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Preparatory Activities for the International
Year of Disabled Persons (1981)

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SUGGESTIONS FOR CRITERIA FOR APPRAISING THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE PLAN OF ACTION IN 1982

80-10-2156

1. Pursuant to the recommendation of the Advisory Committee (document A/34/158, paragraph 19), in resolution 34/154 the General Assembly invited "Member States to consider activities at the national level along the lines of the Plan of Action for the International Year of Disabled Persons and in ways that are in conformity with the culture, customs and traditions of each country". It also invited "Member States to submit national reports to the Secretary General on their implementation of the Plan of Action for the International Year of Disabled Persons and, in particular, to consider elaborating, on the basis of their experiences, national long-term programmes of action in the field of disability". In order to assist Member States in the appraisal of activities undertaken in implementing the plan of action for the Year and to facilitate the Secretary General's task of organizing and presenting the report which he is to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session (1982), there is an immediate need of criteria to underpin an appraisal.

2. The IYDP Secretariat has drawn on the activities envisaged in the world-level Plan of Action adopted by the General Assembly in preparing the following suggestions, with the hope that they may assist Governments in the appraisal of the implementation of national plans in the course of IYDP.

3. An initial exchange of views has already taken place at the level of the large United Nations family and some non-governmental organizations. A number of criteria for appraising IYDP national plans have emerged from that exchange of views. The suggestions refer to major fields of activity in which it is possible to measure a change in the situation of disabled persons, bearing in mind the objectives set by the General Assembly when proclaiming 1981 the International Year of Disabled Persons, as well as the indications set forth in the world-level Plan of Action.

(1) Legislative measures or reforms introduced during IYDP: this refers to an appraisal of whether there have been any new legislative measures or reforms fostered by IYDP in conformity with the Declarations on the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons and of Disabled Persons, proclaimed in 1971 and 1975 respectively.

/((2) IYDP

(2) IYDP activities aimed at arousing public awareness in general, and specifically through the mass media, leading to a more positive attitude towards disabled persons.

(3) Activities in the field of physical, mental and sensory-motor disabilities. For example, emphasis might be laid on administrative regulations at the school level, the highway code and regulations aimed at preventing accidents, fires and disasters.

(4) Activities for the rehabilitation of physically disabled and mentally retarded persons.

(5) Activities which have enabled disabled persons to participate in community life and in activities relating to cultural creativity.

(6) Fields of action and sectors of activity embarked upon during IYDP which have served to improve the body of knowledge concerning the prevention and treatment of disability.

(7) Requests for technical assistance and co-operation in the framework of UNDP.

(8) The adoption of policies relating to the prevention and rehabilitation of disabled persons.

(9) The establishment of long-term programmes to assist the development of services for the prevention and treatment of disabilities.

(10) Increases in the budgets allocated to projects and programmes for the prevention and treatment of disabilities.