Annex V

Outcome of the meeting between the Committee and national human rights institutions and independent monitoring mechanisms

The Committee held the first ever meeting with national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and national independent monitoring mechanisms (NMMs) appointed under article 33, paragraph 2, of the Convention on 25 September 2015 to discuss ways in which monitoring activities of the Convention at the international as well as the national level can be mutually reinforced. The meeting was co-organized by the Committee and the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights with the support of United Nations Office at Geneva, the International Telecommunications Union and the International Disability Alliance.

The following are the most important outcomes of the meeting:

1. The Committee will develop guidelines on the participation of NHRIs and NMMs at all stages of the Committee’s work (the reporting process of the Committee with focus on the involvement of NHRIs and NMMs in the different stages of that process), including the reporting process, namely, before and during the interactive dialogue with the State party, as well as in follow-up and capacity-building activities. Participation of NHRIs and NMMs in the Committee’s work (reporting process) through the use of new information and communication technologies will also be considered by the Committee in preparing the guidelines. The Committee will also include in the guidelines practical information on the participation of NHRIs and NMM in other Committee’s proceedings, including their participation in days of general discussion and in the process of drafting general comments. The Committee will consider exploring the possibility of adopting in the future a general comment on article 33 of the Convention.

2. In preparing the guidelines, the Committee will consult with and take into account the views of NHRIs and NMM, the unique role of NHRIs and NMMs in building bridges between the Committee and civil society organizations, as well as the importance of preserving the independence of NHRIs and NMMs, as spelled out in article 33, paragraph 2, of the Convention.

3. The Committee will continue contributing to the establishment and strengthening of NHRIs and NMMs through the Committee’s concluding observations.

4. NHRIs and NMMs are encouraged to avail themselves of the Committee’s role as a capacity-building agent under article 37, paragraph 2, of the Convention. The Committee will explore the possibility of working closely with NHRIs and NMMs in developing core indicators for the monitoring of the Convention. The Committee will also explore other ways of supporting the monitoring activities of NHRIs and NMMs, including by the establishment of a database to exchange information on good practices in monitoring the implementation of the Convention.

5. The importance of the participation of organizations of persons with disabilities in national monitoring activities was also identified as a matter which requires further attention.