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Fifty-sixth session Agenda items 8 and 119 (b)

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: reports of the General Committee

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Canada and Mexico: draft decision*

Participation of persons with disabilities in the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities

The General Assembly requests the Secretary-General to make, as needed and within existing resources, reasonable efforts to facilitate the participation by persons with disabilities in the meetings and deliberations of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities. Such efforts may include but are not limited to:

(a) The facilitation of entry into United Nations premises by individuals serving as guides, personal assistants or interpreters for persons with disabilities;

(b) The holding of meetings in those United Nations conference rooms that are better equipped to facilitate that participation of persons with mobility-related and other physical disabilities;

(c) The adoption of a practice whereby documents distributed in the course of one meeting or shortly in advance of a meeting will not be discussed before the next scheduled meeting, thereby affording persons with visual disabilities sufficient time to convert those documents into a format readable by them;

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^{*} In order for the General Assembly to take action on the present proposal, it will be necessary for the Assembly to decide to consider directly, in plenary meeting, agenda item 119 (b).

(d) The adoption, to the extent necessary and possible, of measures to enable persons with hearing disabilities to participate in the deliberations of the Ad Hoc Committee.