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| **NOTAT** |

**Re: Human Rights Council resolution 28/4. Contribution to the preparation of the annual study on the rights of persons with disabilities in situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies concerning Denmark**

With reference to the letter dated 26 May 2015 from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) concerning preparation of the annual study on the rights of persons with disabilities in situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies, please hereby find Denmarks contribution:

*Question* *2: Does your country provide for participation of persons with disabilities in the design implementation and management of disaster risk reduction, humanitarian response and risk management in its laws, policies and strategies regarding, for examples through the following actions:*

1. *Engaging with persons with disabilities, in decision-making processes regarding preparedness and responsiveness, disaster management action plan, the creation of risk assessments tools, production of disaster-related information, among other related issues*

The Danish Preparedness Act commits authorities (national and municipal) to develop emergency preparedness planning based on a context relevant risk analysis.

As a national authority, the Danish Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) develops and distributes policies and guidance documents for the development and establishment of the preparedness planning. This includes recommendations for emergency risk and hazard identification as well as how to involve relevant stakeholders in the risk analysis. Such stakeholders could include for example local councils for elders or disabled. Furthermore, local governmental authorities serve as facilitators for the development of preparedness planning. This includes consideration of the most vulnerable groups in general.

When it comes to disaster prevention and risk reduction measures, local preparedness planning involves fire prevention initiatives based on an approach of identifying the most vulnerable groups in the population. If relevant this will include persons with disabilities, whom will be targeted as part of implementing prevention and risk reduction measures in the local community.

1. *Ensuring the availability of appropriate and accessible forms of communication including different languages, display of text, Braille, tectile communications, large print, accessible multimedia as well as written, audio, plan-language, human-reader and augmentative and alternative modes, means and formats of communication, including accessible information and communication technology*

In 2015 DEMA started the development of a new free early warning application for smart phones. The application is being developed in cooperation with relevant emergency authorities and should be seen as a complement to existing alert channels. The application will initially broadcast emergency messages from the authorities on acute danger situations, alerts from The Danish Meteorological Institute on hazardous weather and information about major traffic irregularities.

The idea is to give Danes with a smart phone the chance to use their phone as a mobile siren and get more specific information on the emergency situation as well as information on how to act accordingly and improve immediate safety measures. The application targets the general population, but increases the opportunity especially for persons with hearing disabilities to receive early warning and emergency alerts. The acess to emergency information and possible safety measures in the specific situation will likewise be improved for persons with other disabilities. The development of the application focuses on how to make the application relevant, accessible and usable for disabled persons. DEMA has therefore when appropriate included Danish disability organizations in the development of the early warning application for smart phones. The application is expected to be ready for use in early 2016.