



Global Survey Report WFD Regional Secretariat for South America (WFD RSSA)



Argentina



Bolivia



Brazil



Chile



Colombia



Ecuador



Paraguay



Peru



Venezuela

Global Education Pre-Planning Project on the Human Rights of Deaf People

**Global Survey Report
WFD Regional Secretariat for South America
Global Education Pre-Planning Project on the Human Rights of Deaf People**

**Compiled by Mr Colin Allen
Project Co-ordinator
World Federation of the Deaf and Swedish National Association of the Deaf
Published in June 2008**

Front Page Cover Designer: Mr Dušan Nikolić

Please contact:

General Secretariat
World Federation of the Deaf
PO Box 65
FIN-00401
Helsinki, Finland
Email: info@wfdeaf.org
Website: www.wfdeaf.org

Funded by the Swedish Agency for International Development Co-operation (Sida) and Swedish Organisations of Disabled Persons International Aid Association (Shia).

Co-partnered by the Danish Deaf Association (DDL), Finnish Association of the Deaf (FAD), Norwegian Association of the Deaf (NDF) and Swedish National Association of the Deaf (SDR).

© Copyright by the World Federation of the Deaf and Swedish National Association of the Deaf

All rights reserved. When referring to or quoting any part of the report it is required that the publisher and the original publication be mentioned in the following form: 'Global Survey Report WFD Regional Secretariat for South America (WFD RSSA) by the World Federation of the Deaf and the Swedish National Association of the Deaf, 2008'.

ISBN 978-952-9648-08-5

Table of Contents

1.0	Appreciation	7
2.0	Introduction	8
3.0	Methodology	10
3.1	Development of Survey Questionnaire	10
3.2	Implementation of the Global Education Pre-Planning Project on the Human Rights of Deaf People in WFD RSSA	10
3.3	Reporting	10
3.4	Regional Working Group Meeting	11
4.0	Executive Summary of Survey Results	12
4.1	Background of the Country Respondents	12
4.1.1	Classification of the Developing Countries/Developed Countries	12
4.1.2	Contact Details of Country Respondents	13
4.1.3	Country Respondent Memberships	13
4.1.4	Background of the Country Respondents	13
4.2	Population of Deaf People	15
4.3	Legislation and Policies	15
4.4	Access to Government Services	16
4.5	Access to the Media	17
4.6	Status of the National Sign Language(s)	17
4.7	Access to Education	17
4.8	Status of Sign Language Interpreting Services	19
4.9	Employment	21
4.10	General Comments	22
5.0	Recommendations	23
5.1	Leadership Training for the Local Associations, Regional Associations, National Association and Confederation of the Deaf	23
5.2	Increase Knowledge of the United Nations Conventions	23
5.3	Training on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)	24
5.4	Organisational Development Training for Board and Senior Management	24
5.5	Organisational Review and Training for the Deaf Community	24
5.6	Advocacy for the Improvement of the Standard of Living for Deaf People	24
6.0	Geography and Population	25
6.1	Argentina	25
6.2	Bolivia	25
6.3	Brazil	26
6.4	Chile	26
6.5	Colombia	27
6.6	Ecuador	27
6.7	Paraguay	27
6.8	Peru	28
6.9	Venezuela	28
7.0	Survey Results	29
7.1.0	Contact Details	29
7.2.0	National Association of the Deaf	32
7.2.1	Please provide the number of members your National Association of the Deaf has in your country.	32
7.2.1.1	Deaf Members	32
7.2.1.2	Hard of Hearing Members	32
7.2.1.3	Hearing Members	32
7.2.1.4	Summary Status of the Associations' Memberships	33
7.2.2	In what year was your National Association established?	33
7.2.3	Does your Deaf Association have Statutes/a Constitution?	33
7.2.4	Does your government recognise your national organisation as the representative of Deaf people in your country?	33
7.2.5	Please list some of the areas in which your association has adopted a policy statement.	33
7.2.6	Please list the six highest priority issues/actions in your strategic action plan.	34
7.2.7	Please describe the structure of your National Association of the Deaf (e.g. Congress/annual meeting/board/executive/districts/local associations and so forth).	35
7.2.7.1	How many affiliated regional and/or local Deaf Associations are part of your National Association of the Deaf?	36
7.2.8	How many of your board members are Deaf?	37
7.2.9	How many members of the board are Deaf women and how many are Deaf men?	37

7.2.10	Does your National Association of the Deaf have committees for specific areas of interest or affiliation with any other relevant independent groups in your country?	37
7.2.11	Does your National Association of the Deaf have any paid staff members?	39
7.2.11.1	How many of the paid staff members are women and how many are men?	39
7.2.11.2	How many of the paid staff members are Deaf?	39
7.2.12	Is your Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director/Person-In-Charge Deaf?	40
7.3.0	Population of Deaf People	41
7.3.1	Does your country's government have any official number of Deaf people in your country?	41
7.3.2	Does your Association have any official or approximate figures of the number of Deaf people living in your country?	41
7.3.3	Does your Association have any official or approximate numbers of Deaf people who use sign language as their primary language?	42
7.3.4	Does the situation of HIV/AIDS in your country affect Deaf women, men and children?	42
7.4.0	Legislation and Policies	44
7.4.1	Does your country's government recognise Deaf people as citizens on an equal basis as other citizens in your country?	44
7.4.2	Does your country's government have an office responsible for services for People with Disabilities?	44
7.4.2.1	If yes, what is the name, address and website of the government office that is responsible for services for People with Disabilities in your country?	44
7.4.3	Does your country's Government have any legislation or policies for Deaf people (or People with Disabilities in general)?	45
7.4.3.1	If yes, please list some of the policies or legislation that relate to Deaf people (or People with Disabilities).	45
7.4.4	Does your country's Government have any anti-discrimination laws for Deaf people (or People with Disabilities)?	46
7.4.5	Does your country's government provide any services specifically for the Deaf Community through its government departments?	46
7.4.5.1	If yes, what types of service are provided specifically for the Deaf Community by your country's government?	47
7.4.5.2	What is the general opinion of the current service(s) specifically provided for the Deaf Community by your country's government?	47
7.4.5.3	If no, why does your country's government not provide any service specifically for the Deaf Community?	47
7.4.6	Does your Association have any contact with your current country's government?	48
7.4.6.1	What type of contact does your Association have with your country's current government?	48
7.4.7	Does your Association receive any financial support from your country's current government?	48
7.4.7.1	What is the amount of annual financial support from your country's government?	48
7.4.7.2	What is the purpose of the financial support from your country's government to the Deaf Community?	49
7.4.8	Do Deaf people have a right to vote in national, regional and local elections?	49
7.4.9	Are Deaf people allowed to obtain a driver's licence?	49
7.4.10	Are Deaf people allowed to marry Deaf or other partners?	49
7.4.11	Are Deaf people allowed to have children?	49
7.4.12	Are Deaf people allowed to adopt children?	49
7.4.12.1	If Deaf people are not allowed to drive, please list the Government legislation or policies that stop them from being allowed to drive.	49
7.5.0	Access to Government Services	50
7.5.1	Do Deaf people have access to government services such as education, health care, employment, social welfare and any general government services?	50
7.5.1.1	If yes, how do Deaf people access these government services?	50
7.5.1.2	Are Deaf people satisfied with the level of access they have to the government services?	50
7.5.2	Are Deaf people entitled to any financial assistance from your country's government?	51

7.5.2.1	What type of financial assistance are Deaf people entitled to receive from your country's government?	51
7.6.0	Access to the Media	52
7.6.1	Does your country's government provide sign language services for news and/or current affairs programmes on public television?	52
7.6.2	Does your country's government provide subtitles/captions for news and/or current affairs programmes?	52
7.6.3	Does your country's government offer governmental documents in your country's sign language(s)?	53
7.7.0	Status of the National Sign Language(s)	54
7.7.1	Does your country's government formally recognise your country's sign language(s)?	54
7.7.1.1	What legislation/regulation formally recognises your country's sign language(s)?	54
7.7.1.2	When did your country's government formally recognise your country's sign language(s)?	54
7.7.1.3	Does your Deaf Association lobby your government for the recognition of your country's sign language(s)?	54
7.7.1.4	If no, please explain the reason your Association does not lobby your current government for the recognition of your country's sign language(s).	54
7.7.2	Does your country have a sign language dictionary?	54
7.8.0	Access to Education	55
7.8.1	Does your country's government recognise that Deaf children and Deaf students have the right to receive an education?	55
7.8.2	Does your country's government have any legislation or policies on Deaf Education?	55
7.8.2.1	If yes, please list the specific name of the legislation or policies relating to Deaf Education.	55
7.8.3	Does your country's government provide any of the following educational settings for Deaf children and Deaf students?	56
7.8.4	Does your country's government provide bilingual education using your country's sign language(s) for Deaf children and Deaf students in your country?	56
7.8.4.1	If yes, in which educational setting is bilingual education offered in your country using your sign language(s)?	57
7.8.5	Does your country have any schools specifically for Deaf children and Deaf students?	57
7.8.5.1	If yes, how many Deaf schools does your country have?	57
7.8.5.2	What is the educational approach for communicating with Deaf children and students at the Deaf School in your country?	58
7.8.6	What is the general opinion of the level of education received by Deaf children and Deaf students in your country?	59
7.8.7	What is the general opinion of the current literacy level of Deaf children and Deaf students in your country?	59
7.8.8	Do Deaf people have access to a University education in your country?	60
7.8.8.1	If yes, how many Universities provide access to studies for Deaf people in your country?	60
7.8.8.2	If no, why do Deaf people not have access to a University education in your country?	60
7.8.9	Do Deaf people have full access to sign language interpreting services at University?	60
7.9.0	Status of Sign Language Interpreting Services	61
7.9.1	Does your country have any sign language interpreters?	61
7.9.1.1	How many sign language interpreters does your country have?	61
7.9.1.2	Are there any sign language interpreting qualifications available in your country?	61
7.9.1.3	Who provides the training for people who want to become qualified sign language interpreters?	61
7.9.1.4	How many years of training are available to someone who wants to become a sign language interpreter?	61
7.9.1.5	How many sign language interpreters in your country have formal interpreting qualifications?	62
7.9.1.6	How do Deaf people access sign language interpreters?	62
7.9.2	Does your country have sign language interpreting services?	62
7.9.2.1	If yes, who provides these sign language interpreting services?	62
7.9.2.2	In what areas of life are sign language interpreting services available in your country?	62
7.9.2.3	What is the general opinion of these sign language interpreting services?	63

7.9.3	Do sign language interpreters receive payment for interpreting services in your country?	63
7.9.3.1	Who is responsible for paying for a sign language interpreter?	64
7.9.3.2	What is the average hourly rate of payment for sign language interpreters in your country?	64
7.9.3.3	Do your sign language interpreters provide voluntary service for all sign language interpreting assignments?	64
7.9.4	Does your country have a National Association of Sign Language Interpreters?	65
7.9.4.1	Is your National Association of Sign Language Interpreters independent from your National Association of the Deaf?	65
7.9.5	Is there a national Code of Ethics for sign language interpreters in your country?	65
7.9.6	Is there any legislation or policy in your country which states that the government has a responsibility for the provision of sign language interpreting services?	65
7.9.6.1	If yes, please list the legislation or policies that specifically state the government has a responsibility for the provision of sign language interpreting services.	66
7.10.0	Employment	67
7.10.1	Does your country's government consider that Deaf people have a right to be employed and earn a standard salary?	67
7.10.2	Does your country's government have any anti-discrimination laws in the area of employment, especially for Deaf people or People with Disabilities?	67
7.10.2.1	If yes, please write clearly the name of any legislation or policy that relates to anti-discrimination in employment.	68
7.10.3	Does your Association/Group have any official or approximate figures on the number of Deaf people who are in paid employment in your country?	68
7.10.3.1	What are the most common areas of work for Deaf people in your country?	69
7.10.4	Does your country have any figures on the percentage of Deaf people who are unemployed?	69
7.10.5	Does your country provide employment services to assist unemployed Deaf people to look for employment?	69
7.10.5.1	Who is responsible for providing employment services for unemployed Deaf people in your country?	69
7.11.0	General	70
7.11.1	Which of the following does your National Association of the Deaf consider to be the highest priority for your Deaf Community?	70
7.11.2	Does your Association have any other concerns about the standard of living of Deaf people in your country?	70
8.0	Appendices:	71
Appendix No 1	Cover Letter	71
Appendix No 2	Global Human Rights Survey	72

1.0 Appreciation

The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) and the Swedish National Association of the Deaf (SDR) wish to recognise the co-operation and support from organisation(s) and individuals who contributed their valuable time to the third phase of the seven-region Global Education Pre-planning Project on the Human Rights of Deaf People. This third phase took place in the WFD Regional Secretariat in South America (WFD RSSA):

The funding organisations:

- Swedish Organisations of Disabled Persons International Aid Association (Shia)
- Co-partners Danish Deaf Association (DDL), Finnish Association of the Deaf (FAD), Norwegian Association of the Deaf (NDF) and Swedish National Association of the Deaf (SDR)

The members of the Project Steering Committee:

- Mr Tomas Hedberg, Sign Language Policy Co-ordinator, Swedish National Association of the Deaf (SDR)
- Mr Feliciano Sola Limia, Vice President, World Federation of the Deaf (WFD)
- Ms Meri Hyske-Fischer, Project Manager, World Federation of the Deaf (WFD)
- Ms Anneli Joneken, Project Co-ordinator, Swedish Organisations of Disabled Persons International Aid Association (Shia)

The members of WFD RSSA, who co-operated so efficiently:

- Mr Alexeis Vergara Estibill, Regional Director, WFD RSSA
- Mr Gustavo Vergara Navarro, Regional Co-ordinator, WFD RSSA Global Human Rights Project
- Mr Nelson Weitzel Fernandez, President, Association of Deaf of Chile
- Association of Deaf of Chile

The members of Regional Working Group of the Global Human Rights Pre-Planning Project in WFD RSSA:

- Mr Vinicio Baquero, Ecuador
- Ms Martha Lucia Osorno, Colombia
- Ms Marianne Stumpf, Brazil

The nine Ordinary Members of WFD RSSA who responded to the survey:

1. Argentina Confederation of the Deaf
2. Bolivian Federation of the Deaf
3. National Federation of Education and Integration of the Deaf (Brazil)
4. Association of the Deaf of Chile
5. National Deaf Federation of Colombia
6. National Federation of Deaf People of Ecuador
7. Deaf Centre of Paraguay
8. Association of the Deaf of Peru
9. Venezuelan Federation of the Deaf

Not least, others who have supported the project:

- Mr Markku Jokinen, President, World Federation of the Deaf (WFD)
- Ms Liz Scott Gibson, President, World Association of Sign Language Interpreters (WASLI)
- Mr Knud Søndergaard, Finance Officer, World Federation of the Deaf (WFD)
- Ms Veronica Moar Suarez, Assistant to WFD Vice-President, Federation of Deaf People's Associations in Galicia, Spain
- Staff members of the Albanian National Association of the Deaf (ANAD)
- Ms Phillipa Sandholm, Administrative Assistant, World Federation of the Deaf (WFD)
- Ms Carol-lee Aquiline, English Grammar Editor for the Project Reports
- Ms Corrie Tijsseling, WFD Expert in Deaf Education
- Ms Vera Jovanović, Ms Desanka Žižić and Mr Boba Milošević, Film Production Team for the DVD in International Sign
- Everyone who contributed time to the Global Human Rights Pre-Planning Project

2.0 Introduction

The Swedish National Association of the Deaf (SDR) is the national organisation of Deaf people in Sweden and an Ordinary Member of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD). SDR has been involved in 20 international projects with Deaf people in Africa, Asia, Central America and the Russian Federation, with expertise in the fields of Deaf Education, Sign Language, Deaf Women and Children, Sign Language Interpreters, Organisational Development and Income Generating Activities. SDR is a member of Shia (Swedish Organisations of Handicapped International Aid Association) an umbrella organisation for developmental co-operation of Disability Organisations. Shia was founded in 1981 in connection with "The UN Year of People with Disabilities" and when the Disability Decade began. Today there are 28 member organisations affiliated with Shia.

SDR has had contact with many Deaf organisations in developing countries and recognises that approximately 90% of the world's Deaf people have never been to school and are thus more or less illiterate. Sign language is repressed in many countries and its use is not permitted in education. The consequence is that Deaf people are not aware of the rights they have in society, but live as a highly marginalised group in most developing countries. There is usually no access to information for Deaf people, which means that they do not even know what is happening in their immediate society and even less so in the world. Of the world's Deaf people only about five percent (5%) can read and write. This is due to the fact that Deaf people have not been educated in sign language. Improving the status of sign language has consequences for all areas of life for Deaf people; it opens up possibilities for participation, information and influence, and reduction of poverty.

SDR approached WFD to become a partner organisation because WFD is an international organisation with global coverage although not all countries in the world are members. In order to reach as many Deaf people as possible in this project, WFD is a natural choice for SDR, as it is one of WFD's member organisations.

WFD was established in 1951 and acts as an interest group representing Deaf people who use sign language. WFD works in partnership with the United Nations (UN) and its agencies and member states, other international organisations, national organisations of Deaf people, Regional Secretariats and experts. With these partners WFD pursues the rights of Deaf people to participate in society, the State and other areas of life as equal citizens.

WFD has a large network with seven Regional Secretariats, national organisations of Deaf people in 130 member countries and experts within different areas: training, sign language, technology and accessibility, women's issues, human rights, health, employment and developing countries.

SDR approached the Nordic Council of the Deaf to request that the four Nordic Ordinary Members of WFD become involved as co-partners in the project; these four members are the Danish Deaf Association (DDL), Finnish Association of the Deaf (FAD), Norwegian Association of the Deaf (NDF) and Swedish National Association of the Deaf (SDR). SDR forwarded a project proposal to Shia to carry out pre-planning survey work in conjunction with seven of WFD's regions; the proposal was granted funding for a pre-planning survey in the

- Eastern Europe and Middle Asia Regional Secretariat of the WFD (WFD EEMARS)
- WFD Regional Secretariat for Asia and the Pacific (WFD RSA/P)
- WFD Regional Secretariat for South America (WFD RSSA)
- WFD Regional Secretariat for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean (WFD MCAC)
- WFD Regional Secretariat for Eastern and Southern Africa (WFD RSESA)
- WFD Interim Regional Secretariat for Western and Central Africa Region (WFD WCAR)
- WFD Interim Regional Secretariat for the Arab Region (WFD RSAR)

Goals of the pre-planning survey

- Compilation of an analysis of the situation for Deaf people in each of the seven regions according to a common questionnaire. Data is to be produced from three of the regions during the first year of pre-planning and from four of the regions during the second year of pre-planning.
- Production of documentation of assessment of the capacity of the national organisations and the regional structure in each region.
- Production of an education plan for three of the regions during the first year of pre-planning and for four of the regions during the second year of pre-planning.
- Development of training materials, methodologies and pre-planning organisational work to be used in the project.
- Compilation of a global training plan on human rights for the WFD organisations to use as the basis for a complete project application to be submitted to Shia during autumn 2008 for consideration for budget 2009.

