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**À :** Magritte Olivier <[Olivier.Magritte@minsoc.fed.be](mailto:Olivier.Magritte@minsoc.fed.be)>

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**Objet :** RE: EAA: EDF European Accessibility Act peer support meeting 2

Dear Olivier,

I am sorry for the change of the initial date. We realized deeper into the summer more people would be on holiday and also since we invited Ima from the Commission, we had to adjust the date to when she could be there a bit. I hope nevertheless you can manage to join part of the meeting and present the important updates you shared. I think it's important the Commission hears this, as they could perhaps try to help from their side.

In case you don't manage to join in the end, I can share these myself of course. Thanks a lot for sharing in advance. But hopefully, see you today for part of the EAA meeting. :)

Best,  
Mher

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**From:** Magritte Olivier <[Olivier.Magritte@minsoc.fed.be](mailto:Olivier.Magritte@minsoc.fed.be)>

**Sent:** 18 June 2021 14:37

**To:** mher hakobyan <[mher.hakobyan@edf-feph.org](mailto:mher.hakobyan@edf-feph.org)>

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**Subject:** RE: EAA: EDF European Accessibility Act peer support meeting 2

Dear Mher

As the 2<sup>nd</sup> peer support meeting was initially planned on 1<sup>st</sup> of July, I will not have the possibility to take part to the full meeting on 06/21: I have another meeting. I will join as soon as this meeting will end.

Just to clarify :

- We finally succeeded to be invited to the second meeting of the plenary group in charge of the EAA implementation in Belgium
- This group is managed by one representative of the economic affairs federal public services and one representative of the Social affairs federal public services
- The participants are, mainly, civil servants from regional public services in charge of the related matters
- Mathieu Angelo and Ria Decoopman gave a presentation on the expectations from Belgian Disability Forum (BDF) and National High Council for Persons with Disabilities (CSNPH)
- Participants did listened politely and assured us that they understood and would act for the best of persons with disabilities and so on
- But they said that the mission of this plenary group and 6 working groups was just to implement the directive without any margin of adaptation: they cannot go beyond the text of the directive... In fact they misunderstand the legal scope of Directive and Regulation

- After the meeting we insisted several times that BDF and CSNPH should be invited for the next meetings and that we would like to be invited in the working groups: where the practical decisions would be made
- When we finally received an answer, it was just to confirm that the input of the civil society would not be needed in the workgroups as these would be purely technical
- A letter was sent to the Minister in charge with social affairs
- BDF raised the issue during a meeting with her and it was clear that she would not support us any further
- In fact, we understand that as it was negotiated at EU level, the constitutive entities of Federal Belgium don't want to go beyond the content of the negotiation...

Enjoy the week-end

Kind regards  
Olivier Magritte  
BDF  
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