Advocacy Fact Sheet: Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

What is the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities?

The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is a group of 18 experts on the rights of persons with disabilities.

The Committee makes sure that countries are following the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The Committee is elected by the United Nations for 4 years.

How do the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities work?

The Committee meets with government officials from different countries.

They ask questions to check if the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is being followed.

The Committee reads reports and meets groups that represent people with disabilities, in each country.

After hearing from government officials and groups of people with disabilities, the Committee writes a report with recommendations on how the country can improve so the rights of people with disabilities are respected.
Advocacy Fact Sheet: Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Who is Sir Robert Martin?

At the moment, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has a member who is a person with an intellectual disability, Sir Robert Martin.

Sir Robert belongs to Inclusion International member People First New Zealand.

Sir Robert wants to make sure the rights of people with intellectual disabilities are not forgotten.

What are General Comments?

The Committee writes documents called General Comments.

The General Comments explain in more detail what the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities means and how countries can make it real for people with disabilities.

Useful links

A video explaining the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

A video of Sir Robert speaking about his work on the committee.

A news story about self-advocates from Australia speaking to the Committee.