Project Steering Committee

A Project Steering Committee was formed to overview the survey work carried out by the Project Co-ordinator. The members of the Steering Committee are:

- Mr Tomas Hedberg, Swedish National Association of the Deaf (SDR)
- Mr Feliciano Sola Limia, World Federation of the Deaf (WFD)
- Ms Meri Hyske-Fischer, World Federation of the Deaf (WFD)
- Ms Anneli Joneken, Swedish Organisations of Disabled Persons International Aid Association (Shia)

Project Co-ordinator

SDR and WFD approached the Finnish Association of the Deaf (FAD) to manage the project; and FAD appointed Mr Colin Allen to take on the role of Project Co-ordinator and oversee project management within the seven regions between July 2007 and December 2008. Mr Allen is based in Belgrade, Serbia where he has been associated with other FAD projects within the Balkan Region.

WFD RSSA Regional Co-ordinator and Regional Working Group:

The position of a Regional Co-ordinator was established for each survey region. The Steering Committee agreed to appoint Mr Gustavo Vergara Navarro as Regional Co-ordinator for the WFD RSSA region. Mr Gustavo Vergara Navarro, who is based in Santiago, Chile, was responsible to establish a communication network with the members of WFD RSSA as well as to co-ordinate the meeting for the Regional Working Group.

Each survey region also had their own Regional Working Group and the WFD RSSA Regional Working Group had three members:

- Mr Vinicio Baquero, Ecuador
- Ms Martha Lucia Osorno, Colombia
- Ms Marianne Stumpf, Brazil

Mr Alexeis Vergara Estibill, Regional Director of WFD RSSA was invited as an observer at the WFD RSSA Regional Working Group meeting.

The members of the Regional Working Group were responsible to acknowledge the Survey Results as they were received from nine country members of WFD RSSA. They had a pivotal role in preparing a list of recommendations for the training project work to be carried out for their region in the next stage of the project.



Mr Vinicio Baquero *Mr Alexeis Vergara Estibill*
Ms Martha Lucia Osorno *Ms Marianne Stumpf* *Mr Gustavo Vergara Navarro*

Please note:

The pre-planning survey is a basic situational analysis that aims to collect information from relevant representatives and is not intended to be a complete in-depth analysis of the situation of Deaf persons in WFD RSSA. The data and issues presented in this report are based on the information received from these representatives and members of WFD RSSA.

Additional notes:

Terminology used in this report is taken from the survey.

Each country's exchange rate into Euro Currency is based on the rate given on 31st January 2008 on the website www.oanda.com/convert/classic.

3.0 Methodology

3.1 Development of Survey Questionnaires

According to the framework of the Global Education Pre-planning Project on the Human Rights of Deaf People, the Project Co-ordinator developed a number of survey questionnaires to collect information on the standard of living of Deaf people in all of the seven WFD Regional Secretariats, focussing on the areas of:

1. Status of the National Deaf Association
2. Population of Deaf people
3. Legislation and Policies
4. Access to Government Services
5. Access to the Media
6. Status of the National Sign Language(s)
7. Access to Education
8. Status of Sign Language Interpreting Services
9. Employment status of Deaf people

The Project Co-ordinator had prior experience in survey work with Deaf people in developing countries, having conducted the FAD - Balkan Survey Project in the countries of Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Turkey between 2004 and 2006. Therefore, some of the Balkan Survey Questions were simply modified for this Global Survey work. The Project Co-ordinator also liaised with the President of the World Association of Sign Language Interpreters (WASLI) for her guidance on relevant questions regarding the Status of Sign Language Interpreting Services.

The questionnaire was intended to ensure that all appropriate data was received from each member within the Regional Secretariat. The survey questions were approved by the Project Steering Committee prior to commencement of the Global Education Pre-Planning Project on the Human Rights of Deaf People. The questionnaire is available at the end of this report - Appendix No 2.

3.2 Implementation of the Global Education Pre-planning Project on the Human Rights of Deaf People in WFD RSSA

Subsequent to the appointment of the Regional Co-ordinator for WFD RSSA, the Project Co-ordinator and Regional Co-ordinator co-operated in confirming contact addresses for the ten country members of WFD RSSA. The Project Co-ordinator filmed the survey questions in International Sign on a DVD that was disseminated along with the survey questionnaire in written Spanish. The Regional Co-ordinator prepared the survey package and arranged for it to be mailed from Santiago, Chile, to

1. Argentina Confederation of the Deaf
2. Bolivian Federation of the Deaf
3. National Federation of Education and Integration of the Deaf (Brazil)
4. Association of the Deaf of Chile
5. National Deaf Federation of Colombia
6. National Federation of Deaf People of Ecuador
7. Deaf Centre of Paraguay
8. Association of the Deaf of Peru
9. Association of the Deaf and Mute of Uruguay
10. Venezuelan Federation of the Deaf

3.3 Reporting

The Regional Co-ordinator was the central contact point for collection of the survey. All of the nine country members who responded did so in Spanish. The Regional Co-ordinator translated the Spanish answers into English for the Project Co-ordinator with the aid of an Internet translation service (<http://babelfish.altavista.com/>). The Regional Co-ordinator and Project Co-ordinator communicated several times to discuss some issues via webcam, using MSN - Live Messenger.

The Project Co-ordinator designed a basic data program with Excel software to record respondent country answers for all surveys received from the Regional Co-ordinator, i.e. nine respondent countries. He was then responsible for summarising the results into categorised sections of the report, available under "Survey Results" on page 29. The Project Co-ordinator also prepared the "Executive Summary", found on page 12. It was not possible to include all responses because the Project Co-ordinator could not understand some that were not clear or were irrelevant to the specific questions.

Once the report was drafted the Regional Working Group gave comments and feedback, which was then taken into consideration in the editing phase of the report.

A copy will be sent to all members of WFD RSSA, WFD, Danish Deaf Association (DDL), Finnish Association of the Deaf (FAD), Norwegian Association of the Deaf (NDF), Swedish National Association of the Deaf (SDR), World Association of Sign Language Interpreters (WASLI), Shia and other interested organisations. A compilation of the most relevant information from all reports will be available at the end of the project.

3.4 Regional Working Group Meeting

The members of the Regional Working Group and the Regional Co-ordinator met with the Project Co-ordinator in Santiago, Chile, on 17th - 19th March 2008. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the major findings from the Survey Results and enable the Regional Working Group to identify priority issues to be acknowledged. The members of the Regional Working Group also had training on issues such as:

- a) Background of the World Federation of the Deaf
- b) Human Rights through Sign Languages
- c) Introduction of the Global Education Pre-Planning Project on the Human Rights of Deaf People
- d) Brief Introduction to International Human Rights Instruments:
 - 1. Universal Declaration of Human Rights
 - 2. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 - 3. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
 - 4. Convention on the Rights of the Child
 - 5. Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
- e) Periodic reporting, the new system of Universal Periodic Reviews and also shadow/alternative reports from NGOs
- f) UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The Regional Working Group summarised the high priority issues to be addressed for further training for the members of WFD RSSA. These can be found under "Recommendations" on page 23.

4.0 Executive Summary of Survey Results

The Executive Summary of Survey Results is categorised into ten sections and is based on the detailed data results found later in the report:

1. National Associations of the Deaf
2. Population of Deaf People
3. Legislation and Policies
4. Access to Government Services
5. Access to the Media
6. Status of the Country Sign Language(s)
7. Access to Education
8. Status of Sign Language Interpreting Services
9. Employment
10. General Comments

The target members of WFD RSSA who returned completed surveys were:

1. Argentina Confederation of the Deaf
2. Bolivian Federation of the Deaf
3. National Federation of Education and Integration of the Deaf (Brazil)
4. Association of the Deaf of Chile
5. National Deaf Federation of Colombia
6. National Federation of Deaf People of Ecuador
7. Deaf Centre of Paraguay
8. Association of the Deaf of Peru
9. Venezuelan Federation of the Deaf

Only one country (Uruguay) did not return the survey in spite of the Regional Co-ordinator's efforts to contact relevant people within the National Association in various ways, none of which received a response. The Regional Working Group considered it possible that this Deaf Association may be dormant.

The Association of the Deaf of Chile, which has retained Ordinary Membership in the World Federation of the Deaf since its inception in 1926, is a local association based in the capital city of Santiago, Chile; the National Confederation of Chile was disbanded in January 2008. Most of the answers from Chile are based on this Association's views but some input has been influenced by the now-defunct National Confederation of the Deaf.

Two country members (Brazil and Paraguay) have organisational titles quite different from those of the other country members, whose titles clearly state they are organisations for and by Deaf people. It is interesting to note that the name of one of the nine respondents (Argentina) contains the Spanish word 'surdomudos', which translated means 'deaf and dumb'.

4.1 Background of the Country Respondents

4.1.1 Classification of Developing Countries/Developed Countries

Reference: -

(<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/DATASTATISTICS/0,,contentMDK:20420458-menuPK:64133156-pagePK:64133150-piPK:64133175-theSitePK:239419,00.html>)

Based on the World Bank's definition, four classifications were used for this analysis. Five of the nine country members in WFD RSSA are classified as Low Middle Income (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, and Peru,); and four are classified as Upper Middle Income (Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Venezuela).

Country	Low Middle Income	Upper Middle Income
Argentina		✓
Bolivia	✓	
Brazil		✓
Chile		✓
Colombia	✓	
Ecuador	✓	
Paraguay	✓	
Peru	✓	
Venezuela		✓
Total	5 (56%)	4 (44%)

Based on nine respondents

4.1.2 Contact Details of Country Respondents

Nine country respondents supplied their contact details. It was interesting to note that only four have websites (Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Colombia). Ecuador's website is currently under construction.

4.1.3 Country Respondent Memberships

Only four respondents (Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru) provided the numbers of Deaf members; Colombia responded that they have 455,718 Deaf members, out of a reported total of 457,653 Deaf members in the entire WFD RSSA region.

Five members (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and Venezuela) did not supply the number of Deaf members in spite of a follow-up attempt to obtain this data, to which they did not respond.

One country (Ecuador) reported that they have hard of hearing members; and one country (Paraguay) reported that they have hearing members.

Country	Total Deaf Members	Total Hard of Hearing Members	Total Hearing Members	Total Members
Argentina	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bolivia	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Brazil	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chile	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Colombia	455,718 (100%)	0	0	455,718
Ecuador	420 (84%)	81 (16%)	0	501
Paraguay	495 (98%)	0	8 (2%)	503
Peru	1,020 (100%)	0	0	1,020
Venezuela	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	457,653	81	8	457,742

4.1.4 Background of the Country Respondents

All nine members were established between 1926 to 1989; the oldest National Association in WFD RSSA is that of Chile, which was established in 1926, with the most recently-established being that in Venezuela (1989). All nine members have their own organisational statutes/constitutions, and eight of nine country members (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Venezuela) are recognised by their country's government as the association representing Deaf people. Only one country (Peru) stated that their national government does not recognise the Association.

All nine country respondents are currently Ordinary Members of WFD. The structure of some of these members is that of an umbrella organisation, i.e. a Confederation or Federation; these are Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela.

All nine countries described their organisational structures; a brief overview of their structures is:

- Most of the Federations hold an annual General Assembly Meeting although some hold a General Assembly Meeting every two years
- A majority have specific commissions functioning within the national level of the organisation

A full explanation of the organisational structures is provided on page 35.

Eight of nine respondents (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela) outlined clear policy statements in the areas of:

- Sign Language
- Education
- Culture
- Accessibility
- Promotion of Human Rights

All country respondents outlined the six highest priority issues or actions in their strategy action plans; the most common issues being:

- Recognition of Sign Language as an Official Language
- Deaf Community Development
- Deaf Women
- Deaf Education
- Mental Health
- Government Laws
- Sign Language Interpreters
- Employment

The questions then focused on numbers of Regional and Local Deaf Associations in each country; the largest number of Regional Deaf Associations is in Brazil (119) and the largest number of Local Deaf Associations is in Ecuador (16).

All nine countries supplied information about the number of board members of their Federation or Association. The standard number of board members is between five and 15; Peru has the largest number with 15 members on the board.

One question specifically asked for the number of Deaf people serving as a member on the national board; all of the respondents have 100% Deaf people on their boards.

Another question queried the number of Deaf women serving on boards. Colombia has three Deaf women out of a total of five board members (60%) while Ecuador does not have female representation on their board of five members. The approximate average of Deaf women serving on Deaf Federation and Association Boards in WFD RSSA is 33%.

All country respondents have committees for specific areas of interest or affiliation with other relevant independent groups as follows:

- Seven (78%) Countries have committees on Deaf Education and Deaf Youth
- Six (67%) Countries have committees on Sign Language Researchers and Deaf Seniors
- Four (44%) Countries have committees on Sign Language Interpreters and Deaf Women's Groups
- Three (33%) Countries have committees on Sports Groups and Parents of Deaf Children
- Two (22%) Countries have committees on Cultural Groups for Deaf people and Deaf People with Other Disabilities
- Two (11%) Countries have a specific committee for Children of Deaf Adults or Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Bisexuals
- Five (56%) Countries have committees on other issues

In reference to the employment of staff members, five countries (Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru) supplied information while four countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Chile and Venezuela) do not have any staff members. Brazil has the largest number of Deaf staff members at 1,200.

The final question in this section queried whether any of the countries had a Deaf Chief Executive, Executive Director or Deaf Person-In-Charge of the National Association/Federation of the Deaf. Four countries reported in the affirmative: Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru. Brazil stated their Federation has three voluntary positions which are filled by both Deaf and hearing people.

4.2 Population of Deaf People

Six of the country respondents (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Ecuador) stated that their government has an official number of Deaf people in their country as shown below:

Country	Does your country's government have any official number of Deaf people in your country?	Total Deaf people
Argentina	Yes	39,170,214
Bolivia	Yes	22,642
Brazil	Yes	5,750,809
Chile	Yes	66,524
Colombia	Yes	455,718
Ecuador	Yes	231,000
Total	6 Yes (67%)	45,696,907

Based on nine respondents

Only four governments (Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Ecuador) stated the number of Deaf women and men:

Country	Deaf Women	Deaf Men
Brazil	2,759,331	2,991,478
Chile	31,244	35,280
Colombia	217,754	237,964
Ecuador	110,000	121,000
Total	3,118,329	3,385,722

Only one country's Deaf Federation (Venezuela) recorded the number of Deaf people in the country (approximately 500). However the next question in the survey provides an essential record of Deaf people who use sign language as their primary language. Two out of nine countries (Brazil and Paraguay) reported their number of Sign Language Users as below:

Country	Does your Association have any official or approximate numbers of Deaf people who use sign language as their primary language?	Total Sign Language Users
Brazil	Yes*	1,710,000
Paraguay	Yes	1,000
Total	2 Yes (22%)	1,711,000

Based on nine respondents

* The number of Sign Language Users in Brazil was supplied by an organisation named Conselho Nacional dos Direitos da Pessoa Portadora de Deficiência - Conade (CONADES) (i.e. the National Advisory Council on the Rights of People with Disabilities).

The survey approached all nine countries with a clear question as to whether HIV/AIDS affected the Deaf women, men and children in their country. Six respondents (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela) stated "Yes"; further explanation of the situation of HIV/AIDS in the Deaf Communities in these countries can be found on page 42. However, of those countries that ticked "Yes", six were unable to actually describe the situation nor were they able to provide the actual number of Deaf people who have died from the disease or are living with HIV/AIDS.

4.3 Legislation and Policies

On the first day of the Regional Working Group Meeting, the Project Co-ordinator introduced the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) concentrating on the key articles relating to the Deaf Community as follows:

Article 2:	Definition
Article 9:	Accessibility
Article 21:	Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information
Article 24:	Education
Article 30:	Participation in cultural life, recreation leisure and sport

At the time of the meeting, the governments of eight of nine country respondents (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru) had signed the convention; and seven (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru) had signed the protocol. Only one country in the WFD RSSA Region (Peru) has ratified both the convention and the protocol, on 30 January 2008.

This section focussed on essential data collection about any legislation or policy relating to Deaf people in each country. The first question asked whether each country's government recognised Deaf people as citizens on an equal basis as other citizens;

seven of nine countries (77%) (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela) responded ‘Yes’ with a ‘No’ from Bolivia and Chile. The Regional Working Group, during its meeting in Santiago, strongly emphasised that in those countries that answered “Yes”, legislation is in force wherein the government recognises Deaf people as equal but the legislation is not effectively implemented.

The next question asked whether each country has an office responsible for services for People with Disabilities, to which all of the country members answered ‘Yes’. Part of this question asked each country to provide contact details of this government office, which can be found on page 44.

Again, all of the survey countries confirmed their government has legislation or policy for Deaf People or People with Disabilities in general, and supplied a list of the laws or policies (see page 45). All of those laws or policies classified Deaf people under the larger group of People with Disabilities, and none of them addressed the needs of Deaf people as a group in itself; however Brazil does have a law related to Sign Language, Law No 10,436/02 LIBRAS (Brazilian Sign Language).

Only five of nine countries (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela) have anti-discrimination legislation for People with Disabilities (including Deaf people, as stated above).

Six of nine countries (Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela) stated their national governments provide services specifically for the Deaf Community through government departments; three countries (Argentina, Bolivia and Chile) said their government does not provide any services for the Deaf community. For those countries where the government does provide services, the types of services are:

- Sign Language Interpreting Services
- Rehabilitation
- Education
- Health
- Audiology

Argentina, Bolivia and Chile made similar statements to the effect that their national governments have a lack of understanding about the needs of the Deaf community in spite of the fact that governmental departments are responsible to provide for these needs.

Six out of nine respondents (Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru) have contact with their country’s current government. The type of contact was membership status within the governmental committee on issues for People with Disabilities.

