



The Rt Hon Kemi Badenoch MP
Minister for Women and Equalities

Badenoch@trade.gov.uk

Cc: marcus.bell@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

minister.disabledpeople@dwp.gov.uk

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Dear Secretary of State,

Subject: UKIM Submission to the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Today the UK Independent Mechanism (UKIM) – a group made up of the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC), the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC), the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland (ECNI) and the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission (NIHRC) - published [a report assessing the rights of disabled people across the UK](#).

This report was submitted to the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Committee) in July, as part of the review of its inquiry into the UK, taking place this month.

The UN's inquiry, published in 2016, found 'grave and systemic' violations of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), and made 11 recommendations for improvement. Specifically, the Committee examined the



impacts of welfare reforms since 2010 on the rights of disabled people to independent living; work and employment; and standard of living and social protection.

By ratifying the CRPD, the UK is bound by international law to respect, protect and fulfil the rights it contains. Responsibility for implementing UN human rights treaties lies with both the UK-wide and devolved institutions.

UKIM's report assesses progress against the 11 inquiry recommendations and analyses government action and context related to disability rights since 2016. UKIM's assessments show that, despite some progress in certain areas, there has been limited or no progress against many recommendations. It is therefore disappointing that the UK Government has postponed its participation in this essential process until the Committee's March 2024 session, delaying the outcome of the Follow-Up.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss these issues further as part of ongoing constructive dialogue with the Disability Unit.

We are copying this letter, for information, to the Minister for Disabled People and the Head of the Disability Unit.

Yours sincerely,



Kishwer Falkner | Chairwoman, Equality and Human Rights Commission |
Kishwer.Falkner@equalityhumanrights.com

Jim Farish | Member, Scottish Human Rights Commission |
jim.farish@scottishhumanrights.com

Alyson Kilpatrick | Chief Commissioner, Northern Ireland Human Rights
Commission | Alyson.kilpatrick@nihrc.org

Geraldine McGahey OBE | Chief Commissioner, Equality Commission for
Northern Ireland | pboyd@equalityni.org

