

The Outline of the Combined Fourth and Fifth Reports of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Public Consultation Paper (May 2026)

Purpose

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) will submit reports on the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Convention) in Hong Kong, which will be incorporated into the combined fourth and fifth reports to be submitted to the United Nations by the Central Government pursuant to the Convention. For this purpose, the Government has prepared the outline of the reports (at [Annex](#)).

2. This consultation paper outlines the background information relevant to the reports and invites public comments on the outline and suggestions on other content/ issues that may be included in the reports.

Background

3. The Convention entered into force for the People's Republic of China (including the HKSAR) on 31 August 2008. The purpose of the Convention is to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity. The text of the Convention is available on the website of the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB): https://www.lwb.gov.hk/en/highlights/UNCRPD/Publications/22072008_e.pdf.

4. Article 35 of the Convention requires that each States Party shall periodically submit reports to the United Nations on measures taken to discharge its obligations under the Convention for consideration by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Committee). The HKSAR's reports will be submitted to the Central People's Government for incorporation into our country's periodic reports to be submitted to the United Nations in accordance with the Convention.

5. The People’s Republic of China submitted its initial report and its combined second and third reports (each including the HKSAR part) to the Committee in 2010 and 2018 respectively. The Committee subsequently issued a list of issues on the combined reports, to which the HKSAR Government has responded. In 2022, the Committee considered the combined second and third reports and issued its concluding observations. The full text of the initial report, the combined second and third reports, the HKSAR Government’s response to the Committee’s list of issues, and the Committee’s Concluding Observations are available on the LWB website: <https://www.lwb.gov.hk/en/highlights/UNCRPD/index.html>.

6. Supporting persons with disabilities and fostering a disability-inclusive society for persons with disabilities not only respects the inherent dignity of persons with disabilities, but also helps maintain social harmony and stability. The policy directive of the HKSAR Government is consistent with the spirit and core values of the Convention, and the Government has all along been working hand-in-hand with various sectors of the community on aspects such as education, healthcare and social welfare to provide services and facilitation for groups with different special needs. The HKSAR Government has also persistently enhanced barrier-free living environment so that persons with disabilities enjoy equal opportunities in the participation and development of their daily lives, personal growth and social engagement. The HKSAR Government will, in respect of each Article of the Convention, review the latest progress of its implementation in Hong Kong and prepare the reports on that basis.

Summary of Issues for Consultation

7. We now invite views on the following matters —

- (a) the outline of the combined fourth and fifth reports (at **Annex**); and
- (b) any other content/issues suggested to be included in the reports other than those covered the outline. Please ensure that the suggested content, if any, are related to the articles of the Convention, and explain the necessity of including them in the reports.

Invitation for Public Views

8. Any individual or organisation may submit views on or before 30 June 2026 by any of the following means. We will consider carefully all views and suggestions received:

By post: Rehabilitation Division, Labour and Welfare Bureau,
11/F, West Wing, Central Government Offices,
2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

By fax: 2543 0486

By email: uncrpd_consultation@lwb.gov.hk

9. It is voluntary for members of the public to provide information when submitting their views on the outline of the report. LWB may relay the views and information so collected to the relevant policy bureaux and departments for purposes related to the preparation of the reports and subsequent follow-up actions related to the reports. The policy bureaux and departments receiving the information may use the information only for the above purposes.

10. The names and titles of the individuals and organisations submitting views (the respondents) and their views may be made available for public perusal or open to public inspection, including being uploaded to the Internet. We may quote the views collected during the public consultation in our discussions with other parties (whether internally within the Government or in public), or in any reports subsequently published.

11. To safeguard the personal data privacy of the respondents, relevant personal data of the respondents (other than their names or titles), such as residential/correspondence addresses, email addresses, identity card numbers, telephone numbers, fax numbers and signatures (if provided), will not be publicised.

12. We respect the wishes of respondents to keep their names/titles and/or all or part of their views confidential. If a respondent requests anonymity in his or her submission, we will, where the views are to be published, delete the respondent's name. If a respondent requests that the submission be kept confidential, the submission will not be published.

13. Every respondent has the right of access to and revision of his or her personal data contained in the submission. Requests for access to or revision of personal data should be made in writing to LWB through the channels set out in paragraph 8 above.

Labour and Welfare Bureau
May 2026

**The Outline of the Combined Fourth and Fifth Reports
of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the
United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

In preparation for the combined fourth and fifth reports under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Convention), the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) will, in the order of the articles of the Convention, set out item by item the specific situations regarding the implementation of the Convention in the HKSAR. The report will also cover the latest development since the submission of the combined second and third reports in 2018, and will also respond to the concerns and recommendations raised by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Committee) in its Concluding Observations on the combined second and third reports (the Concluding Observations).

General Provisions

Articles 1 to 4

Purpose, Definitions, General Principles and General Obligations

2. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in respect of the HKSAR's compliance with Articles 1 to 4 regarding the purpose, definitions, general principles and general obligations under the Convention, including the implementation of the Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan and the resources allocated by the HKSAR Government for providing rehabilitation services and supporting persons with disabilities, and respond to paragraphs 63 and 64 of the Concluding Observations relating to the Disability Allowance and the definition of disability.

Specific Rights

Article 5

Equality and non-discrimination

3. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for safeguarding persons

with disabilities against discrimination and promoting their equal opportunities, including the work of the Equal Opportunities Commission.

Article 6

Women with disabilities

4. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for safeguarding the equal and non-discriminatory rights of women with disabilities, including the work to promote well-being and rights of women.

Article 7

Children with disabilities

5. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for safeguarding the equal and non-discriminatory rights of children with disabilities, including measures to support children with disabilities and special needs.

Article 8

Awareness-raising

6. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for raising public awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities under the Convention and for safeguarding their equal opportunities.

Article 9

Accessibility

7. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for providing persons with disabilities with barrier-free access and facilities, transport system, information and communications technologies and services.

Article 10
Right to life

8. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for safeguarding the right to life and preventing suicide.

Article 11
Situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies

9. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the measures taken by the HKSAR to ensure protection and safety of persons with disabilities, and respond to paragraphs 65 and 66 of the Concluding Observations relating to the provision of assistance to persons with disabilities in situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies.

Article 12
Equal recognition before the law

10. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for ensuring that persons with disabilities enjoy legal capacity on an equal basis with others in all aspects of life, and respond to paragraphs 67 and 68 of the Concluding Observations relating to the autonomy of persons with disabilities.

Article 13
Access to justice

11. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for ensuring effective access to justice for persons with disabilities.

Article 14

Liberty and security of the person

12. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the legislation and measures of the HKSAR for ensuring that persons with disabilities enjoy the right to liberty and personal security on an equal basis with others.

Article 15

Freedom from torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

13. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for protecting persons with disabilities from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and respond to paragraphs 69 and 70 of the Concluding Observations relating to the right of persons with disabilities to participate in demonstrations and the relevant allegations.

Article 16

Freedom from exploitation, violence and abuse

14. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for protecting persons with disabilities from all forms of exploitation, violence and abuse.

Article 17

Protecting the integrity of the person

15. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for protecting persons with disabilities from receiving medical treatment without their consent (including protection against forced sterilisation and forced abortion).

Article 18

Liberty of movement and nationality

16. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for safeguarding the liberty of movement of persons with disabilities.

Article 19

Living independently and being included in the community

17. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for supporting persons with disabilities to live independently and be included in the community, and respond to paragraphs 71 and 72 of the Concluding Observations relating to resources for providing community support services for persons with disabilities and de-institutionalisation.

Article 20

Personal mobility

18. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in measures taken by the HKSAR to enhance the personal mobility of persons with disabilities (including services and financial assistance for acquisition of assistive devices).

Article 21

Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information

19. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for safeguarding the rights of persons with disabilities to freedom of expression and opinion, to seek and receive information, and to obtain government-published information, and will respond to paragraphs 73 and 74 of the Concluding Observations relating to the alleged contravention of the protection of freedom of expression and the allegations concerning The Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Article 22

Respect for privacy

20. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for safeguarding the privacy of personal data, including that of persons with disabilities.

Article 23

Respect for home and the family

21. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for supporting families of persons with disabilities, including the strengthening of community support for parents, relatives and carers of persons with disabilities.

Article 24

Education

22. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in safeguarding the equal opportunities of persons with disabilities to receive education, including the progress of measures to support children with special educational needs, to provide further learning opportunities for persons with disabilities, and to train teachers and professionals to care for children with special educational needs.

Article 25

Health

23. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the medical services and health education provided for persons with disabilities and the training of healthcare professionals to meet rehabilitation service needs in the HKSAR, and respond to paragraphs 75 and 76 of the Concluding Observations on the recommendation to strengthen mental health support for persons with disabilities.

Article 26

Habilitation and rehabilitation

24. We will inform the Committee of the latest development in the habilitation and rehabilitation programmes provided in the HKSAR for persons with various disabilities.

Article 27

Work and employment

25. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation of the HKSAR for safeguarding persons with disabilities against discrimination and exploitation in employment, and measures on provision of employment support for persons with disabilities.

Article 28

Adequate standard of living and social protection

26. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in measures taken by the HKSAR to provide persons with disabilities with financial assistance, rehabilitation services, medical fee waivers and housing support.

Article 29

Participation in political and public life

27. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for promoting the participation of persons with disabilities in policy formulation, advisory and statutory committees, voting arrangements provided for persons with disabilities, and the development of self-help organisations.

Article 30

Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport

28. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for encouraging the participation of persons with disabilities in cultural, recreational, leisure and sports activities, including measures to improve accessibility of cultural and recreational venues.

Specific Obligations

Article 31

Statistics and data collection

29. We will inform the Committee of the results of the HKSAR's statistical surveys relating to persons with disabilities and any latest development in this regard.

Article 32

International cooperation

30. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the HKSAR's participation in regional cooperation initiatives and international events relating to the promotion of well-being of persons with disabilities.

Article 33

Implementation and monitoring

31. We will inform the Committee of any latest development in the relevant legislation and measures of the HKSAR for promoting and monitoring the implementation of the Convention, and respond to paragraphs 77 and 78 of the Concluding Observations recommending that the HKSAR establish an independent human rights monitoring mechanism and ensure the participation of persons with disabilities in the mechanisms monitoring the HKSAR's implementation of the Convention.

May 2026