Four of nine country respondents (Brazil, Chile, Ecuador and Paraguay) receive funding from their national government with five (Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela) not receiving any government financial support at all. Those countries receiving government funding provided the annual amount they received (see page 48) and explained the purpose of the financial support.

The last five questions of this section were to ascertain whether Deaf people have a right to vote in national, regional and local elections; are permitted to obtain a driver’s licence; can marry Deaf or other partners; are allowed to have children; and can adopt children. The results are as follows:

	Right to vote in national, regional and local elections?	Allowed to obtain a driver’s licence?	Allowed to marry Deaf or other partners?	Allowed to have children?	Allowed to adopt children?
Yes	9 Countries (100%)	6 Countries (67%)	9 Countries (100%)	9 Countries (100%)	9 Countries (100%)
No	0	3 Countries (33%)	0	0	0

Based on nine respondents

4.4 Access to Government Services

When asked whether Deaf people have access to government services such as education, health care, employment, social welfare and other general government services, seven of nine country respondents ticked ‘Yes’. To the question how Deaf people access these government services, the responses were quite diverse: each Deaf person made their own personal contacts with or without Sign Language Interpreters; a Sign Language Interpreter is provided by the government for relevant appointments; and through reliance on assistance from Deaf people’s relatives.

Another aspect of access to government services was whether Deaf people were entitled to any financial assistance from the government, to which only six of nine country respondents (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay and Venezuela) answered ‘Yes’. The national government does not offer any financial assistance for Deaf people in Bolivia, Colombia and Peru. The types of financial assistance offered to Deaf people are shown in the table below:

Disability Allowance	General Pension	Disability-Specific Pension	Other
3 Countries (50%)	1 Country (17%)	2 Countries (33%)	3 Countries (50%)

Based on six respondents

4.5 Access to the Media

Following are the results of access to the media for Deaf people in these nine countries, based on three main questions:

- 1) Does the government provide sign language services for news and/or current affairs programmes on public television?

Five countries (Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela) stated their government provides sign language services for News Programmes on television. Only one country (Chile) stated the length of time for such programmes as being 30 minutes everyday. Brazil provides sign language interpretation of programmes related to government campaigns or elections.

- 2) Does the government provide subtitles/captions for news and/or current affairs programme?

Only five countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Peru) have access to subtitles/captions for news or current affairs bulletins with the hours of captioning access ranging from just 30 minutes to one hour daily. Also provided are subtitled television programmes for children, or local soap series and movies.

- 3) Does the government offer any governmental documents in sign language?

None of the governments provides access for Deaf people to receive governmental documents in their sign language.

4.6 Status of the National Sign Language(s)

These questions aimed to gather vital data on the status of national sign language(s) with findings as follows:

- Four of nine countries (Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela) stated their national sign language is formally recognised by their government
- Five of nine countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay and Peru) stated their sign language is not recognised by their government
- For the four countries whose sign languages are recognised, recognition falls under the following categories:

Country	Constitution	Legislation	Policy
Brazil	✓	✓	✓
Colombia		✓	
Ecuador	✓		
Venezuela	✓		

- All of the survey countries continue to actively lobby their national government to recognise their sign languages

Six of nine countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Paraguay) have a dictionary of their national sign language.

4.7 Access to Education

The most important part of this survey was to ascertain whether every Deaf person was entitled to and had access to good quality education. There were eight questions, the first of which asked whether governments recognised that Deaf children and Deaf students have the right to receive an education. Eight of nine countries stated 'Yes' with only Bolivia saying 'No'. The same eight countries responded 'Yes' to the question asking if the government has legislation or a policy on Deaf Education, and once again Bolivia stated 'No'. All eight countries were able to provide the specific name of the legislation or policy relating to Deaf Education, the list of which is available on page 55.

The next aim was to collect information on educational settings for Deaf children and Deaf students in each country (nine countries) as shown below:

Early Intervention	Kindergarten	Primary Education	Secondary Education	University Education	Vocational Education / Training
6 Countries (67%)	4 Countries (44%)	8 Countries (89%)	6 Countries (67%)	6 Countries (67%)	6 Countries (67%)

Based on nine respondents

Three countries (Brazil, Chile and Colombia) have educational settings from Early Intervention right up to University Education, as well as Vocational Education and Training.

The only two countries where education for Deaf Children is limited to primary education are Argentina and Bolivia. Only Paraguay stated the Government controls education but the educational facilities for Deaf people are actually provided by private educational institutions.

The Regional Working Group expressed their concern that the answers from Peru and Venezuela may not be correct for Early Intervention and Kindergarten. The Regional Co-ordinator attempted to follow up with these countries but was unable to confirm these replies.

Another question addressed Bilingual Education offered by the government, and use of the national sign language(s) for Deaf children and Deaf students. Five out of nine countries (Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela) provided information about which levels of education are provided bilingually:

Early Intervention	Kindergarten	Primary Education	Secondary Education	University Education	Vocational Education / Training
5 Countries (100%)	3 Countries (60%)	5 Countries (100%)	4 Countries (80%)	3 Countries (60%)	3 Countries (60%)

Based on five respondents

The Regional Working Group again expressed concern that the answers from Peru and Venezuela may not have been correct for Early Intervention and Kindergarten. Again the Regional Co-ordinator attempted to follow up but was unable to obtain confirmation.

The next question had the aim of recording the number of schools specifically for Deaf children and Deaf students; all countries provided replies. The largest number of Deaf Schools is in Colombia, which has 108 around the country with 14 of these in the capital city of Bogota; and the smallest number is in Paraguay, which has only seven.

Another question approached the type of educational communication methods for Deaf children and Deaf students at the Deaf schools. Nine countries provided this information; the summarised results are:

Bilingual Education ¹	Oral Method ²	Cued Speech ³	Oral and Sign Language (Total Communication) ⁴	Auditory Verbal ⁵	Other
4 Countries (44%)	4 Countries (44%)	1 Country (11%)	5 Countries (56%)	2 Countries (22%)	1 Country (11%)

Based on nine respondents

Overall, the dominant educational communication method in the WFD RSSA region is Oral Education, indicated by the combined averages of 44% and 56% for the Oral Method and Oral and Sign Language. Bilingual Education is available in four out of nine countries (Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Venezuela).

The Regional Working Group wished it to be acknowledged that there are a large number of Bilingual Education programmes available in South America; however the quality of this Bilingual Education is low. Some of these countries may not have the correct interpretation of the definition of Bilingual Education; they may have interpreted it as bilingualism in two spoken and written languages (i.e. Spanish and English) rather than in sign language and the written language (Spanish).

The following questions were asked: 'What is the general opinion of the level of education received by Deaf children and Deaf students?' and 'What is the general opinion of the current literacy level of Deaf children and Deaf students?' Full details as provided by eight out of nine countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Venezuela) can be found on page 59.

¹ **Bilingual Education:** Sign language is considered to be the natural language ('mother tongue') that will be acquired as a first language. Spoken language, which is not acquired naturally by Deaf children, will be learned as a second language as the child becomes cognitively/developmentally ready. Both languages are used throughout the child's entire education.

² **Oral Education:** Spoken language is assumed to be the basis for standard social and academic communication, and the human system is assumed to be designed (pre-wired) to learn language expressed in speech. Children learn about and from spoken language. Also known as auditory-oral, aural/oral education. Emphasis on speech.

³ **Cued Speech:** A visual mode of communication that uses hand shapes and placements in combination with the mouth movements of speech to make the phonemes of a spoken language look different from each other, resulting in a visual counterpart of a spoken language.

⁴ **Total Communication:** All forms and modes of communications are used. This includes natural gestures, sign language, manually-coded spoken languages, sign systems, mime, audition and speech.

⁵ **Auditory Verbal Education:** Assumes that even minimal amounts of residual hearing can lead to the development of spontaneous speech and language, if that residual hearing is stimulated. Children learn to process language through amplified hearing. A method of oral education with an emphasis on listening.

Notably, most of the comments are very similar in stating that the current educational level is “Deficient” or “Very poor”, except in two countries (Colombia and Ecuador) where it is considered “Average”.

At the higher level of education, the survey questions sought information as to whether Deaf people have access to University education and also asked each country to supply information about the number of Universities which offer study placements for Deaf people. Eight of nine country respondents (Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela) have places for Deaf people to access University education. The number of Universities accessible for Deaf people in the WFD RSSA Region range from just one Public University in Chile to 31 Private Universities in Brazil; full details can be found on page 60. Only one country (Argentina) stated Deaf people do not have access to University education, the reason being unavailability of sign language interpreting services for Deaf students.

The last question of the Education part of the survey asked about Sign Language Interpreting Services offered for Deaf students in University. Only three countries (Brazil, Colombia and Paraguay) stated that Deaf people have full access to sign language interpreting services for University.

4.8 Status of Sign Language Interpreting Services

To questions focusing on the status of sign language interpreting services, all of the nine countries reported that they have sign language interpreters. The next question asked them to provide the number of sign language interpreters, to which the response ranged from approximately 10 in Bolivia to 1,500 in Brazil. Only two countries (Argentina and Peru) stated they did not know the number or had a minimal number.

The survey next aimed to gain specific information as to whether any of these sign language interpreters are appropriately qualified, to which three out of nine countries responded (Argentina, Brazil and Colombia). In actuality only two countries in the WFD RSSA Region (Argentina and Brazil) are active with sign language interpreter training for people who wish to become qualified sign language interpreters; in Brazil this is available in University for four years and in Argentina in a Community College for three years. Colombia previously had a training programme for sign language interpreters at the University level but funding was insufficient and there was a lack of interest from hearing people to train as sign language interpreters. (Further details can be found on page 61).

The current number of sign language interpreters with formal interpreting qualifications is only 31 qualified interpreters (who graduated in 1997) in Colombia and approximately 400 interpreters in Brazil. Argentina did not report the number of qualified sign language interpreters in their country.

When queried about how Deaf people access sign language interpreting, seven out of nine countries stated such services are accessed through the Deaf Federation or Local Deaf Association, religious groups, hearing family members or friends and school teachers. Another question designed to collect information about who is responsible for providing sign language interpreting services for the Deaf Community was answered by six out of nine countries (Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela) and resulted in the following findings:

Government	National Association of the Deaf	Private Sector	Other
2 Countries (22%)	5 Countries (56%)	1 Country (11%)	4 Countries (44%)

Based on nine respondents

Another concern raised at the meeting of the Regional Working Group was whether is it appropriate for interpreting service(s) to be delivered by religious organisations that may require Deaf people to become a member before they can get access to the service at no charge. They also raised the concern that a Code of Ethics (See 7.9.5) is in force in only two countries.

The types of sign language interpreting services offered to the Deaf community in the six countries that responded to this question (Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela) are:

Sign Language Interpreting Services	Country/Average Percentage
Social Services	6 (100%)
Court Services	6 (100%)
Educational Services	6 (100%)
Health/Medical Services	5 (83%)
Counselling Services	3 (50%)
Employment Services	3 (50%)
Funerals/Weddings	3 (50%)
Financial Institutions	3 (50%)
Entertainment	3 (50%)

Based on six respondents

Five of nine respondents (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela) provided their general opinion of these sign language interpreting services. The opinions range from 'low quality' or 'insufficient' up to 'average'. There is a large demand on the service that is available in the capital city of Bogota in Colombia, while the service in the rest of the country is limited.

Eight out of nine country respondents stated that sign language interpreters receive payment for their interpreting assignments, with the responsibility for remitting payment as follows:

Government	National Association of the Deaf	Deaf People	Others
5 Countries (63%)	3 Countries (38%)	7 Countries (88%)	3 Countries (38%)

Based on eight respondents

- Five governments, in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela, are responsible for payment of interpreting services
- In three countries (Brazil, Ecuador and Paraguay) the National Association of the Deaf provides funding for the service
- Seven countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Venezuela) stated that Deaf people themselves pay for the service

The National Association of the Deaf in Bolivia stated that sign language interpreters do not receive any payment for their interpreting services.

Eight countries detailed the provision of funding for interpreting services from other sources; this information can be found on page 64.

Seven out of nine countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru) responded to the question asking the average rate per hour for sign language interpreters. The lowest rate is 1.98€ paid for one hour of service in Peru; and the highest hourly payment is approximately 28.86€ per hour in Chile. (Payment scales can be found on page 64).

Three countries (Bolivia, Chile and Ecuador) stated that their sign language interpreters provide voluntary service for all assignments and five other countries (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay and Venezuela) stated that their interpreters do voluntary services sometimes; only Peru stated that their sign language interpreters never provide voluntary services for interpreting assignments.

The question seeking whether each country has a National Association of Sign Language Interpreters brought to light that only three countries (Colombia, Peru and Venezuela) have a national organisation for Sign Language Interpreters. However, two of the nine countries (Brazil and Colombia) have their own national Code of Ethics for Sign Language Interpreters. It must be questioned whether statements from Peru and Venezuela that they have a national organisation of Sign Language Interpreters are invalid since they also state they do not have a Code of Ethics for Interpreters. Brazil does not have a national organisation but does have a Code of Ethics.

The last question for this section sought information about legislation or policies which state the government has a responsibility for the provision of sign language interpreting services. Four out of nine countries (Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela) reported in the affirmative and provided the title of their legislation, which can be found on page 66.

4.9 Employment

This survey sought to gather information on employment settings for Deaf people in the region of WFD RSSA. The first question was to confirm whether the government considers that Deaf people have a right to be employed and earn a standard salary. All of the nine countries stated 'Yes'. The next question was whether any of the national governments have any anti-discrimination laws in the area of employment, especially for Deaf people or People with Disabilities. Only two countries (Bolivia and Chile) do not have laws against discrimination of Deaf people or People with Disabilities. Seven countries (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela) provided a list of the legislation or policies relating to anti-discrimination in employment (found on page 67).

To the question about official figures about the number of Deaf people who are in paid employment or unemployed, none of the nine countries could supply information.

Eight countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela) ticked the most common areas of work for Deaf people in their country with the results being:

Most Common areas of work for Deaf people in WFD RSSA	Country/Average Percentage Based on eight respondents
Sign Language	8 Countries (100%)
Bakery	7 Countries (88%)
Carpentry	7 Countries (88%)
Education	7 Countries (88%)
Hairdresser	6 Countries (75%)
Welding	6 Countries (75%)
Building	6 Countries (75%)
Car Mechanic	6 Countries (75%)
Cleaning	6 Countries (75%)
Farm work	5 Countries (63%)
Tailoring	5 Countries (63%)
Painter	5 Countries (63%)
Panel Beating	5 Countries (63%)
Printer	5 Countries (63%)
Shoe Repairing	5 Countries (63%)
Others	4 Countries (50%)
Research Projects	4 Countries (50%)
Social Services	4 Countries (50%)
Financial Industry	3 Countries (38%)
Catering	3 Countries (38%)
Jeweller	3 Countries (38%)
Office Administration	3 Countries (38%)
Management	2 Countries (25%)
Theatre/Arts	0 Countries
Engineering	0 Countries

Based on 8 respondents

The final question asked if there were any employment services to assist unemployed Deaf people to find positions and also asked who is responsible for this service. Six out of nine countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay and Venezuela) have specialised services offered by both the Government Employment Service and the National Association of the Deaf to assist Deaf people to gain employment. Bolivia, Colombia and Peru do not have any employment services for Deaf people.

4.10 General Comments

Five issues of common concern faced by every National Association of the Deaf globally were listed, and all of the country respondents prioritised these issues for the Deaf community in their country. Please note: the majority of the countries ticked more than one 'highest priority'. The results are:

Highest Priority Issues	Country/Average Percentage Based on nine respondents
Better quality of Deaf Education	9 Countries (100%)
Improved quality and access to Government and Community Services	7 Countries (78%)
Equal Opportunity in Employment	7 Countries (78%)
Better Sign Language Interpreting quality and services	6 Countries (67%)
Recognition of your country's Sign Language by your country's Government	6 Countries (67%)
Other	1 Country (11%)
Organisational Development Training for the Local, Regional and National Associations of the Federation	

The final part of the survey provided the opportunity for each country to list any other concerns about the standard of living of Deaf people. Eight countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela) took the opportunity and expressed the following common areas of concern:

Government

- Employment Law for Deaf people
- Securing funding for projects
- Pension Disability Assistance or a Welfare Service System should be put in place for the Deaf community

Education

- Deaf people's access to a high quality of education

Sign Language

- Government must recognise sign language

Sign Language Interpreters

- Training for Sign Language Interpreters
- Provision of sign language interpreting services
- Recognising the needs of Sign Language Interpreters
- Lack of efficient sign language interpreting services for Deaf people

Employment

- Equal opportunity for Deaf people in the employment sector
- Opportunities for employment
- Lack of employment security for Deaf people

Other

- Standard of Living of Deaf people
- Networking between Local Deaf Associations, Regional Deaf Associations and the National Umbrella Organisation of Deaf People
- Organisational Development Training for the Deaf Organisations at all levels (Local, Regional and National)
- Leadership Training
- Advocacy Training for the Deaf Community
- Discrimination towards Deaf people from hearing family and hearing society
- Raising awareness about the Deaf Community in the villages for hearing families who have Deaf children

5.0 Recommendations

This section is based on the recommendations prepared by the members of the Regional Working Group that met in Santiago, Chile, on 17th - 19th March, 2008 to pursue the issues highlighted in the report. The current economic situation in the WFD RSSA region, especially for the countries categorised under the World Bank Classification as Low Middle Income (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru), has an impact on any of their governments' abilities to fund programmes to support these initiatives.

It may be necessary for the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) and Swedish National Association of the Deaf (SDR) to seek external support for the region, i.e. to seek project support and funding via partnerships with Shia and other relevant organisations. One such possible organisation is the Confederación Estatal de Personas Sordas (CNSE) - Spanish Confederation of Deaf People since eight of the nine respondent countries have the same written language - Spanish.

