

DOC-BOARD-22-03-07 ANNEX

Youth Committee Proposed Terms of Reference

Introduction

In compliance with the Annual General Assembly decision on the revision of committees as agreed in June 2022 and the decision of the Board in March 2022 this document outlines the terms of reference of the EDF Youth committee.

The objective of these terms of reference is to ensure that the EDF Youth Committee contributes effectively to EDF's work and supports its members by providing expertise on rights of young people with disabilities. The Committee shall also serve as a network for exchanges of information and learning, and to stimulate support between EDF members on youth issues.

In particular, the Committee will be requested to:

- Communicate amongst each other and to the EDF secretariat and Board on important issues concerning youth
- Reply to internal consultations on EDF positions on youth rights policies or subjects and provide input to EDF publications
- The Committee will monitor and contribute to drawing up EDF papers (e.g. position papers, statements) that should incorporate a youth perspective. Specific attention will be given to issues such as employment as the negative consequences of the current employment situation in the EU heavily affect youth with disabilities;
- Give input to EDF's work plan and overall goals to make sure the youth perspective and youth rights issues are sufficiently and appropriately addressed in EDF's policies, communication and working practices
- Share examples and information from different EU Member States on youth rights.
- When necessary, represent EDF at technical and/or political meetings on the subject

- Shape the representation of EDF in youth events, meetings and collaboration (including in relation to the Youth Forum)
- The Committee will ensure representation of EDF Youth Committee members to EDF events;
- The Committee will raise awareness on the participation of young persons with disabilities in EDF and organisations of persons with disabilities;
- The Committee will contribute to improving EDF information and communication targeting young people;
- Mainstream the rights of women, LGBTIQ+ migrants, Roma and other ethnic minorities with disabilities, and persons with disabilities requiring more intensive support in their work
- Committee will do the preparatory work for the adoption of a new Youth Committee Action Plan 2022-2024, in line with next EDF 4-year work programme.
- The Youth Committee will have a representative present in the selection process of the Youth Committee and have access to the information of the nominees.

Members' profile

Membership of EDF Youth Committee is open to representatives of EDF members, with an aim to include 4 members from European Full NGO members and 4 Full National Council members, considering an estimated age range from 18 to 35. At the moment of Nomination process candidates should not be older than 27 with the exception of certain groups: young people with disabilities requiring high need of support.

Participants will have experience and expertise in the area of rights of youth with disabilities, either at the national or European level. They will represent different impairment groups, with a particular attention to young people with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities. The members will also come from different parts of Europe.

Participants should be ready to devote time to the work of EDF and willingness to respond to consultations, usually with a consultation time of around 10 working days.

Members should agree to respect confidentiality on draft documents and to report in writing to EDF and the group when asked to represent EDF in technical meetings or conferences.

Members of the Youth Committee will represent EDF only if they are nominated officially by EDF and should represent EDF official positions in external representation.

Observer status

Young persons with disabilities nominated but who were not selected as full members of the Committee can request an observer status to participate in consultations and in meetings, at their own cost or the cost of their organisation.

Rules of participation

The EDF Youth Committee functions mainly through virtual work by e-mail and the use of new technologies, ensuring accessibility for all participants.

One meeting take place yearly, together with an EDF Board or General Assembly meeting, to maximise interaction with the Board Members of the Youth Committee are also part of EDF Delegation to the European Day of Persons with Disabilities. When funding is available, extra meetings, conferences or training activities can be organised by the EDF secretariat or the Committee's members.

EDF secretariat will re-establish a Facebook page of the Youth Committee. This page will facilitate exchanging information between the national and the European level and receiving input from the members of the Committee.

To facilitate common working on documents and communication the Youth Committee has a shared folder on the cloud (drop box, google share point other) and a communication group on Messenger WhatsApp or similar applications to facilitate a smooth communication between the committee members. This is decided by consensus within the committee.

The work within the Committee requires continuity and active participation from all participants. In case a participant expresses the wish not to be involved anymore, or in case a participant has remained inactive, EDF may seek to fill the vacant position by launching a new call for participation.

Working language

All participants of the Committee will be able to communicate orally and in writing in English or be supported by their own organisation to do so.

Human rights-based approach

Members and observers commit to respect and promote a human rights-based approach to the Committee's work. The aim of the Committee is to advance the rights and inclusion of young persons with disabilities in all their diversity in line with the CRPD and the CRPD General Comments and recommendations of the CRPD Committee. The terminology used by the Committee is the one from the CRPD and work of the CRPD Committee. Where possible the work of the Committee includes the gender and intersectional discrimination perspectives.

The role and responsibility of the Chair

The Committee will elect its Chair. The Chair is responsible to coordinate the work and the annual meeting of the Committee with the support of the youth Officer at the EDF secretariat. The Chair will report on the work of the Committee to the Board and is invited to each Board meeting as an observer.

Accountability of Committee to EDF governing bodies

The member of the EDF Executive committee nominated as a focal point for the Youth Committee will facilitate a link between the EDF governing bodies and the Youth Committee.

Support of Committee by EDF Secretariat

In cooperation with the EDF Executive Committee member or Board member in charge, the EDF Youth Officer supports and manages the work of the Committee.