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**General Debate of the 12th Conference of States Parties to the
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,**

11-13 June 2018

on

**“Ensuring the inclusion of persons with disabilities in a changing world through the
implementation of the CRPD”**

Intervention by

H.E. Ambassador Katalin Annamária Bogyay

Permanent Representative

Mr. Chairperson,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me start by congratulating H.E. Ambassador Luis Gallegos and fellow Bureau members for their election.

Hungary aligns itself with the statement by the European Union and the Group of Friends of CRPD, and will add some remarks in our national capacity.

The CRPD sets out a strong framework for “ensuring the inclusion of persons with disabilities in a changing world”. The transformation of the labour market and the appearance of new technologies present opportunities but also challenges to persons with disabilities, while climate change, natural disasters and humanitarian emergencies require disability-responsive preparedness and resilience from Governments, the UN system and society as a whole.

We strongly commend the UN leadership for their commitment to bringing transformative change to the lives of persons with disabilities. We welcome the recently adopted UN Disability Inclusion Strategy, mandated by the Secretary General, and also thank the President of the General Assembly for her efforts, including through the Steering Committee on Accessibility, of which Hungary is member.

Adapting to change requires leadership, and persons with disabilities are best suited to ensure that their perspectives are fully taken into account both in politics and policy.

We are proud of Dr Ádám Kósa, who has just been re-elected for his third term as Member of the European Parliament, and who has been advising our electoral law of 2012 to make elections fully accessible.

Hungarian expert Dr László Lovászy is fulfilling his second mandate as Member of the CRPD, and his recent appointment as focal point on disability and technology clearly indicates the importance of technology for the disability community. We should reflect on how to utilize the immense potential of cutting edge technologies, such as wearable devices, DNA-technologies, artificial intelligence and robotics for the benefit of persons with disabilities, while maintaining a human rights-based approach and enlarging people’s choices.

Change requires adaptability, and an important way of building adaptability is the transition from institutional care to community-based services, which is currently underway in Hungary, in partnership with civil society. The project-based programme includes supported housing with personalized services for persons with disabilities, with the aim of facilitating their social integration and employment.

Excellencies,

Hungary remains strongly committed to the implementation of the CRPD, and looks forward to share ideas with all of you during this Conference.

Thank you.