The Regional Working Group discussed the general overview of the Survey Results and identified training needs after a brainstorming session on issues highlighted by the survey. They identified the following as urgent needs for the members in the South American Region:

- Leadership
- Organisational Development Training for all levels (Local, Regional, National and Confederation)
- Sign Language Research
- Interpreters
- Bilingual Education
- Accessibility Issues

At the end of the brainstorming session, the Regional Working Group recommended that any or all training shall be available in sign language and conducted by Deaf Trainers and Experts. The Regional Working Group identified the major needs as being:

5.1 Leadership Training for Local Associations, Regional Associations, National Associations and Confederations of Deaf People

The process would ideally also include training of individual members and board members of every Local Association, Regional Association, National Association and Confederation of Deaf People in the WFD RSSA region, and include subjects such as:

- WFD Policies
- International Network and Roles of the United Nations, WFD, WFD Regional Secretariats
- Global Models of Deaf Communities and Organisations, e.g. WFD, and their work
- Human Rights
- Gender Issues
- Deaf Education/Bilingualism for Deaf Students
- Review of Deaf Education
- Sign Language Work
- Sign Language Interpreting
- Media for Deaf People
- Deaf Employment/Vocational Training
- National Legislation/Local Government Systems
- Leadership
- Empowerment and Democracy
- Advocacy by Local Associations, Regional Associations, National Associations and Confederations of Deaf People
- Deafhood (the Deaf collective existence; a process by which Deaf individuals come to actualise their Deaf identity)

This training will endeavour to provide empowerment and self-reliance to the Local Associations, Regional Associations, National Associations and Confederations of Deaf people as they act in accordance with their obligations to advocate and improve the status of the Deaf community in their country.

5.2 Increase Knowledge of the United Nations Conventions

After receiving training on the various conventions of the United Nations, the Regional Working Group considered knowledge of current conventions a powerful tool for each country's Deaf Community. Training should be provided about the:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
- Periodic reporting, the new system of Universal Periodic Reviews and also shadow/alternative reports from NGOs

5.3 Training on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

Ideally each member of WFD RSSA should receive full training in understanding the CRPD in its entirety, to enable them to prepare for their advocacy role within areas such as:

1. How to lobby Government to sign and ratify CRPD (who, how, what)
2. How the National Association of the Deaf can become an expert with their national government for the five articles of the CRPD specifically related to the Deaf Community
3. How to prepare and advise the national government about the five articles of the CRPD relating to the Deaf Community including budget preparation, advisory roles, and appropriate systems/appointments/procedures.

5.4 Organisational Development Training for Board and Senior Management

The members of the Regional Working Group raised the strong need to provide organisational management training for all WFD RSSA Board Members and Senior Management Staff as follows:

1. How to prepare Policy Statements
2. Advocacy to and lobbying of the government for services, legislation and policy for the Deaf Community
3. Financial Management/Fundraising/Grants and Project funding from or by the governments
4. Strategy Development to lobby governments to recognise national sign language(s)
5. General Information about Sign Language Interpreters Training Programmes:-
 - Appointment of appropriate Interpreter Trainers for the training
 - How to prepare interpreter training programmes
 - How to provide interpreting services
 - How to accredit interpreters
 - General policies on Sign Language Interpreters Services
 - Code of Ethics
6. Membership Issues regarding hearing people's involvement with the Association of the Deaf run by Deaf people
7. Understanding the different definitions of Deaf and Hearing Impaired
8. Information about HIV/AIDS for the Deaf Community, including the urgent need for an HIV/AIDS Education Training Programme for the Deaf Community and an appropriate training kit
9. Training for the Deaf Youth Community and Leadership Training for Deaf Youth
10. Training for Deaf Women

The Project Co-ordinator proposes that the training outlined below is necessary to supplement the above recommendations from the Regional Working Group:

5.5 Organisational Review and Training for the Deaf Community

Essentially, a re-evaluation of the overall vision to provide clear direction for the organisations as a whole, in accordance with the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) aims. The process should focus on the following areas:

- Political strength
- Vision, Mission and Aims of an organisation of Deaf people
- Clear definitions of roles and responsibilities in a structure with National, Regional and Local Deaf Associations
- Community relationship and communication structure to be developed and put into place (including the importance of transparency)
- Representation and the role of Deaf, hard of hearing and hearing people within the organisation

The Project Co-ordinator believes it is necessary to develop a blueprint of a national strategy for the Deaf community for each National Association of the Deaf in the region of WFD RSSA.

5.6 Advocacy for the Improvement of the Standard of Living for Deaf People

It can be seen that sports and cultural activities are prominent in National Association of the Deaf work, and that essential lobbying for the improvement of the standard of living for Deaf people is sometimes lacking or difficult to achieve.

A recommendation on how to address this issue is to seek partnership to conduct comprehensive data collection on the living standards of a representative sample of individual Deaf people including vital aspects such as:

- Socio-economic status
- Education
- Literacy Skills
- Employment
- Access to sign language interpreting services
- Access to health services
- Access to government services
- Access to the media

An essential part of this advocacy process is to utilise existing tools such as legal documents, reports and international human rights documents relevant to Deaf people, in order to make valid proposals and arguments to better equality and living conditions. (The *WFD Fact Sheet on Human Rights* can be found on http://www.wfdeaf.org/pdf/fact_humanrights.pdf)

6.0 Geography and Population

All of the following information was obtained from the Central Intelligence Agency - World Factbook (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>)

6.1 Argentina



Population:	40,677,348 (July 2008 est.)
Ethnic groups:	white (mostly Spanish and Italian) 97%, Mestizo (mixed white and Amerindian ancestry), Amerindian, or other non-white groups 3%
Religions:	nominally Roman Catholic 92% (less than 20% practicing), Protestant 2%, Jewish 2%, other 4%
Languages:	Spanish (official), Italian, English, German, French

6.2 Bolivia



Population:	9,247,816 (July 2008 est.)
Ethnic groups:	Quechua 30%, Mestizo (mixed white and Amerindian ancestry) 30%, Aymara 25%, white 15%
Religions:	Roman Catholic 95%, Protestant (Evangelical Methodist) 5%
Languages:	Spanish (official), Quechua (official), Aymara (official)

6.3 Brazil



Population:	191,908,598 <i>note:</i> Brazil conducted a census in August 2000, which reported a population of 169,799,170; that figure was about 3.3% lower than projections by the US Census Bureau, and is close to the implied under enumeration of 4.6% for the 1991 census; estimates for this country explicitly take into account the effects of excess mortality due to AIDS; this can result in lower life expectancy, higher infant mortality, higher death rates, lower population growth rates, and changes in the distribution of population by age and sex than would otherwise be expected (July 2008 est.)
Ethnic groups:	white 53.7%, mulatto (mixed white and black) 38.5%, black 6.2%, other (includes Japanese, Arab, Amerindian) 0.9%, unspecified 0.7% (2000 census)
Religions:	Roman Catholic (nominal) 73.6%, Protestant 15.4%, Spiritualist 1.3%, Bantu/voodoo 0.3%, other 1.8%, unspecified 0.2%, none 7.4% (2000 census)
Languages:	Portuguese (official), Spanish, English, French

6.4 Chile



Population:	16,454,143 (July 2008 est.)
Ethnic groups:	white and white-Amerindian 95%, Amerindian 3%, other 2%
Religions:	Roman Catholic 70%, Evangelical 15.1%, Jehovah's Witness 1.1%, other Christian 1%, other 4.6%, none 8.3% (2002 census)
Language:	Spanish

6.5 Colombia



Population:	45,013,674 (July 2008 est.)
Ethnic groups:	Mestizo 58%, white 20%, mulatto 14%, black 4%, mixed black-Amerindian 3%, Amerindian 1%
Religions:	Roman Catholic 90%, other 10%
Language:	Spanish

6.6 Ecuador



Population:	13,927,650 (July 2008 est.)
Ethnic groups:	Mestizo (mixed Amerindian and white) 65%, Amerindian 25%, Spanish and others 7%, black 3%
Religions:	Roman Catholic 95%, other 5%
Languages:	Spanish (official), Amerindian languages (especially Quechua)

6.7 Paraguay



Population:	6,831,306 (July 2008 est.)
Ethnic groups:	Mestizo (mixed Spanish and Amerindian) 95%, other 5%
Religions:	Roman Catholic 89.6%, Protestant 6.2%, other Christian 1.1%, other or unspecified 1.9%, none 1.1% (2002 census)
Languages:	Spanish (official), Guarani (official)

6.8 Peru



Population:	29,180,899 (July 2008 est.)
Ethnic groups:	Amerindian 45%, Mestizo (mixed Amerindian and white) 37%, white 15%, black, Japanese, Chinese, and other 3%
Religions:	Roman Catholic 81%, Seventh Day Adventist 1.4%, other Christian 0.7%, other 0.6%, unspecified or none 16.3% (2003 est.)
Languages:	Spanish (official), Quechua (official), Aymara, and a large number of minor Amazonian languages

6.9 Venezuela



Population:	26,414,815 (July 2008 est.)
Ethnic groups:	Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Arab, German, African, indigenous people
Religions:	nominally Roman Catholic 96%, Protestant 2%, other 2%
Languages:	Spanish (official), numerous indigenous dialects

7.0 Survey Results

7.1.0 Contact Details

Country	Argentina (WFD Ordinary Member)
Country Classification	Upper Middle Income
Name of Association	Argentina Confederation of the Deaf
Name of Association in National Language	Confederación Argentina De Sordomudos
Address	Costa Rica 5631
City, Post Code	Ciudad Autonoma De Buenos Aires, C1414bte
Country	Argentina
Website	www.cas.org.ar
Email	info@cas.org.ar cas@cas.org.ar
Telephone Landline Number	+54 11 4772 3564
Telephone Mobile Number	N/A
Fax Number	+54 11 4772 3564
Country	Bolivia (WFD Ordinary Member)
Country Classification	Lower Middle Income
Name of Association	Bolivian Federation of the Deaf "FEBOD"
Name of Association in National Language	Federación Boliviana De Sordos "FEBOS"
Address	Av Omar De Chavez Ortiz Edif. Prefectural II Bloque
City, Post Code	Santa Cruz De La Sierra
Country	Bolivia
Website	N/A
Email	febos17@hotmail.com
Telephone Landline Number	+591 3 3636580
Telephone Mobile Number	+591 2 70406364
Fax Number	N/A
Country	Brazil (WFD Ordinary Member)
Country Classification	Upper Middle Income
Name of Association	National Federation of Education and Integration of the Deaf
Name of Association in National Language	Federação Nacional de Educação e Integração dos Surdos
Address	Escritorio Central - Rua: Major Avila No 379, Bairro Tijuca
City, Post Code	Rio de Janeiro, CEP 20511-140
Country	Brazil
Website	www.feneis.org.br
Email	diretoriarj@feneis.org.br
Telephone Landline Number	+5521 2567 4800
Telephone Mobile Number	N/A
Fax Number	+5521 2284 7462

Country	Chile (WFD Ordinary Member)
Country Classification	Upper Middle Income
Name of Association (Local)	Chile Association of the Deaf - ASOCH
Name of Association in National Language	Asociación de Sordos de Chile
Address	Avda J.P. Alessandri No 1251, Comuna de Nunoa
City, Post Code	Santiago, 7750000
Country	Chile
Website	www.asoch.cl
Email	asoch@gmail.com
Telephone Landline Number	N/A
Telephone Mobile Number	+56 9887 3594 (President)
Fax Number	+56 2237 0593
Additional Information	This organisation is not the National Association of the Deaf in Chile, it is a local association based in the capital city of Santiago. The national organisation called "the Confederation of the Non-hearing of Chile (Confederacion No Oyentes de Chile CONOYCH)" was dissolved in January 2008.
Country	Colombia (WFD Ordinary Member)
Country Classification	Lower Middle Income
Name of Association	National Deaf Federation of Colombia
Name of Association in National Language	Federación Nacional de Sordos de Colombia
Address	Carrera 26A # 39B -15, Barrio la Soledad
City, Post Code	Bogota
Country	Colombia
Website	www.fenascol.org.co
Email	contacto@fenascol.org.co
Telephone Landline Numbers	+57 1 368 9869 +57 1 368 9879 +57 1 368 9882
Telephone Mobile Number	+57 315 295 5749
Fax Numbers	+57 1 368 9869 +57 1 368 9879 +57 1 368 9882
Country	Ecuador (WFD Ordinary Member)
Country Classification	Lower Middle Income
Name of Association	National Federation of Deaf People of Ecuador
Name of Association in National Language	Federacion Nacional De Personas Sordas Del Ecuador
Address	10 de Agosto 5451 (N37-193) y Baron de Carondelet
City, Post Code	Quito, (593)
Country	Ecuador
Website	www.fenasec.org (under construction)
Email	fenasec@yahoo.es
Telephone Landline Number	+593 02 2246 577
Telephone Mobile Number	+593-846 118 65 (Text - President)
Fax Number	+593 02 2246 577

Country	Paraguay (WFD Ordinary Member)
Country Classification	Lower Middle Income
Name of Association	Deaf Centre of Paraguay
Name of Association in National Language	Centro de Sordos del Paraguay
Address	Prof. Luis De Gasperi 3194
Postal Address	PO Box CC 244
City, Post Code	Asuncion, 1209
Country	Paraguay
Website	N/A
Email	centrodesordos_paraguay@yahoo.es
Telephone Landline Number	+595 21 557 335
Telephone Mobile Number	+595 961 752 690 (Text - President)
Fax Number	+595 21 557 335
Country	Peru (WFD Ordinary Member)
Country Classification	Lower Middle Income
Name of Association	Association of the Deaf of Peru
Name of Association in National Language	Asociación de Sordos del Peru
Address	Av Dionisio Denteanco 184, San Isidro
City, Post Code	Lima
Country	Peru
Website	N/A
Email	asdesope@yahoo.es
Telephone Landline Number	+511 422 2152
Telephone Mobile Number	N/A
Fax Number	+511 422 2152
Country	Venezuela (WFD Ordinary Member)
Country Classification	Upper Middle Income
Name of Association	Venezuelan Federation of the Deaf
Name of Association in National Language	Federación Venezolana De Sordos
Address	Transversal Norte De Guaicaipuro, Quinta Fray Ponce De Leon (Sede De Asociacion De Sordos De Caracas)
City, Post Code	Caracas Distrito Capital, 1050
Country	Venezuela
Website	N/A
Email	fevensor@gmail.com
Telephone Landline Number	N/A
Telephone Mobile Number	N/A
Fax Number	N/A

7.2.0 National Association of the Deaf

7.2.1 Please provide the number of members your National Association of the Deaf has in your country.

7.2.1.1 Deaf Members: -

Country	Total Deaf Members	Total Deaf Women	Total Deaf Men
Argentina	N/A		
Bolivia	N/A		
Brazil	N/A		
Chile	N/A		
Colombia	455,718	217,754	237,964
Ecuador	420	176	334
Paraguay	495	11*	383*
Peru	1,020 (Approx)	580	440
Venezuela	N/A		
Total	457,653	218,521*	239,121*

*Please note: * The total of each gender is not same as the overall total number.*

7.2.1.2 Hard of Hearing Members: -

Country	Total Hard of Hearing Members	Total Hard of Hearing Women	Total Hard of Hearing Men
Argentina	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bolivia	N/A	N/A	N/A
Brazil	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chile	N/A	N/A	N/A
Colombia	0		
Ecuador	81	37	44
Paraguay	0		
Peru	0		
Venezuela	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	81	37	44

7.2.1.3 Hearing Members: -

Country	Total Hearing Members
Argentina	N/A
Bolivia	N/A
Brazil	N/A
Chile	N/A
Colombia	0
Ecuador	N/A
Paraguay	8
Peru	0
Venezuela	N/A
Total	8

7.2.1.4 Summary Status of the Associations' Memberships: -

Country	Total Deaf Members	Total Hard of Hearing Members	Total Hearing Members	Total Members
Argentina	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bolivia	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Brazil	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chile	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Colombia	455,718 (100%)	0	0	455,718
Ecuador	420 (84%)	81 (16%)	N/A	501
Paraguay	495 (98%)	0	8 (2%)	503
Peru	1,020 (100%)	0	0	1,020
Venezuela	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	457,653	81	8	457,742

7.2.2 In what year was your National Association established?

7.2.3 Does your Deaf Association have Statutes/a Constitution?

7.2.4 Does your government recognise your national organisation as the representative of Deaf people in your country?

Country	In what year was your National Association established?	Does your Deaf Association have Statutes/a Constitution?	Does your government recognise your national organisation as the representative of Deaf people in your country?
Argentina	1957	Yes	Yes
Bolivia	1971	Yes	Yes
Brazil	1987	Yes	Yes
Chile (Local)	1926	Yes	Yes
Colombia	1984	Yes	Yes
Ecuador	1986	Yes	Yes
Paraguay	1961	Yes	Yes
Peru	1962	Yes	No
Venezuela	1989	Yes	Yes
Total		9 Yes (100%)	8 Yes (89%)

Based on nine respondents

7.2.5 Please list some of the areas in which your association has adopted a policy statement.

Country	Please list some of the areas in which your association has adopted a policy statement.
Argentina	Our Confederation is trying to obtain legal recognition at the national level as the organisation representing the needs of Deaf people. So our main political focus now is getting the national government to recognise our organisation.
Bolivia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education • Communication • Labour • Culture • Economy • Social
Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official recognition of Brazilian Sign Language - LIBRAS • Integration of Deaf people in Society • Accessibility • Health • Technology • Rights • Inclusion in Education and the Workforce
Chile (Local)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education and • Culture

Colombia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational Policies: The education system must respond to the communication needs of Deaf Students and ensure that education is equally accessible in all aspects, including curricular, as the education that is offered to the population in general • Policies on Colombian Sign Language (LSC) -: Aiming for standardisation and respect from both the Deaf community and hearing people; to ensure that the grammar and syntax are respected as a true language • Policies on recognition and respect towards diversity in the Deaf community: That FENASCOL and its Associations respect and welcome all Deaf persons irrespective of the level of their hearing loss and the form in which they communicate
Ecuador	No information provided
Paraguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign Language, education of Children and Deaf Adults • Civil Participation • Accessibility to communication • Defence and • Promotion of human rights
Peru	Social Inclusion of People with Auditory Disabilities
Venezuela	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition of Venezuelan Sign Language as the language and heritage of Deaf people, in the Constitution of the Republic Bolivarian of Venezuela; and inclusion of subtitles and interpretation in television • Implementation of the rights in the Law of Integration of People with Disabilities

7.2.6 Please list the six highest priority issues/actions in your strategic action plan.

Country	Please list the six highest priority issues/actions in your strategic action plan.
Argentina	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unity between all the Associations of Deaf People in the country 2. Law about Education for Deaf children 3. Argentina Sign Language
Bolivia	To obtain total and complete participation for Deaf People to enjoy and fulfil their rights and obligations according to the Constitution of the State, as regards education, rehabilitation and realisation of equal opportunity; and as a consequence to achieve inclusion of Deaf people in the areas of work, education, health and social security.
Brazil	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To achieve recognition of LIBRAS as an official language 2. Integration into hearing society 3. Accessibility 4. Mental Health 5. Technology 6. Human Rights 7. Education 8. Inclusion in education and society
Chile (Local)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deaf Leadership 2. Sign Language
Colombia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthening of the Association network 2. Lobbying activities 3. Management of resources for the Association network 4. Consultant's office and management of projects 5. Legal and technical consultant's office 6. Communications 7. Strengthening of administrative capacity
Ecuador	Programme 1: Linguistic Study of sign language Programme 2: Organisational Development Youth Camps Meetings of Young people Meetings of Women Camping Programme 3: Institutional Cooperation Education Project University Project Programme for Interpreters
Paraguay	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Qualifications of Leaders 2. Education of children and young Deaf people 3. Labour Qualifications 4. Deaf Women 5. Training for Interpreters 6. Deaf Senior Citizens

Peru	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Institutional Strengthening 2. Inclusive Education 3. Prevention of Disability 4. Participation of Senior Citizens 5. Sports at National Level
Venezuela	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inclusive education and access to all structural and administrative departments 2. Reorganisation of FEVENSOR, in accordance with the new perspective of the National Strategic Plan for 2005 - 2013 and the Simón Bolívar Project 2008 - 2013 3. National plan for the full development of People with Disabilities 4. National plan for the ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN) 5. Implementation and development of linguistic planning (promotion and recognition of LSV) 6. To raise the quality of life for Deaf people in the social, political, public, economic, cultural and educational arenas

7.2.7 Please describe the structure of your National Association of the Deaf (e.g. congress/annual meeting/board /executive/districts/local associations and so forth).

