Dear [name of your Minister]

I am writing on behalf of [name of your organization] to highlight the concerns of persons with disabilities in relation to the proposed <u>European Accessibility Act</u>¹ which was published on 2 December 2015.

We welcome the initiative of the Commission to make products and services more accessible for persons with disabilities, helping Member States to implement the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). As member of the European Disability Forum (EDF) we are well informed about the legislative process at European level and we are also aware of the critical role that Member States have in the success of this proposed Directive.

The adoption of the European Accessibility would be a major milestone in the history of disability rights in the EU and underline the commitment of the EU and its Member States to promote accessibility of person with disabilities on an equal basis with others.

We are aware that there are certain difficulties and that this will not be an easy task. Therefore, we would like to offer our support and our expertise to make sure that the outcome will be an ambitious Directive that will make a real difference in the lives of persons with disabilities.

Therefore, we would like to ask for a meeting with the responsible officials involved in the negotiations on the European Accessibility Act to share our knowledge and expertise on this important subject.

Yours sincerely,

[signature]

¹ Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States as regards the accessibility requirements for products and services, COM/2015/0615 final, http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1450884380993&uri=CELEX:52015PC0615