**Reply of the Republic of Slovenia with regard to the Human Rights Council resolution 35/6 – Questionnaire on good practices to ensure effective access to justice for persons with dissabilities**

In the Republic of Slovenia, the right to judicial protection is a fundamental human right declared in Article 23 of the Constitution, according to which "everyone has the right to have any decision regarding his rights, duties and any charges brought against him made without undue delay by an independent, impartial court constituted by law".

Slovenian procedural laws determine that any person deprived of freedom shall be advised immediately in his mother tongue or in a language he understands, of the reasons for his loss of freedom; beside that parties, witnesses and other participants in the proceedings shall have the right to use their own languages in investigative and other judicial actions and at the main hearing; furthermore, deaf persons have the right to use a Slovenian sign language interpreter whose services are funded from the state budget.

As a good practice, we would like to point out Article 223 of the Court Rules that stipulates that the invitation to the court hearing »shall contain a notification stating that all participants who are disabled or persons with special needs shall have a right to equal participation in the procedure. Participants who are disabled or persons with special needs must notify the court prior to a hearing that they will be enforcing their right to equal participation in the procedure.« The court takes into account this request and organises hearing in suitable courtroom and/or by installation of special equipment (e.g. IR units for ﻿hearing-impaired persons).