Country	Please describe the structure of your National Association of the Deaf (e.g. congress/annual meeting/board/executive/districts/local associations and so forth).
Argentina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confederation • Executive Committee • Departments • Associations <p>The Executive Committee organises:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meetings once per month 2. Quarterly meetings with all Associations of Deaf People 3. Annual General Assembly 4. Supervision of members of internal department
Bolivia	General Assembly, Executive Committee and Associations
Brazil	The attached Statutes describe the structure and organisation of FENEIS.
Chile (Local)	<p>The Association of the Deaf of Chile is a non-profit NGO (Non-Governmental Organisation). It does not receive funding from the Government of Chile.</p> <p>The Association of the Deaf of Chile - ASOCH - has a nine-member Board of Directors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. President 2. Vice President 3. Secretary General 4. Assistant Secretary 5. General Treasurer 6. Assistant Treasurer 7. General Adviser 8. General Adviser 9. Director of Maintenance
Colombia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Assembly of FENASCOL, the highest level of the organisation, is comprised of two representatives from each of the 22 affiliated Associations of Deaf people. They meet once a year, sometime during the first four months of the year, in accordance with the Statutes. • The Executive Council is chosen biennially by the General Assembly and is comprised of five Directors of equal rank, who come from different cities around Colombia and meet at least three times a year. • The Executive Director is a Deaf person and is the legal representative of the Federation. <p>A. FENASCOL has the following personnel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Director (Deaf) • Technical Director (hearing) • Administrative Assistant (hearing) • Two Service Coordinators (hearing) • Assistant to the Executive Director (hearing) • Two Technical Assistants (hearing) • Accountant (hearing) • Assistant Accountant (hearing) • Four Communication Assistants (Deaf) • Receptionist (hearing) • Messenger (hearing) • Several Services Assistants (Deaf) <p>B. Providing services are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Deaf and one hearing sign language instructors • Deaf Consultants and external hearing experts in different areas and with experience in work with Deaf people, specifically in institutional strengthening and human rights

	<p>C. A project developed with the Secretary of Education of the District of Bogota - THIRST - contracts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Project Coordinator from the Secretary of Education (Deaf) • An Assistant to the Project Coordinator (hearing) • 22 Deaf linguistic models that provide support to teachers and are sign language models for Deaf children • 60 interpreters who develop interpreting work in nine official institutions of secondary education, where approximately 900 Deaf students are integrated
Ecuador	Organisational Chart provided
Paraguay	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General Assembly of Deaf People 2. Commission Directors (11 members elected every four years at the General Assembly) 3. Sub-Commissions (Sports, Culture, Youth, Women and Senior Citizens) 4. Administrations Secretariat, Accounts, Security and Maintenance 5. Special Services and Sign Language Interpreters
Peru	<p>Board of Directors comprised of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. President 2. Vice President 3. Secretary General 4. Project Secretary 5. Treasurer 6. Secretary of Economy 7. Secretary of Culture 8. Secretary of Sports 9. Secretary for Women 10. Secretary of Information 11. Director of Discipline 12. 4 Tellers 13. Hearing Adviser
Venezuela	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Assembly: one Ordinary Assembly yearly and Extraordinary Assemblies as necessary. • Ordinary meetings of the Board of Directors every two months and extraordinary meetings as needed. • The Board of Directors is comprised of nine members: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. President 2. Vice President 3. Secretary General 4. Treasurer 5. 5 Substitute Members • Work Commissions of protocol.

7.2.7.1 How many affiliated regional and/or local Deaf Associations are part of your National Association of the Deaf?

Country	Regional Associations	Local Associations
Argentina	20	0
Bolivia	10	0
Brazil	119 10 Offices	0
Chile (National)	11	5
Colombia	20	2
Ecuador	3	16
Paraguay	0	6
Peru	4	2
Venezuela	15	3
Total	202	34

7.2.8 How many members of your board are Deaf?

Country	How many members of your board are Deaf?	Total number of Board members	Percentage of Deaf on the Board
Argentina	9	9	100%
Bolivia	10	10	100%
Brazil	6	6	100%
Chile (Local)	9	9	100%
Colombia	5	5	100%
Ecuador	5	5	100%
Paraguay	11	11	100%
Peru	15	15	100%
Total	70	70	100%

Please note: Venezuela did not supply this information.

7.2.9 How many members of the board are Deaf women and how many are Deaf men?

Country	Deaf Women Board Members	Deaf Men Board Members	Percentage of Deaf Women on the Board
Argentina	4	5	44%
Bolivia	2	8	20%
Brazil	2	4	33%
Chile (Local)	2	7	22%
Colombia	3	2	60%
Ecuador	0	5	0%
Paraguay	5	6	45%
Peru	5	10	33%
Total	23	47	33%

7.2.10 Does your National Association of the Deaf have committees for specific areas of interest or affiliation with any other relevant independent groups in your country?

Does your National Association of the Deaf have committees for specific areas of interest or affiliation with any other relevant independent groups in your country?	Country/Average Percentage Based on 9 respondents
Deaf Education	7 (78%)
Deaf Youth	7 (78%)
Sign Language Research	6 (67%)
Deaf Seniors	6 (67%)
Other Committees	5 (56%)
Sign Language Interpreting	4 (44%)
Deaf Women's Groups	4 (44%)
Sports Groups	3 (33%)
Parents of Deaf Children	3 (33%)
Cultural Groups of Deaf People	2 (22%)
Deaf People with Other Disabilities	2 (22%)
Children of Deaf Adults	1 (11%)
Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Bisexual	1 (11%)
Deafblind	0

Country	Others
Argentina	Health and Tourism
Chile (Local)	Committees on issues that affect the daily lives of Deaf People. Also we hold Seminars on Culture, Education and the Rights of Deaf People. We participate in meetings, seminars and congresses hosted by the Government of Chile.
Colombia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FENASCOL supports the National Council of Deaf Youth which is in the process of being formally included in the structure of the Federation and in the Statutes; FENASCOL is not affiliated with any other groups but maintains close collaboration and contact with the National Association of Interpreters, and with the National and International Organisations of Deafblind. 2. Although FENASCOL does not have a committee to research Colombian Sign Language we participate in research by other institutions and also research into the education of Deaf people; for education, FENASCOL participates actively in various enquiries by the National and Municipal Governments. 3. Similarly we belong to strategic groups of the National Government such as the Consultative Council of People with Disabilities, the National Institute for Deaf People and Advisory Committees for Social Policy, among others.
Paraguay	CSPY is a Member of FEPADI - the Paraguayan Federation of Disabilities, a non-governmental organisation comprised of Associations of People with Disabilities that at the moment includes Associations of Deaf People, Blind People and People with Physical Disabilities. CSPY is a member of CONAPRODIS - Council on the Rights of People with Disabilities, a non-governmental organisation comprised of Associations of People with Disabilities and other Civil Society organisations who work to promote the rights of People with Disabilities.
Peru	Investigative Committee on Inclusive Education and Social Inclusion

Country	Does your National Association of the Deaf have committees for specific areas of interest or affiliation with any other relevant independent groups in your country?
Argentina	Sign Language Interpreting
	Sign Language Research
	Deaf Education
	Deaf Seniors
	Deaf Youth
	Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Bisexual
Bolivia	Sign Language Researchers
	Deaf Education
Brazil	Sign Language Interpreting
	Sign Language Research
	Deaf Education
	Deaf Youth
Chile (Local)	Sign Language Research
	Deaf Seniors
	Deaf Youth
	Cultural Groups of Deaf People
	Sports Groups
Colombia	See Above (Other)
Ecuador	Sign Language Interpreting
	Sign Language Research
	Deaf Education
	Parents of Deaf Children
	Deaf Seniors
	Deaf Youth
	Sports Groups
	Deaf People with Other Disabilities
	Deaf Women's Groups
	Children of Deaf Adults

Paraguay	Deaf Education
	Parents of Deaf Children
	Deaf Seniors
	Deaf Youth
Peru	Deaf Women's Groups
	Deaf Education
	Deaf Seniors
	Deaf Youth
	Cultural Groups of Deaf People
	Sports Groups
	Deaf People with Other Disabilities
Venezuela	Deaf Women's Groups
	Sign Language Interpreting
	Sign Language Research
	Deaf Education
	Parents of Deaf Children
	Deaf Seniors
	Deaf Youth
Deaf Women's Groups	

7.2.11 Does your National Association of the Deaf have any paid staff members?

7.2.11.1 How many of the paid staff members are women and how many are men?

7.2.11.2 How many of the paid staff members are Deaf?

Country	Does your National Association of the Deaf have any paid staff members	Total of Paid Staff Members	Paid Women	Paid Men	Total of Paid Deaf Staff Members	Paid Deaf Women	Paid Deaf Men	Percentage of Deaf Staff Members of Total
Argentina	No							
Bolivia	No							
Brazil	Yes	1,200			1,200			100%
Chile (Local)	No							
Colombia	Yes	20	13	7	8	3	5	40%
Ecuador	Yes	1		1	1		1	100%
Paraguay	Yes	7	5	2	1	1	0	14%
Peru	Yes	3	1	2	0			0%
Venezuela	No							
Total	5 Yes (56%)	1,231			1,210			98%

Based on nine respondents

7.2.12 Is your Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director/Person-In-Charge Deaf?

Country	Is your Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director/Person-In-Charge Deaf?
Argentina	No
Bolivia	No
Brazil	3 Voluntary Persons-In-Charge (Deaf/hearing)
Chile (Local)	No
Colombia	Yes
Ecuador	Yes
Paraguay	Yes
Peru	Yes
Venezuela	No
Total	4 Yes (44%)

Based on nine respondents

7.3.0 Population of Deaf People

7.3.1 Does your country's government have any official number of Deaf people in your country?

Country	Does your country's government have any official number of Deaf people in your country?	Total Deaf people
Argentina	Yes	39,170,214
Bolivia	Yes	22,642
Brazil	Yes	5,750,809
Chile	Yes	66,524
Colombia	Yes	455,718
Ecuador	Yes	231,000
Paraguay	No	
Peru	No	
Venezuela	No	
Total	6 Yes (67%)	45,696,907

Based on nine respondents

Country	Deaf Women	Deaf Men
Argentina	N/A	N/A
Bolivia	N/A	N/A
Brazil	2,759,331	2,991,478
Chile	31,244	35,280
Colombia	217,754	237,964
Ecuador	110,000	121,000
Paraguay	N/A	N/A
Peru	N/A	N/A
Venezuela	N/A	N/A
Total	3,118,329	3,385,722

7.3.2 Does your Association have any official or approximate figures of the number of Deaf people living in your country?

Country	Does your Association have any official or approximate figures of the number of Deaf people living in your country?	Total Deaf people
Argentina	No	
Bolivia	No	
Brazil	No	
Chile	No	
Colombia	No	
Ecuador	No	
Paraguay	No	
Peru	No	
Venezuela	Yes	Approx 500
Total	1 Yes (11%)	

Based on nine respondents

7.3.3 Does your Association have any official or approximate numbers of Deaf people who use sign language as their primary language?

Country	Does your Association have any official or approximate numbers of Deaf people who use sign language as their primary language?	Total Number of Sign Language Users
Argentina	No	
Bolivia	No	
Brazil	Yes*	1,710,000
Chile	No	
Colombia	No (See note below)	
Ecuador	No	
Paraguay	Yes	1,000
Peru	No	
Venezuela	No	
Total	2 Yes (22%)	1,711,000

Based on nine respondents

* Brazil - this number is from CONADES

Additional Information:

Colombia: Official data does not exist, but in Colombia most institutions for Deaf people accept sign language which is recognised in national legislation, and the philosophy of bilingual education has been implemented for years; therefore it is estimated that 80% of Deaf people are users of sign language as their first language.

Country	Deaf Women Sign Language Users	Deaf Men Sign Language Users
Argentina	N/A	N/A
Bolivia	N/A	N/A
Brazil	N/A	N/A
Chile	N/A	N/A
Colombia	N/A	N/A
Ecuador	N/A	N/A
Paraguay	300	700
Peru	N/A	N/A
Venezuela	N/A	N/A
Total	300	700

7.3.4. Does the situation of HIV/AIDS in your country affect Deaf women, men and children?

Country	Does the situation of HIV/AIDS in your country affect Deaf women, men and children?
Argentina	Yes
Bolivia	No Information
Brazil	Yes
Chile	No Information
Colombia	Yes
Ecuador	No
Paraguay	Yes
Peru	Yes
Venezuela	Yes
Total	6 Yes (67%)

Based on nine respondents

Country	If yes, please describe the situation with HIV/AIDS in the Deaf community in your country, including any official statistics on the number of Deaf people living with HIV/AIDS.
Argentina	We do not have exact numbers of Deaf people with HIV/AIDS. Awareness is very limited and information from specialists is needed for prevention.
Brazil	We do not have official statistics about how many Deaf people are living with HIV/AIDS in Brazil. Care for AIDS patients is universal and free with contributions to all Deaf patients who are HIV-positive. Some regional offices, in partnership with the Health Department, provide courses to promote awareness, treatment and prevention.
Colombia	Data and official statistics do not exist but we have knowledge of some cases of Deaf people who have passed away from AIDS; unfortunately the stigma of this disease causes Deaf people to hide that they are HIV-positive which means only single cases are known about or known only after they have passed away.
Paraguay	Several Deaf people have passed away from AIDS but the existence of the disease and the numbers of Deaf patients remain confidential or are not known.
Peru	Official statistics within the Deaf community do not exist.
Venezuela	The Deaf Community has little information and we do not know the exact number of people who are living with HIV/AIDS. At the moment an awareness programme is being developed.

7.4.0 Legislation and Policies

7.4.1 Does your country's government recognise Deaf people as citizens on an equal basis as other citizens in your country?

Country	Does your country's government recognise Deaf people as citizens on an equal basis as other citizens in your country?
Argentina	Yes
Bolivia	No
Brazil	Yes
Chile	No
Colombia	Yes
Ecuador	Yes
Paraguay	Yes
Peru	Yes
Venezuela	Yes
Total	7 Yes (78%)

Based on nine respondents

Please note: The Regional Working Group discussed this issue in regards to those countries that consider their government does recognise Deaf people on an equal basis as other citizens; legislation is in force but implementation of such legislation does not effectively recognise Deaf people.

7.4.2 Does your country's government have an office responsible for services for People with Disabilities?

Country	Does your country's government have an office responsible for services for People with Disabilities?
Argentina	Yes
Bolivia	Yes
Brazil	Yes
Chile	Yes
Colombia	Yes
Ecuador	Yes
Paraguay	Yes
Peru	Yes
Venezuela	Yes
Total	9 Yes (100%)

Based on nine respondents

7.4.2.1 If yes, what is the name, address and website of the government office that is responsible for services for People with Disabilities in your country?

Country	If yes, what is the name, address and website of the government office that is responsible for services for People with Disabilities in your country?
Argentina	National Advisory Commission for the Integration of Persons with Disabilities (CONADIS) www.cndisc.gov.ar
Bolivia	National Committee of People with Disabilities, "Conalpedis" Av, Loayza esquina Camcho Edificio Mariscal de Ayacucho piso 11 Oficina 1101
Brazil	National Advisory Committee on the Rights of People with Disabilities http://www.mj.gov.br/sedh/ct/conade/index.asp http://www.mj.gov.br/sedh/ct/conade/index.asp http://www.mj.gov.br/sedh/ct/corde/dpdh/corde/principal.asp http://www.feneis.org.br/page/legislacao.asp
Chile	Fondo Nacional de la Discapacidad - FONADIS - (National Foundation of People with Disabilities) Huerfano 1313 - Piso 6 - Santiago Centro www.fonadis.cl

Colombia	1. National Consultative Committee - Ministry of Social Protection 2. Programme on Human Rights and Disability of the Vice-Presidency of the Republic - www.discapacidad.gov.co 3. Also in existence are the National Institute for Deaf People - INSOR - (www.insor.gov.co) and the National Institute for Blind People - INCI- who are separately responsible for issues of people with auditory and visual limitations
Ecuador	CONADIS "Consejo Nacional de Discapacidades"; (National Council of People with a Disability) Av. 10 de Agosto y Baron y Carondelet; www.conadis.gov.ec Atiende a las cinco Discapacidades; www.discapacidadecuador.org
Paraguay	INPRO - National Institute of Protection for Exceptional People Fernando de la Mora Zona Norte
Peru	CONADES
Venezuela	National Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities (CONAPDIS), Av. Venezuela crosses Oropeza Street Castle, behind the Rental Zone Venezuela Seat. www.conapdis.gov.ve

7.4.3 Does your country's Government have any legislation or policies for Deaf people (or People with Disabilities in general)?

