



STIG LANGVAD (DENMARK)

Date and place of birth: 20 November 1956, Århus, Denmark.

Working languages: Danish and English.

Present position/function:

1. Since 2000 Chairman of the Disabled Peoples Organisations Denmark (DPOD) - the umbrella organisation of the 32 democratic and national disability organisations in Denmark (representing all persons of all ages and both genders with a specific functional impairment such as polio, autism, mental handicap, deafness, cerebral palsy or mental disorder).
2. Since 1991 a member of the Executive Committee of the Danish Association of the Disabled (representing persons with a physical disability).
3. Since 2009 a member of the Executive Committee of the European Disability Forum (EDF) and since 2001 a member of the Board of the EDF.
4. Since 2002 Deputy Chairman of the Danish Disability Council (advises the Government on disability issues).
5. Chairman of the Board of the Impartial Consultative Service for People with Disabilities (safeguards the legal rights of persons with a disability).
6. A member of i.a. the Employment Council, Luftfartens Handicapråd (Danish council regarding carriage of disabled persons), the Equal Opportunities Centre for Disabled Persons, the Reference Group on ICT (information and communication technologies) and VISO (national knowledge and special advice organisation set up to advise the Government on societal developments with disability as a mainstream perspective).

Principal tasks:

As Chairman of the Disabled Peoples Organisations Denmark:

- Represents the Danish disability movement locally, regionally, nationally and at European and international level in the disability policy areas where the various disability organisations have shared interests.
- Holds primary responsibility for the development of the disability organisations' common political and organisational prioritisation, including understanding and implementation of human rights in the disability area.
- Is in charge of the dialogue with, among others, politicians, public officials, the Danish Institute for Human Rights, the media, educational institutions and other cooperators at all levels.
- Provides advice regarding issues in the disability area in relation to the disability policy base of support.

As a member of the executive bodies of the European Disability Forum (EDF):

- Is in charge of political functions in relation to the EU Commission, the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and disability organisations in the Member States of the EU/Europe based on a rights perspective.

- Is in charge of functions in relation to accessibility to the physical environment, transport and standardisation.

Educational background:

- MSc (Political Science), Århus University, 1984

- Has completed a great number of supplementary training courses, including a journalistic supplementary programme, educational basic course as well as various courses regarding political and professional planning and communication.

Other relevant main activities:

- 1985-1997: Employed by the Municipality of Århus as a political adviser, analyst and planner in the field of social affairs.

- Political, rights-based and development-oriented advisory services in relation to developments in the disability area through participation in various councils and boards, including the Employment Council and Luftfartens Handicapråd (Danish council regarding carriage of disabled persons).

- Participation in the preparatory negotiations on the UN Convention of 13 December 2006 on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

- Long-term and substantial experience of participation in the organisational development and capacity building of disability organisations in developing countries with special focus on political strategy and influence, education and recruitment, children and women with disabilities and cooperation with international organisations in and outside the UN, the Government and civil society.

- Work on the development of the disability area in Eastern Europe, i.a. in Kosovo.

- Teaching at a number of universities and university colleges, in municipalities, disability organisations and other relevant fora regarding disability in relation to, for example, inclusive education, accessibility, rehabilitation, employment on special conditions, inclusive employment, equal access to health, the right to family life, mobility, self-determination and personal autonomy, communication, education and human rights on the basis of UN Conventions as well as the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons.