

DOC-BOARD-19-11-05

European Commission

Purpose of the document- for information and discussion

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This item serves to update the Board on our approach to the new Commission and to get feedback on next steps.

Questions for the executive

Do you have suggestions and proposals to enhance EDFs approach to the new Commission? Have you had interaction with your national Commissioner?

European Disability Forum's approach to the European Commission 2019-2024

This document creates a short summary of our approach to the new Commission. The new Commission was proposed by the President, had hearings already in the Parliament, and was foreseen to start work on November 1st. This is likely to be delayed due to the Parliament not accepting every Commissioner.

The purpose of our work on the Commission, is to ensure we have political support for the rights of persons with disabilities within the Commission, to advocate for our issues in the 2020 work programme and in the work of key commissioners. The steps taken till now have been planned with the executive committee at its meetings in May and September, and include:

- The first approach to the President-elect – a letter was sent before the summer
- Analysis of the new Commissioner, including services and mission letters- this analysis was used to draft the annex of this document includes our first hearings, and letters to the key Commissioners. The Annex to this document includes a list with some of the main Commissioners and their portfolios.

- [A second letter to the president](#) highlighting priorities for workplan 2020 and the importance of ensuring a focal point in the Secretariat General, with adequate human and financial resources
- A meeting with the Commissioner designate for Equality (attended by Nadia Hadad with the secretariat)
- Monitoring the Commissioner hearings in the Parliament
- Letters to Commissioners

Next steps:

- Following up to letters to have first meetings with key Commissioners

Results till now:

- 6 questions on disability posed to the Commissioner for Equality in EP and good working relationship developed with her cabinet
- Visibility of our call to move to focal point