Country	Does your country's Government have any legislation or policies for Deaf people (or People with Disabilities in general)?
Argentina	Yes
Bolivia	Yes
Brazil	Yes
Chile	Yes
Colombia	Yes
Ecuador	Yes
Paraguay	Yes
Peru	Yes
Venezuela	Yes
Total	9 Yes (100%)

Based on nine respondents

7.4.3.1 If yes, please list some of the policies or legislation that relate to Deaf people (or People with Disabilities) (please write the name of the legislation or policy in full detail).

Country	If yes, please list some of the policies or legislation that relate to Deaf people (or People with Disabilities) (please write the name of the legislation or policy in full detail).
Argentina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22431 System of Basic Protection of People with Disabilities • 25415 National Programme for Early Detection of and Care of Hearing Impairment • 26182 Federal System of the House
Bolivia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law 1678 about People with Disabilities DS 24807 and DS 27477
Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Constitution Laws of 1988 - Special Education • Law n° 9394/96 - Law of Lines of Direction and Bases of National Education - LDBN • Law n° 9394/96 - LDBN - Special Education • Law n° 8069/90 - Rights of the Child and Adolescent - Special Education • Law n° 8069/90 - Rights of the Child and Adolescent • Law n° 8859/94 - Period of Training • Law n° 10,098/94 - Accessibility • Law n° 10,436/02 - LIBRAS • Law n° 7,853/89 - CORDE - Support to People with Disabilities • Law n° 8,899/94 - Free Pass • Law n° 9424/96 - FUNDEF • Law n° 10,845/04 - Complementary Programme on Special Education for People with Disabilities • Law n° 10,216/01 - Rights and Protection of People with Mental Illness • National Plan of Education - Special Education
Chile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law No 19.284 - Law for Integration and Opportunities for People with Disabilities

Colombia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law 324 of 11 October 1996, in which some norms in favour of Deaf people were created • Law 361 of 7 February 1997, in which mechanisms for social integration of people with disabilities and other legal issues were set down • Law 982 of 2 August 2005, in which equal opportunities and other legal rights for Deaf and Deafblind people were set down
Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraph 2 of Article 139 of the Political Constitution of the Republic covers legal rights for People with Disabilities
Paraguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law 780/79 which created INPRO • Law 112/79 on the Rights and Privileges of the Handicapped • Law 2479/04 on Access for People with Disabilities to Public Institutions
Peru	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law 27050
Venezuela	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela • Law of Integration for People with Disabilities • Law of People with Disabilities • Statutory Law for the Protection of the Child and Adolescent • Law of Social Responsibility in Radio and Television; Municipal Ordinances and Government

Please note: The Regional Working Group stated that although several laws in these countries are in force it is likely these laws are not yet implemented or practiced.

7.4.4 Does your country's Government have any anti-discrimination laws for Deaf people (or People with Disabilities)?

Country	Does your country's Government have any anti-discrimination laws for Deaf people (or People with Disabilities)?
Argentina	Yes
Bolivia	No
Brazil	Yes
Chile	No
Colombia	Yes
Ecuador	Yes
Paraguay	No
Peru	No
Venezuela	Yes
Total	5 Yes (56%)

Based on nine respondents

7.4.5 Does your country's government provide any services specifically for the Deaf Community through its government departments?

Country	Does your country's government provide any services specifically for the Deaf Community through its government departments?
Argentina	No
Bolivia	No
Brazil	Yes
Chile	No
Colombia	Yes
Ecuador	Yes
Paraguay	Yes
Peru	Yes
Venezuela	Yes
Total	6 Yes (67%)

Based on nine respondents

7.4.5.1 If yes, what types of service are provided specifically for the Deaf Community by your country's government?

7.4.5.2 What is the general opinion of the current service(s) specifically provided for the Deaf Community by your country's government?

Country	If yes, what types of service are provided specifically for the Deaf Community by your country's government?	What is the general opinion of the current service(s) specifically provided for the Deaf Community by your country's government?
Brazil	Interpreters for official communications	Still developing
Colombia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Interpretation Services paid by the government in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusive schools in most of the large cities in the country In almost all National Government Technical Institutes: Learning Services around the country Three public universities (two in Bogota and one in Barranquilla) Legal matters (office of the public prosecutor and courts in the whole country) Health matters in the capital Relay Centre (Service Relay), public telephony for Deaf people in the whole country, provided by the Ministry of Communications Closed captioning of national news and 60 programmes of different sorts, according to Regulation Resolution 1080 of the Ministry of Communications Free primary and secondary education in official schools in the whole country, with interpretation services and Deaf adult staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The interpretation services have helped improve the education of the Deaf community and therefore improve their quality of life, as have the Relay Centre and closed captioning; nevertheless it is still necessary to continue to improve these services because they do not cover the whole country, causing lack of participation, consistency and need in the Deaf community in different regions around the country Educational services are improving, although it is still necessary to continue enabling educational and other professionals to learn sign language
Ecuador	The Ministry of Social Welfare (MBS) is in charge of the administrative expenses of FENASEC. CONADIS offers direction via the technical consultant's office and cooperates with FENASEC for annual projects	<p>We are grateful that the Government gives support to the Deaf community, but we experience certain difficulties as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minister of Social Welfare (MBS) is late with payments for the administration of FENASEC The budget is very limited; economic adjustments happen often; and we do not have stable funding for the development of projects and activities
Paraguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> INPRO, a Governmental institution that is part of the Ministry of Education and Culture, provides the services of diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation, provision of prosthesis and medicines, and medical attention in general for people with disabilities, including Deaf people The Department of Special Education of the MEC sets the guidelines and controls the operation of educational institutions for Deaf people - all of which are private The Ministry of Health has a Greater Section of Adults with Disabilities in its Department of Social Welfare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The services are not dependable and have limited resources just like health and education services for the general population. Although theoretically Deaf people can access these services without limitation, they have many difficulties in communication and cannot count on the service of interpreters as part of the normal service of the relevant institutions In education, it is only recently that consultations by educational authorities have begun to investigate the inclusion of sign language in the education of Deaf children; at the moment the oral method is used In the area of justice, the right of Deaf people to have an interpreter for legal hearings is recognised
Peru	Health, Education, Women's Work and their respective affiliates	They improve but there are few expectations and little awareness in the Deaf community
Venezuela	Communication (elimination of barriers); Labour Attention (Employment); Technical Assistance; Certification of Auditory Disability	The Services are good but there are certain things that need to improve in several aspects

7.4.5.3 If no, why does your country's government not provide any service specifically for the Deaf Community?

Country	If no, why does your country's government not provide any service specifically for the Deaf Community?
Argentina	Because they do not know the real needs of Deaf people.
Bolivia	Because of lack of interest and discrimination on the part of the Government.
Chile	Services from our government specifically for the Chilean Deaf Community do not exist. The Government of Chile is enacting a project to teach sign language to public service employees, but in the meantime organisations of Deaf people continue to be weak in structure and there is no leadership training for Deaf people.

7.4.6 Does your Association have any contacts with your current country's government?

7.4.6.1 What type of contact does your Association have with your country's current government?

Country	Does your Association have any contacts with your current country's government?	What type of contact does your Association have with your country's current government?
Argentina	No	
Bolivia	No	
Brazil	Yes	FENEIS has permanent representation in meetings of the National Advisory Committee on the Rights of People with Disabilities (CONADE). We are invited to participate in the planning and implementation of public policies related to Deaf people. We also have contact with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Justice.
Chile (Local)	Yes	Office of the General Secretariat of the Presidency
Colombia	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have permanent participation and input in all the democratic arenas where subjects related to the Deaf community are discussed. We participate in the meetings, committees or advisory committees of strategic groups of the National Government such as the Consultative Council of People with Disabilities, the National Institute for Deaf People and the Advisory Committee on Social Policy of Bogota; and are permanently invited to any activity that requires the participation of People with Disabilities. For all of these the National Government provides an interpreting service. In addition we have made permanent political connections with the Ministries of Education, Social Protection, Communication and Transport.
Ecuador	Yes	CONADES contacts us; FENASEC also maintains contact with the Government through CONADIS (National Advisory Committee on Disabilities)
Paraguay	Yes	Consultations and Advising
Peru	Yes	Basically we are kept informed by the Commission of the Congress of the Republic of Peru
Venezuela	No	
Total	6 Yes (67%)	

Based on nine respondents

7.4.7 Does your Association receive any financial support from your country's current government?

7.4.7.1 What is the amount of annual financial support from your country's government?

Country	Does your Association receive any financial support from your country's current government?	What is the amount of annual financial support from your country's government?
Argentina	No	
Bolivia	No	
Brazil	Yes	We do not receive fixed amounts of money but we do receive funding for specific projects.
Chile (Local)	Yes	Our first project received 5 million Pesos (7,215€ on 29 th February 2008) Our second project received 3 million Pesos (4,329€ on 29 th February 2008)
Colombia	No	
Ecuador	Yes	CONADIS Annual Budget USD10,000 dollars (6,611€ on 29 th February 2008) MBS Annual Budget USD2,500 dollars (2,653€ on 29 th February 2008)
Paraguay	Yes	USD43,000 (28,428€ on 29 th February 2008)
Peru	No	
Venezuela	No	
Total	4 Yes (44%)	

Based on nine respondents

7.4.7.2 What is the purpose of the financial support from your country's government to the Deaf Community?

Country	What is the purpose of the financial support from your country's government to the Deaf Community?
Brazil	Implementation of projects such as sign language projects, courses, seminars, congresses and publications.
Chile	Specific projects for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Rights • Education • Culture • Other Projects
Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding from CONADIS for training for local Association representatives • MBS funding is for the salaries of the Chief Executive Officer and two interpreters, and to assist with office expenses such as water, electricity, telephone and other expenses • CPP supplies materials such as office furniture and office supplies, as well as promotional printing costs • The Vice President of the Ecuadorian Government is providing special project funding for the 2nd Conference of RSSA to be held in October 2008
Paraguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpreting Services • Administrative Management • Social Services • Sports • Culture • Recreation and Promotion of the Rights of Deaf People

7.4.8 Do Deaf people have a right to vote in national, regional and local elections?

7.4.9 Are Deaf people allowed to obtain a driver's licence?

7.4.10 Are Deaf people allowed to marry Deaf or other partners?

7.4.11 Are Deaf people allowed to have children?

7.4.12 Are Deaf people allowed to adopt children?

Country	Do Deaf people have a right to vote in national, regional and local elections?	Are Deaf people allowed to obtain a driver's licence?	Are Deaf people allowed to marry Deaf or other partners?	Are Deaf people allowed to have children?	Are Deaf people allowed to adopt children?
Argentina	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bolivia	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Brazil	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chile	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Colombia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ecuador	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Paraguay	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Peru	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Venezuela	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Total	9 Yes (100%)	6 Yes (67%)	9 Yes (100%)	9 Yes (100%)	9 Yes (100%)

Based on nine respondents

7.4.12.1 If Deaf people are not allowed to drive, please list the Government legislation or policies that stop them from being allowed to drive.

Country	If Deaf people are not allowed to drive, please list the Government legislation or policies that stop them from being allowed to drive.
Bolivia	The authorities feel insecure about Deaf people driving.
Ecuador	Ecuador is one of the few countries in which the right to drive a car is denied Deaf people; so less than 1% of the Deaf population have licenses that they have obtained with the help of relatives, or through bribes to the Police or to people who work in the licensing headquarters.
Paraguay	A law exists permitting Deaf people to obtain a license, but as it is not yet implemented it cannot be applied.

7.5.0 Access to Government Services

7.5.1 Do Deaf people have access to government services such as education, health care, employment, social welfare and any general government services?

7.5.1.1 If yes, how do Deaf people access these government services?

7.5.1.2 Are Deaf people satisfied with the level of access they have to the government services?

Country	Do Deaf people have access to government services such as education, health care, employment, social welfare and any general government services?	If yes, how do Deaf people access these government services?	Are Deaf people satisfied with the level of access they have to the government services?
Argentina	No		
Bolivia	No		
Brazil	Yes	FENEIS lobbies so that more interpreters are used each time to promote accessibility.	Not very satisfactory.
Chile	Yes	By Deaf people themselves without interpreters.	Not satisfied with the services the government offers the Deaf community.
Colombia	Yes	By means of the services of interpreters provided by the Government in educational institutions, hospitals and courts; however these services are offered only in the city of Bogota. Occasionally information from the government services is broadcast on television with closed captions. The TTY Relay Service is used for communication with government services.	Not completely satisfied since not all services are available in all of Colombia, and in some regions the quality of, for example, the TTY Relay Service for Deaf people is not good and can be expensive.
Ecuador	Yes	Access to: Health, Employment, Education and Training, Housing Commission, Recreation. Deaf People can access all services that the Government offers, with their disability card, although communication difficulties always exist and also difficulties with little organisation in public organisations.	Not quite satisfactory as there is limited access to interpreters for government services, and no interpreters at all available in the regional cities of Ecuador.
Paraguay	Yes	Deaf people alone or with the help of relatives or interpreters can access the services themselves.	No, the quality of services of and access to communication are in need of improvement to attain equality.
Peru	Yes		No, it is a problem for Deaf people to communicate via written information.
Venezuela	Yes	In the same way that hearing people access services.	Not satisfied because the access is very limited and not adapted to our needs.
Total	7 Yes (78%)		

Based on nine respondents

7.5.2 Are Deaf people entitled to any financial assistance from your country's government?

7.5.2.1 What type of financial assistance are Deaf people entitled to receive from your country's government?

Country	Are Deaf people entitled to any financial assistance from your country's government?	Disability Allowance	General Pension	Disability-specific Pension	Other	Explanation
Argentina	Yes			✓		
Bolivia	No					
Brazil	Yes	✓		✓		
Chile	Yes	✓			✓	Low Income Allowance scheme
Colombia	No					
Ecuador	Yes				✓	Low Income Allowance scheme
Paraguay	Yes				✓	Disabled children can inherit the pension or retirement funds of their ancestors in some cases
Peru	No					
Venezuela	Yes	✓	✓			
Total	6 Yes (67%)					

Based on nine respondents

7.6.0 Access to the Media

7.6.1 Does your country's government provide sign language services for news and/or current affairs programmes on public television?

Country	Does your country's government provide sign language services for news and/or current affairs programmes on public television?	Please provide detailed information on how many hours or days per week Deaf people receive sign language services for news and/or current affairs programmes on public televisions.
Argentina	No	
Bolivia	No	
Brazil	Yes	Health promotions, government elections and government promotions are offered in the sign language LIBRAS.
Chile	Yes	Every day one station offers a sign language programme at 14.00 for 30 minutes; this provision rotates between one government station and four private stations every three months.
Colombia	Yes	One Regional Television News programme offers sign language interpreting at 23.00.
Ecuador	No	
Paraguay	No	
Peru	Yes	From 15.00 on public television.
Venezuela	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • News three times a day, with a different schedule on each channel • Government spots (government publicity) • In the morning and evening, the national anthem is interpreted in sign language as well as being subtitled
Total	5 Yes (56%)	

Based on nine respondents

7.6.2 Does your country's government provide subtitles/captions for news and/or current affairs programmes?

Country	Does your country's government provide subtitles/captions for news and/or current affairs programmes?	Please provide detailed information on how many hours/days per week news/current affairs programme (subtitled/captioned) are offered for Deaf people,
Argentina	Yes	Subtitled Programmes: News - Monday to Friday at 12.00 and 19.00 Current Affairs - Monday to Friday at 13.00
Bolivia	No	
Brazil	Yes	Everyday news programme (one hour programme) as well as captioned films and soap programmes (novelty). Political Campaigns are subtitled.
Chile	Yes	One hour news programme with subtitles.
Colombia	Yes	One station provides the morning national news programme with subtitles (30 minutes) and another station provides the evening national news programme with subtitles (30 minutes). Occasionally, a television station provides subtitles for movies, children programmes and series programmes.
Ecuador	No	
Paraguay	No	
Peru	Yes	Generally all of the public television channels are captioned from 20.00 onwards.
Venezuela	No	
Total	5 Yes (56%)	

Based on nine respondents

7.6.3 Does your country's government offer governmental documents in your country's sign language?

Country	Does your country's government offer governmental documents in your country's sign language?
Argentina	No
Bolivia	No
Brazil	No
Chile	No
Colombia	No
Ecuador	No
Paraguay	No
Peru	No
Venezuela	No
Total	0 Yes (0%)

Based on nine respondents

7.7.0 Status of the National Sign Language(s)

7.7.1 Does your country's government formally recognise your country's sign language(s)?

7.7.1.1 What legislation/regulation formally recognises your country's sign language(s)?

7.7.1.2 When did your country's government formally recognise your country's sign language(s)?

7.7.1.3 Does your Deaf Association lobby your government for the recognition of your country's sign language(s)?

Country	Does your country's government formally recognise your country's sign language(s)?	What legislation/regulation formally recognises your country's sign language(s)?	When did your country's government formally recognise your country's sign language(s)?	Does your Deaf Association lobby your government for the recognition of your country's sign language(s)?
Argentina	No			Yes
Bolivia	No			Yes
Brazil	Yes	Legislation Policy Guideline	2002 - Law Nr 10.436 known as LIBRAS, regulated in 2005 by Decree Number 5626	Yes
Chile	No			Yes
Colombia	Yes	Legislation	1996 - Law 324 - in which some norms in favour of Deaf people are established 2005 - Law 982 - Deaf and Deafblind	Yes
Ecuador	Yes	Constitution	1998 - The National Government of Ecuador recognised sign language as an alternative form of communication	Yes
Paraguay	No			Yes
Peru	No			Yes
Venezuela	Yes	Constitution Other	1999 - Constitution Referendum Other - Law of Integration for People with Disabilities	Yes
Total	4 Yes (44%)			9 Yes (100%)

Based on nine respondents

7.7.2 Does your country have a sign language dictionary?

Country	Does your country have a sign language dictionary?
Argentina	Yes
Bolivia	No
Brazil	Yes
Chile	Yes
Colombia	Yes
Ecuador	Yes
Paraguay	Yes
Peru	No
Venezuela	No
Total	6 Yes (67%)

Based on nine respondents

7.8.0 Access to Education

7.8.1 Does your country's government recognise that Deaf children and Deaf students have the right to receive an education?

