for the realization of the purpose and objectives of the Convention, and were responsible by undertaking appropriate and effective measures in this regard, and, as appropriate, in partnership with relevant organizations, in particular organizations of persons with disabilities.

The National Strategy for Disability (Resolution of the Council of Ministers, nº 97/2010, 14th December) promotes the rights and quality of life of people with disabilities. It continues the planning of the public policies that combat discrimination and assure active participation of people with disabilities in the several areas of social life.

The National Strategy for Disability, approved for 2011 – 2013, determines several policies against discrimination which assures the accessibility of the public sites and promotes the accessibility to public services in order to empower people with disabilities, through information and knowledge.

The interdepartmental Group, created to follow the realization and the adjustment of the measures presented in the Strategy, produce a report every civil year which is presented to the National Council for the Integration and Rehabilitation of People with Disabilities (CNRIPD). This consultation council has competencies to make recommendations for the policy to promote the rights of people with disabilities.

Activity Report

The National Strategy for Disability is focused on five areas:

Axis 1: **Disability and multiple discrimination**, through measures of awareness and training of the professionals that attend public with disabilities

Axis 2: **Justice and rights exercise**, concerning mainly to assure the access and frequency of the students with disabilities to the schools and universities, and the definition of the regulations of the Labour Code

Axis 3: **Independence and quality of life**, in order to promote the social support to people with disabilities and their families; measures in the field of training, employment and lifelong qualification for the social integration of people with disabilities; increase the number of social equipments, namely independent residences

Axis 4: **Accessibilities and Design for all**, to build a Portugal for All, to remove the barriers and create accessible environments

Axis 5: **Administrative Modernization and Information Systems**, to consolidate the accessibility of the electronic sites concerning informative and transactional services with public entities, through SIMPLEX Programme; to implement the SAPA system – Assistive Products Attribution System

Conclusions

Global execution was 76% (101 measures were executed) for the 133 measures and for the period 2011-2013. Information collection has a high answer (95%), from the 133 measures only 6 without information

report. This result shows that the responsible for each measure not only made them happen but also reported them:

- The Axis 2 - Justice and rights exercise was the more implemented, 94%. The Axis 4: Accessibilities and Design for all was the less implemented, 68%.
- The public policies to promote accessibility are a priority for the coming policies for the independence and quality of life of people with disabilities.
- Being SAPA (Assistive products system) one of the measures to be implemented, only in 2015 the database was accessible to every prescriber and financing agency.
- Most of the public services, namely finances and social affairs, are accessible on-line.

References

Portuguese Resolution

http://www.acessibilidade.gov.pt/legis/rcm97_2010_undef.pdf

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