



## Consultation Meeting

### on preparing a shadow report based on CRPD

18<sup>th</sup> January 2018 | 3 pm – 5 pm | Impact Foundation, Dhaka



A DPO led Coalition comprised of National Grassroots Disability Organization (NGDO), National Council of Disabled Women (NCDW) & Bangladesh Legal Aid & Services Trust (BLAST) has been working to prepare a shadow report based on CRPD, since 2013. Under this initiative data has already been collected from 8 districts following the CRPD guidelines & implementation rules, and a draft has been made with the help of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and Disabled People's Organization (DPOs). It must be noted that, the Initial Report under Article-35 of CRPD has been submitted by Government of Bangladesh to the UNOHCHR on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 focusing the current state of the PWDs as well as the implementation of CRPD. In view of this, a shadow report will be formulated and sent to the UN committee which deals with disability related issues.

A consultation meeting was held on 18<sup>th</sup> January, Monday, 3pm – 5pm, in the Dhaka office of Impact Foundation, Bangladesh. There were 26 participants in total and they included representatives of various disability rights organizations. This platform was used for providing their valuable opinions and recommendations regarding the formulation of the shadow report. The opening remarks and the background was given by **Barrister Sara Hossain** (Honorary Executive Director, BLAST). The general presentation of the meeting was given by Adv. Rejaul Karim Siddiquee (Research Specialist, BLAST). In his presentation he provided an overview of the Initial report of the Government sent to the UN, as well as highlighting the positive steps taken to establish disability rights by the Government such as the enactment of '**Disability Rights & Protection Act, 2013**'.



In consideration of the recommendations of everyone in the meeting it was decided that,

- A comprehensive and acceptable report must be formulated ensuring the participation of all the relevant stakeholders, thus a greater platform must be created which will be headed by DPOs.
- Under this platform a draft will be created by qualified PWDs. In compliance with this decision a drafting team comprised of seven members have been formulated.
- The media should be involved in the shadow report formulation process.
- The leadership of this platform will be provided by NGDO, and BLAST will co-ordinate and provide technical support.
- It was decided that the process of creating the report should include people with all types of disabilities, ensure equal participation of women as well as include professionals with disability.

In the meeting Shirin Akhter (Chairperson, Women With Disabilities Development Foundation- DWDDF), Dr. Nafis Ahmed (Treasurer, Centre for Service & Information on Disability- CSID), Nazma Ara Popi (General Secretary, Bangladesh Visually Impaired People's Society- VIPS), Jibon William Gomez (Executive Director, Training Point Foundation & Disability consultant, World Bank), Bhaskar Bhattacharja (ICT Advisor, Prime Minister's Office & Young Power in Social Action- YPSA), Bodrul Haque (Director, SID Trust), Albert Mollah (Executive Director, Access Bangladesh Foundation & Advisor, ILO), Mostak Ahmed (Project Co-ordinator, Action For Disability & Development- ADD International), Mahmudul Hasan (SWID, Bangladesh), A.H.M Noman Khan (Executive Director, Centre For Disability & Development- CDD) were present among many others.

The next meeting of the platform will be held on 1 March 2018.