7.8.2 Does your country's government have any legislation or policies on Deaf Education?

7.8.2.1 If yes, please list the specific name of the legislation or policies relating to Deaf Education.

Country	Does your country's government recognise that Deaf children and Deaf students have the right to receive an education?	Does your country's government have any legislation or policies on Deaf Education?	If yes, please list the specific name of the legislation or policies relating to Deaf Education.
Argentina	Yes	Yes	Law of National Education 26206, Art 42: Special Education
Bolivia	No	No	
Brazil	Yes	Yes	National Plan of Education - Special Education
Chile	Yes	Yes	Law No 19.284 Law of Integration and Opportunities for People with Disabilities
Colombia	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law 324 of 11 October 1996, in which some norms in favour of Deaf people are established • Decree 2082 of 1996, by which education for people with limitations, lesser abilities or exceptional talents is regulated • Decree 2369 of 1997, by which Law 324 of 1996 is partially regulated • Decree 672 of 1998, by which article 13 of Decree 2369 of 1997 is modified • Resolution 1515 of 2000, in which are established the requirements for basic primary education for Deaf people, to be provided by private state educational establishments • Resolution 2565 of 2003, in which parameters and criteria for educational service to people with special educational needs is established
Ecuador	Yes	Yes	The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Recreation created agreement N° 258 of 24/07/1991, in which they instigated Integration in the general student system at the pre-primary, primary and middle levels; and also provided for special specific programmes for those students not in the general system.
Paraguay	Yes	Yes	Resolution of the Ministry of Education, that the Department of Special Education creates and regulates the guidelines for education of people with disabilities, including Deaf people
Peru	Yes	Yes	Inclusive Education in all basic education centres
Venezuela	Yes	Yes	Law for People with Disabilities - Article No 20
Total	8 Yes (89%)	8 Yes (89%)	

Based on nine respondents

7.8.3 Does your country's government provide any of the following educational settings for Deaf children and Deaf students?

Country	Early intervention (Up to 5 years old)	Kindergarten (Between 3/4 years old to 5/6 years old)	Primary (From 5/6 years old to 12/13 years old)	Secondary (From 12/13 years old to 17/18 years old)	University (After 18 years old)	Vocational Education / Training
Argentina	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No
Bolivia	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
Brazil	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chile	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Colombia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ecuador	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Paraguay	No	No	No	No	No	No
Peru	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Venezuela	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Total	6 Yes (67%)	4 Yes (44%)	8 Yes (89%)	6 Yes (67%)	6 Yes (67%)	6 Yes (67%)

Based on nine respondents

Additional Note from Paraguay stated that the Government controls the education for Deaf people but the facilities are provided by private educational institutions.

Please note: The Regional Working Group expressed a concern that the answers from Peru and Venezuela may not be correct for Early Intervention and Kindergarten. The Regional Co-ordinator attempted to follow up with these countries but was unable to receive their confirmation.

7.8.4 Does your country's government provide bilingual education using your country's sign language(s) for Deaf children and Deaf students in your country?

Country	Does your country's government provide bilingual education using your country's sign language(s) for Deaf children and Deaf students in your country?
Argentina	No
Bolivia	No
Brazil	Yes
Chile	Yes
Colombia	Yes
Ecuador	No
Paraguay	No
Peru	Yes
Venezuela	Yes
Total	5 Yes (56%)

Based on nine respondents

7.8.4.1 If yes, in which educational setting is bilingual education offered in your country using your sign language(s)?

Country	Early intervention (Up to 5 years old)	Kindergarten (Between 3/4 years old to 5/6 years old)	Primary (From 5/6 years to 12/13 years old)	Secondary (From 12/13 years old to 17/18 years old)	University (After 18 years old)	Vocational Education / Training
Brazil	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chile	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Colombia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Peru	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Venezuela	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Total	5 Yes (100%)	3 Yes (60%)	5 Yes (100%)	4 Yes (80%)	3 Yes (60%)	3 Yes (60%)

Based on five respondents

Please note: The Regional Working Group again expressed a concern that the answers from Peru and Venezuela may not be correct for Early Intervention and Kindergarten. The Regional Co-ordinator attempted to follow up with these countries and was unable to receive their confirmation.

7.8.5 Does your country have any schools specifically for Deaf children and Deaf students?

7.8.5.1 If yes, how many Deaf schools does your country have?

Country	Does your country have any schools specifically for Deaf children and Deaf students?	If yes, how many Deaf schools does your country have?
Argentina	Yes	We do not have exact numbers but in all provinces there is at least one school, except for the province of Buenos Aires where there are several, including three state and three private schools in the city of Buenos Aires.
Bolivia	Yes	14 Deaf Schools
Brazil	Yes	More than 30 Deaf Schools
Chile	Yes	Approximately 20 Deaf Schools
Colombia	Yes	At the national level there are 108 government schools and 14 private schools, of which nine government and four private schools are in Bogota, the capital city.
Ecuador	Yes	11 Deaf Schools
Paraguay	Yes	7 Deaf Schools
Peru	Yes	Approximately 50 Deaf Schools at the national level
Venezuela	Yes	56 Government Schools (Sign Language Programmes) 4 Private Schools (Oral Programmes)
Total	9 Yes (100%)	132 Deaf Schools 164 Government Schools 18 Private Schools

Based on nine respondents

7.8.5.2 What is the educational approach for communicating with Deaf children and students at the Deaf School in your country?

Country	Bilingual Education ¹	Oral Method ²	Cued Speech ³	Oral and Sign Language (Total Communication) ⁴	Auditory Verbal ⁵	Other	Explanation
Argentina		✓			✓		
Bolivia				✓			
Brazil	✓			✓			
Chile	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Colombia	✓	✓					
Ecuador		✓	✓	✓			
Paraguay						✓	At the moment the MEC and other institutions are considering implementing sign language in education
Peru				✓			
Venezuela	✓						

Please note: The Regional Working Group wished it to be acknowledged that there are a large number of Bilingual Education programmes available in South America; however the quality of this Bilingual Education is low. Some of these countries may not have the correct interpretation of the definition of Bilingual Education; they may have interpreted it as bilingualism in two spoken and written languages (i.e. Spanish and English) rather than in sign language and the written language (Spanish).

¹ **Bilingual Education:** Sign language is considered to be the natural language ('mother tongue') that will be acquired as a first language. Spoken language, which is not acquired naturally by Deaf children, will be learned as a second language as the child becomes cognitively/developmentally ready. Both languages are used throughout the child's entire education.

² **Oral Education:** Spoken language is assumed to be the basis for standard social and academic communication, and the human system is assumed to be designed (pre-wired) to learn language expressed in speech. Children learn about and from spoken language. Also known as auditory-oral, aural/oral education. Emphasis on speech.

³ **Cued Speech:** A visual mode of communication that uses hand shapes and placements in combination with the mouth movements of speech to make the phonemes of a spoken language look different from each other, resulting in a visual counterpart of a spoken language.

⁴ **Total Communication:** All forms and modes of communications are used. This includes natural gestures, sign language, manually-coded spoken languages, sign systems, mime, audition and speech.

⁵ **Auditory Verbal Education:** Supposes that even minimal amounts of residual hearing can lead to the development of spontaneous speech and language, if that residual hearing is stimulated. Children learn to process language through amplified hearing. A method of oral education with an emphasis on listening.

7.8.6 What is the general opinion of the level of education received by Deaf children and Deaf students in your country?

7.8.7 What is the general opinion of the current literacy level of Deaf children and Deaf students in your country?

Country	What is the general opinion of the level of education received by Deaf children and Deaf students in your country?	What is the general opinion of the current literacy level of Deaf children and Deaf students in your country?
Argentina	From the point of view of Deaf adults, the present educational level of Deaf children is very poor, mainly because of the national education law that supports oralism. Although recently bilingual education was initiated in the city of Buenos Aires, the teachers are not able to communicate fluently in sign language.	It is inadequate because, with the current educational system, the majority of Deaf children cannot read at a high level.
Bolivia	The education level is very low. This is due to the lack of teachers skilled in sign language.	Deficient
Brazil	All Brazilian education is of a low quality.	Low quality
Chile	In general Deaf students are not satisfied with the level of education because of a lack of interpreting services for the education setting. Also a large number of teachers are not skilled in sign language. The educational curriculum is not standardised for all Deaf Schools.	Very poor
Colombia	A large number of teachers are hearing and their signing skills are below the level of competency in the language. The bilingual approach does not offer a technique on how to teach Deaf students to write good language. The general education setting for Deaf students is average.	Average
Ecuador	The level of education for Deaf students is very low and improvement in the education system has been slow. As a result of this low educational level, Deaf people tend to go into manual occupations instead of higher or better employment positions. Teachers do not have a high level of skill in Ecuadorian Sign Language, and this affects the ability of Deaf students to increase their educational competency.	Average
Paraguay	The oralism method implemented for years in the schools has failed because the number of functional illiterate Deaf people is very high. They have graduated from school with very little achievement.	Very poor
Peru	No information provided	
Venezuela	The educational level is very inadequate. Education has not considered opinions from the Deaf community or from families of Deaf children.	Very deficient

7.8.8 Do Deaf people have access to a University education in your country?

7.8.8.1 If yes, how many Universities provide access to studies for Deaf people in your country?

7.8.8.2 If no, why do Deaf people not have access to a university education in your country?

Country	Do Deaf people have access to a University education in your country?	If yes, how many Universities provide access to studies for Deaf people in your country?	If no, why do Deaf people <u>not</u> have access to a university education in your country?
Argentina	No		Because we do not have a law that requires provision of sign language interpreters.
Bolivia	Yes	2 Universities	
Brazil	Yes	9 Public Universities 31 Private Universities	
Chile	Yes	1 Public University 3 or 4 Private Universities offer Deaf people access if their educational capabilities are high enough	
Colombia	Yes	3 public universities in the city of Bogota offer access with the services of sign language interpreters, who are paid by the Government A small number of Private Universities also offer interpreting services	
Ecuador	Yes	1 Public University and many private universities	
Paraguay	Yes	Very few Deaf people have access to university, and those who do obtain access do so by their own personal efforts because they do not need support services	
Peru	Yes	Generally all have full access	
Venezuela	Yes	Only available at University of the Andes	
Total	8 Yes (89%)		

Based on nine respondents

7.8.9 Do Deaf people have full access to sign language interpreting services at University?

Country	Do Deaf people have full access to sign language interpreting services at University?
Argentina	No
Bolivia	No
Brazil	Yes
Chile	No
Colombia	Yes - Please see 7.8.8.1
Ecuador	No
Paraguay	Yes
Peru	No
Venezuela	No
Total	3 Yes (33%)

Based on nine respondents

7.9.0 Status of Sign Language Interpreting Services

7.9.1 Does your country have any sign language interpreters?

7.9.1.1 How many sign language interpreters does your country have?

7.9.1.2 Are there any sign language interpreting qualifications available in your country?

Country	Does your country have any sign language interpreters?	How many sign language interpreters does your country have?	Are there any sign language interpreting qualifications available in your country?
Argentina	Yes	Unknown	Yes
Bolivia	Yes	Approx 10	No
Brazil	Yes	More than 1500	Yes
Chile	Yes	Approx 15	No
Colombia	Yes	Approx 200	Yes
Ecuador	Yes	50 interpreters	No
Paraguay	Yes	Approx 20 Interpreters	No
Peru	Yes	Small number	No
Venezuela	Yes	Approx 45 interpreters	No
Total	9 Yes (100%)		3 Yes (33%)

Based on nine respondents

7.9.1.3 Who provides the training for people who want to become qualified sign language interpreters?

Country	University	Community College	National Association of the Deaf	Other
Argentina		✓		Private Institutions
Brazil	✓		✓	
Colombia				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University - in 1997 FENASCOL, in partnership with the University of the Valley, the National Institute for Deaf People (INSOR) and the Swedish Federation of Deafblind (FSDB), and with support from the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), inaugurated the first Colombian programme of training for interpreters for Deaf and Deafblind people. At the moment, though, this programme is not implemented in any University; but the Ministry of National Education, through the National Institute for Deaf people, gives certification to interpreters. FENASCOL also awards certification to the 61 interpreters who work as staff in our organisation, under agreement with the Secretary of Education of the District of Bogota.

7.9.1.4 How many years of training are available to someone who wants to become a sign language interpreter?

Country	Four Years	Three Years	Less than One Year
Argentina		✓	
Brazil	University - 4 years		National Association of the Deaf - less than one year
Colombia		See note below	

Additional Information:

Colombia: A University programme has already been developed but has not been implemented because of lack of funding and lack of students desiring to attend the course.

7.9.1.5 How many sign language interpreters in your country have formal interpreting qualifications?

Country	How many sign language interpreters in your country have formal interpreting qualifications?
Argentina	No information supplied
Brazil	More or less 400
Colombia	31 Interpreters graduated from University in 1997

7.9.1.6 How do Deaf people access sign language interpreters?

Country	How do Deaf people access sign language interpreters?
Argentina	The majority do so personally.
Brazil	Through the Deaf Federation, private organisations, institutions, religious groups and others.
Chile	They approach volunteer Interpreters (Children of Deaf Adults) to provide services.
Colombia	Through the Federation, Local Associations of Deaf people, institutions, religious groups and relatives and friends of Deaf people.
Ecuador	Through their hearing friends, hearing relatives or through religious groups (Jehovah's Witnesses).
Paraguay	Through the Deaf Association, religious organisations and relatives.
Peru	Through relatives and teachers.

7.9.2 Does your country have sign language interpreting services?

7.9.2.1 If yes, who provides these sign language interpreting services?

Country	Does your country have sign language interpreting services?	If yes, who provides these sign language interpreting services?			
		Government	National Association of the Deaf	Private Sector	Other
Argentina	No				
Bolivia	No				
Brazil	Yes		✓		
Chile	No				
Colombia	Yes	✓		✓	Association of Sign Language Interpreters in Colombia
Ecuador	Yes		✓		
Paraguay	Yes		✓		Religious organisations
Peru	Yes		✓		
Venezuela	Yes	✓	✓		Religious organisations and Associations
Total	6 Yes (67%)				

Based on nine respondents

Please note: Another concern raised at the meeting of the Regional Working Group was whether is it appropriate for interpreting service(s) to be delivered by religious organisations that may require Deaf people to become a member before they can get access to the service at no charge. They also raised the concern that a Code of Ethics (See 7.9.5) is in force in only two countries.

7.9.2.2 In what areas of life are sign language interpreting services available in your country?

In what areas of life are sign language interpreting services available in your country?	Brazil	Colombia	Ecuador	Paraguay	Peru	Venezuela
Social Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Health/Medical Services		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Employment Services			✓	✓		✓
Court Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Educational Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Counselling Services			✓	✓		✓
Financial Institutions			✓	✓		✓
Funerals/Weddings			✓	✓		✓
Entertainment			✓	✓		✓
Others						✓

Country	Other
Venezuela	Television

7.9.2.3 What is the general opinion of these sign language interpreting services?

Country	What is the general opinion of these sign language interpreting services?
Argentina	The majority of interpreters use a version of Argentina Sign Language that many members of the Deaf community do not know. For that reason our opinion of the service provided is very poor.
Bolivia	No information provided
Brazil	There are not enough services and most of them are of a low quality.
Chile	We do not have any sign language interpreting services for Deaf people so it is not possible to provide our opinion of services.
Colombia	The service is average. There is a large demand on the service, which is only available for Deaf people in Bogota. Interpreting services are very limited around Colombia and signing skills of the interpreters are not adequate.
Ecuador	Average
Venezuela	Very irregular, because there are diverse factors that affect the quality and there is no 'excellent' service. There is no general consensus between the interpreters and the organisations of Deaf people. There are violations of norms and ethics that also affect the situation.

Please note: The Regional Working Group stated that, on a positive note, interpreting services provided by religious organisations, in particular the Jehovah's Witnesses, is of a high quality; their signing competency is excellent and actually better than those interpreters who have graduated from University or who are a member of a Deaf family.

7.9.3 Do sign language interpreters receive payment for interpreting services in your country?

7.9.3.1 Who is responsible for paying for a sign language interpreter?

7.9.3.2 What is the average hourly rate of payment for Sign Language Interpreters in your country?

Country	Do sign language interpreters receive payment for interpreting services in your country?	Who is responsible for paying for a sign language interpreter?			Others	What is the average hourly rate of payment for Sign Language Interpreters in your country?
		Government	National Association of the Deaf	Deaf People		
Argentina	Yes			✓		Peso\$20 per hour (approx) (4.20€ on 29 th February 2008)
Bolivia	No					
Brazil	Yes	✓	✓	✓		R\$40.00 per hour (16€ on 29 th February 2008)
Chile	Yes	✓		✓		The Deaf person and the Interpreter mutually agree on the payment. The approximate range is \$5,000 - \$20,000 (Chilean Dollars) (7.21€ - 28.86€ on 29 th February 2008)
Colombia	Yes	✓		✓		<u>Bogota:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USD8.00 per hour (5.30€ on 29th February 2008) • Part Time Interpreters - USD375 (monthly) (248 € on 29th February 2008) • Full Time Interpreters - USD750 (496€ on 29th February 2008) <u>Other regions:</u> Variable depending on the economic situation.
Ecuador	Yes	✓	✓	✓	It is common for many interpreters to volunteer	Between USD5.00 (3.30€ on 29 th February 2008) and USD15.00 (9.92€ on 29 th February 2008)
Paraguay	Yes		✓	✓	The institutions organising events where Deaf people will participate	USD6.00 per hour (3.97€ on 29 th February 2008)
Peru	Yes				Depends on who requests the service	USD3.00 per hour (1.98€ on 29 th February 2008)
Venezuela	Yes	✓		✓	Religious associations and churches	No information supplied
Total	8 Yes (89%)					

Based on nine respondents

7.9.3.3 Do your sign language interpreters provide voluntary service for all sign language interpreting assignments?

Country	Do your sign language interpreters provide voluntary service for all sign language interpreting assignments?
Argentina	Sometimes
Bolivia	Yes
Brazil	Sometimes
Chile	Yes
Colombia	Sometimes
Ecuador	Yes
Paraguay	Sometimes
Peru	No
Venezuela	Sometimes

7.9.4 Does your country have a National Association of Sign Language Interpreters?

7.9.4.1 Is your National Association of Sign Language Interpreters independent from your National Association of the Deaf?

7.9.5 Is there a national Code of Ethics for sign language interpreters in your country?

Country	Does your country have a National Association of Sign Language Interpreters?	Is your National Association of Sign Language Interpreters independent from your National Association of the Deaf?	Is there a national Code of Ethics for sign language interpreters in your country?
Argentina	No	No	No
Bolivia	No	No	No
Brazil	No	No	Yes
Chile	No	No	No
Colombia	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ecuador	No	No	No
Paraguay	No	No	No
Peru	Yes	Yes	No
Venezuela	Yes	Yes	No
Total	3 Yes (33%)	3 Yes (33%)	2 Yes (22%)

Based on nine respondents

Please note: The Regional Working Group expressed the opinion that the answers from Peru and Venezuela may not be correct. The Regional Co-ordinator attempted to follow up with these countries but was unable to receive their confirmation.

7.9.6 Is there any legislation or policy in your country which states that the government has a responsibility for the provision of sign language interpreting services?

7.9.6.1 If yes, please list the legislation or policies that specifically state the Government has a responsibility for the provision of sign language interpreting services.

Country	Is there any legislation or policy in your country which states that the government has a responsibility for the provision of sign language interpreting services?	If yes, please list the legislation or policies that specifically state the Government has a responsibility for the provision of sign language interpreting services.
Argentina	No	
Bolivia	No	
Brazil	Yes	2002 - Law Nr 10.436 known as LIBRAS, regulated in 2005 by Decree Number 5626 Law No 10.098/06 - Accessibility Law Law No 10.172/01 - Law of the National Plan of Education Resolution by the Ministry of Education and Culture - 02/2001 - National Directions for Special Education in Basic Education Decree 1679/99 - Accessibility to Higher Education
Chile	No	
Colombia	Yes	Law 324 of 11 October 1996, in which some norms in favour of Deaf people are established Law No 982 of 2005
Ecuador	Yes	Disability Law 180
Paraguay	No	
Peru	No	
Venezuela	Yes	Law of People with Disabilities
Total	4 Yes (44%)	

Based on nine respondents

7.10.0 Employment

- 7.10.1 Does your country's government consider that Deaf people have a right to be employed and earn a standard salary?
- 7.10.2 Does your country's government have any anti-discrimination laws in the area of employment, especially for Deaf people or People with Disabilities?
- 7.10.2.1 If yes, please write clearly the name of any legislation or policy that relates to anti-discrimination in employment.

Country	Does your country's government consider that Deaf people have a right to be employed and earn a standard salary?	Does your country's government have any anti-discrimination laws in the area of employment, especially for Deaf people or People with Disabilities?	If yes, please write clearly the name of any legislation or policy that relates to anti-discrimination in employment.
Argentina	Yes	Yes	National Law N° 25689 - Modification of Law N° 22431, relating to the percentage of people with disabilities employed by the National State, its decentralised or independent bodies, public bodies, companies and the concessionary private companies of its public services.
Bolivia	Yes	No	
Brazil	Yes	Yes	Law n° 46/ 2006, of 28 August 2006 Law n° 8069/90 - Statute of the Child and Adolescent - Special Education Decrees n° 5,296/04, n° 10,048 and n° 10,098 regulate the laws with an emphasis on the Promotion of Accessibility Decree n° 3,298, of 20 December 1999, which regulates Law n° 7,853, of 24 October 1989 - utilising the National Policy for the Integration of People with Disabilities - it strengthens the standard of protection and outlines other steps for integration Law n° 8,213 - of 24 July 1991 Art. 93, any company with 100 (one hundred) or more employees is obliged to fill 2% (two percent) to 5% (five percent) of its positions with qualified rehabilitated individuals or people with disabilities, according to the following ratio: I - up to 200 employees - 2% II - 201 to 500 employees - 3% III - 501 to 1,000 employees - 4% IV - 1,001 or more employees - 5%
Chile	Yes	No	
Colombia	Yes	Yes	Law No 361 of 1997 Law 762 in which the "Inter-American Convention for the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against People with Disabilities" is ratified
Ecuador	Yes	Yes	Law No 33, Article No 42 states that a company will receive a subsidy of 4% for employing a certain percentage of people with disabilities
Paraguay	Yes	Yes	Employment of People with Disabilities in Public Institutions
Peru	Yes	Yes	
Venezuela	Yes	Yes	Law of People with Disabilities
Total	9 Yes (100%)	7 Yes (78%)	

Based on nine respondents

7.10.3 Does your Association have any official or approximate figures on the number of Deaf people who are in paid employment in your country?

Country	Does your Association have any official or approximate figures on the number of Deaf people who are in paid employment in your country?
Argentina	No
Bolivia	No
Brazil	No
Chile	No
Colombia	No
Ecuador	No
Paraguay	No
Peru	No
Venezuela	No

7.10.3.1 What are the most common areas of work for Deaf people in your country?

What are the most common areas of work for Deaf people in your country?	Argentina	Brazil	Chile	Colombia	Ecuador	Paraguay	Peru	Venezuela
Office Administration	✓				✓	✓		
Management		✓				✓		
Education		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Theatre/Arts								
Research Projects		✓			✓	✓	✓	
Sign Language	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Social Services		✓		✓	✓		✓	
Farm Work			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Financial Industry		✓			✓	✓		
Engineering								
Welding		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Carpentry		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jeweller			✓		✓		✓	
Tailoring			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Building			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Painter		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Cleaning		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Car Mechanic		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Panel Beater				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shoe Repairing				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bakery		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hairdresser			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Printer		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
Catering			✓		✓	✓		
Others		✓				✓	✓	✓

Please note: Bolivia didn't provide any information about the employment of Deaf people.

Country	Others
Brazil	We do not have data for Brazil in general but in FENEIS we currently have approximately 1,200 Deaf people employed in diverse services such as banks, assistant clerical positions, teachers and accounting
Paraguay	Craftsmen and salesmen
Peru	Medical
Venezuela	Architecture, tailor, computers and electrical services

7.10.4 Does your country have any figures on the percentage of Deaf people who are unemployed?

Country	Does your country have any figures on the percentage of Deaf people who are unemployed?
Argentina	No
Bolivia	No
Brazil	No
Chile	No
Colombia	No
Ecuador	No
Paraguay	No
Peru	No
Venezuela	No

7.10.5 Does your country provide employment services to assist unemployed Deaf people to look for employment?

7.10.5.1 Who is responsible for providing employment services for unemployed Deaf people in your country?

Country	Does your country provide employment services to assist unemployed Deaf people to look for employment?	Who is responsible for providing employment services for unemployed Deaf people in your country?		
		Government Employment Service	National Association of the Deaf	Other
Argentina	Yes			✓
Bolivia	No			
Brazil	Yes	✓		
Chile	Yes	✓		
Colombia	No			
Ecuador	Yes	✓		
Paraguay	Yes	✓	✓	✓
Peru	No			
Venezuela	Yes	✓	✓	
Total	6 Yes (67%)			
Country	Others			
Argentina	Disability Commissions. Positive results are minimal for Deaf people because people with other disabilities have a better educational level.			
Paraguay	Religious organisations			

7.11.0 General

7.11.1 Which of the following does your National Association of the Deaf consider to be the highest priority for your Deaf Community?

Which of the following does your National Association of the Deaf consider to be the highest priority for your Deaf Community?	Argentina	Bolivia	Brazil	Chile	Colombia	Ecuador	Paraguay	Peru	Venezuela
Better quality of Deaf Education	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Equal Opportunity in Employment		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Better Sign Language Interpreting quality and services			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Recognition of your country's Sign Language(s) by your country's Government	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	
Improved quality and access to Government and Community Services			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Other									✓
Country	Other								
Venezuela	Organisational Development Training for the Local and National Associations of the Federation								

7.11.2 Does your Association have any other concerns about the standard of living of Deaf people in your country? Please list them.

Country	Does your Association have any other concerns about the standard of living of Deaf people in your country? Please list them.
Argentina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We cannot evaluate the problem further since we imagine that only by improving the education of Deaf people would we arrive at a level whereby we can analyse the standard of living at the national level.
Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have laws about accessibility and laws that impose quotas of employment for people with disabilities in the public service and specific other companies. However, these are not implemented in full and Deaf people in general are not prepared for the jobs. Society's preconceptions about Deaf people and employment need to be changed in order for the quality of life to become better. FENEIS, since its founding, has spent much time concentrating on the defence of LIBRAS (Brazilian Sign Language) as the language of communication for the majority of Deaf people, and by doing so has also fought to ensure that existing laws are implemented and new laws are considered and approved so that Deaf people are respected and have rights, in all areas of society. By doing this, we will be able to offer a better quality of life to Brazilian Deaf people.
Chile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Association continues to have problems that affect the everyday lives of Deaf people; these problems need to be solved to improve the quality of the standard of living The structure of the Local Associations, Federation and Confederation of Deaf Associations in Chile does not function very well Chile needs Interpreting Services and Interpreter Training
Colombia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hearing families with Deaf members have their own "discrimination" or "attitude" toward Deaf people's capabilities. Colombian society in general has a huge negative attitude towards the Deaf Community The serious economic situation in Colombia has impacted the availability of employment, and there is less of a possibility for Deaf people to obtain secure jobs
Ecuador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a need to supply information about the Deaf Community and its life to hearing families who have kept their Deaf children at home, especially in the villages and rural areas Leadership Training for Deaf people is necessary, to develop their organisational and community skills; this should include training by international presenters on the issues of sign language, bilingualism and so on There is a need for access to television news programmes via interpretation into sign language Financial support from the Government is needed to implement projects
Paraguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fundamentally it is necessary to improve and to assure Deaf people's access to a high quality of education, and to eliminate communication barriers It is also necessary to have a leadership training programme for the Deaf community to learn to lobby the government to attain rights for Deaf people
Peru	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pension for disability Right to material goods Family Inheritance Improve access to employment
Venezuela	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of good Deaf leaders within the Associations and Federation Lack of quality education Lack of a system of efficient telecommunications for Deaf people



Global Education Pre-Planning Project on the Human Rights of Deaf People

Email: DeafHumanRights@yahoo.com.au

14 December 2007

President and Secretary of all WFD member organisations in Regional Secretariat for South America (WFD RSSA)

Dear President and Secretary,

I wish to introduce the new project "*Global Education Pre-Planning Project on the Human Rights of Deaf People*" implemented by the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) in co-operation with the Swedish National Association of the Deaf (SDR). This project is preparation for a Global project "*Deaf Global Human Rights Training Project*" to commence hopefully in 2009. An application will be submitted in 2008 to Swedish funding bodies.

The purpose of the pre-planning project is to conduct a global survey to collect information on the standard of life for Deaf people in each of the seven WFD Regional Secretariats. The survey will collect the following information:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Contact Details, | 7. Status of the Country Sign Language, |
| 2. Status of the National Deaf Association, | 8. Access to Education, |
| 3. Population of Deaf people, | 9. Status of Sign Language Interpreting Services, |
| 4. Legislations and Policies, | 10. Employment and |
| 5. Access to Government Services, | 11. General. |
| 6. Access to the Media, | |

Your Association is a member of the WFD - **Regional Secretariat for South America (WFD RSSA)** and WFD RSSA is the third region to be surveyed in this project.

It will be appreciated if you take time to complete this survey as soon as possible to enable us to prepare the draft Fact-Finding Report. The Project will establish a temporary Regional Working Group consisting of two or three members from the ordinary members of WFD RSSA and the Regional Working Group, which will meet in March/April 2008 to discuss the draft Fact-Finding Report. The Regional Working Group is responsible for confirming the recommendations from the Fact-Finding Report to be used in the application for the "*Deaf Global Human Rights Training Project*".

The project has appointed a Regional Co-ordinator Mr Gustavo Vergara from Santiago, Chile and his responsibility is to establish a contact point with all members of the WFD RSSA for this project. If you have any questions about the survey, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Gustavo Vergara by email at gustavoverg@gmail.com

Please find a survey form attached as well as a DVD version in International Sign, based on the survey questions. Please be aware that it is essential to answer all of the survey questions correctly to provide a true reflection of the actual standard of living of Deaf people in your country.

Please return your survey questions to:

Mr Gustavo Vergara
Asociación de Sordos de Chile (ASOCH)
Avenida José Pedro Alessandri
1251 Ñuñoa
Santiago
CHILE
Email: gustavoverg@gmail.com

It will be appreciated if Mr Gustavo Vergara can receive your survey by no later than **Friday, 8th February, 2008.**

Thank you for contributing towards the first step in this important international project.

Yours sincerely,

Colin Allen
Project Co-ordinator
The World Federation of the Deaf and the Swedish National Association of the Deaf
Email: DeafHumanRights@yahoo.com



World Federation of the Deaf

Global Education Pre-Planning Project on the Human Rights of Deaf People

Email: DeafHumanRights@yahoo.com.au

A GLOBAL SURVEY

Global Education Pre-planning Project on the Human Rights of the Deaf People

WFD - RSSA December 2007

1.0 Contact Details

1.1 Country: _____

1.2 Name of the National Association of the Deaf: _____

1.3 Street Address:

Street Address: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

Post code / Zip Code: _____

Country: _____

1.4 Postal Address:

Postal Number: _____

City: _____

Post code / Zip Code: _____

Country: _____

Website Address: _____

Email Address: _____

1.5 Telephone Numbers:

Landline Number: _____

Mobile Number: _____

Facsimile Number: _____

Project Data Use Only

Country Reference No:

Received Date:

Data Entered:

Country Classifications:

Low Income Lower Middle Income

Upper Middle Income High Income

2.0 National Association of the Deaf

2.1 Please provide the official name of your National Association of the Deaf in both English and in your language:

2.1.1 English: _____

2.1.2 In your national language: _____

2.2 Please provide the number of members your National Association of the Deaf has in your country?

2.2.1 Deaf Members: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.2.1.1 Deaf Women: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.2.1.2 Deaf Men: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.2.2 Hard of Hearing Members: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.2.2.1 Hard of Hearing Women: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.2.2.2 Hard of Hearing Men: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.2.3 Hearing Members: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.3 In what year was your National Association established?

2.4 Does your Deaf Association have Statutes/a Constitution?

Yes, please go to Question No 2.5

No, please go to Question No 2.5

2.5 Does your government recognise your national organisation to represent Deaf people in your country?

Yes, please go to Question No 2.6

No, please go to Question No 2.6

2.6 Please list some the areas in which your association has adopted a policy statement?

2.7 Please list the six highest priority issues/actions in your strategic action plan

2.8 Please describe structure of your National Association of the Deaf (e.g. congress/annual meeting/ board/ executive/districts/local associations etc)?

2.8.1 How many affiliated regional and/or local Deaf Associations is part of your National Association of the Deaf?

2.8.1.1 Number of Regional associations: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.8.1.2 Number of Local associations: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.9 How many members of your members are Deaf?

[_____] of [_____]
(Deaf Board Members) (Total of Board Members)

2.10 How many members of the board are Deaf women and how many are Deaf men?

2.10.1 Deaf women: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.10.2 Deaf men: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.11 Does your National Association of the Deaf have committees for specific area of interest or affiliation with any other relevant independent groups in your country?

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sign Language Interpreters | <input type="checkbox"/> Sign Language Researchers | <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parents of Deaf Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf Seniors | <input type="checkbox"/> Deafblind |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf Youth | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural groups of Deaf people | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports groups |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf people with other disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Bisexual | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf Women's Groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Children of Deaf Adults | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, <i>please write down:</i> | | |

2.12 Does your National Association of the Deaf have any paid staff members?

- Yes, please go to Question No 2.12.1
- No, please go to Question No 2.13

2.12.1 How many of the paid staff members are women and who many are men?

2.12.1.1 Women: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.12.1.2 Men: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.12.2 How many of the paid staff members are Deaf?

2.11.2.1 Deaf Women: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.11.2.2 Deaf Men: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

2.13 Is your Chief Executive Officer / Executive Director / Person-in-charge Deaf?

Yes, please go to Question No 3.1

No, please go to Question No 3.1

3.0 Population of Deaf people

3.1 Does your country's government have any official records on the number of Deaf people in your country?

Yes, please go to Question No 3.1.1

No, please go to Question No 3.2

3.1.1 If yes, please provide the official number of Deaf people in your country?

3.1.1.1 Total: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

3.1.1.2 Deaf Women: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

3.1.1.3 Deaf Men: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

3.2 Does your Association have any official or approximate figures on the number of Deaf people living in your country?

Yes, please go to Question No 3.2.1

No, please go to Question No 3.3

3.2.1 If yes, please provide the number of Deaf people in your country

3.2.1.1 Total: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

3.2.1.2 Deaf Women: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

3.2.1.3 Deaf Men: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

4.0 Legislations and Policies

4.1 Does your country's government recognise Deaf people as citizens on an equal basis as other citizens in your country?

Yes, please go to Question No 4.2

No, please go to Question No 4.2

4.2 Does your country's government have an office responsible for services for People with Disabilities?

Yes, please go to Question No 4.2.1

No, please go to Question No 4.3

4.2.1 If yes, what is the name, address, and website address of the government office that is responsible for services for People with Disabilities in your country?

4.3 Does your country's Government have any legislation or policies for Deaf people (or People with Disabilities in general)?

Yes, please go to Question No 4.3.1

No, please go to Question No 4.4

4.3.1 If yes, please list some of the policies or legislation that relates to Deaf people (or People with Disabilities), (please write the name of the legislations or policies in full detail):

4.4 Does your country's Government have any anti-discrimination laws for Deaf people (or People with Disabilities)?

Yes, please go to Question No 4.5

No, please go to Question No 4.5

4.5 Does your country's government provide any services specifically for the Deaf Community through its government departments?

Yes, please go to Question No 4.5.1

No, please go to Question No 4.5.3

4.6 Does your Association have any contacts with your current country's government?

Yes, please go to Question No 4.6.1

No, please go to Question No 4.7

4.6.1 What type of contact does your Association have with your country's current government?

4.7 Does your Association receive any financial support from your country's current government?

Yes, please go to Question No 4.7.1

No, please go to Question No 4.8

4.7.1 What is the amount of annual financial support from your country's government?

4.7.2 What is the purpose of the financial support from your country's government to the Deaf Community?

4.8 Do Deaf people have a right to vote in national, regional and local elections?

Yes, please go to Question No 4.9

No, please go to Question No 4.8.1

4.8.1 If Deaf people do not have the right to vote, please list the government legislation or policies that specifically exclude Deaf people from having the right to vote:

4.9 Are Deaf people allowed to obtain a driver's licence?

Yes, please go to Question No 4.10

No, please go to Question No 4.9.1

4.9.1 If Deaf people are not allowed to drive, please list the Government legislation or policies that stop them from being allowed to drive:

4.10 Are Deaf people allowed to marry Deaf or other partners?

- Yes, please go to Question No 4.11
- No, please go to Question No 4.10.1

4.10.1 If Deaf people are not allowed to get married, please list any specific Government legislation or policy that specifically stops Deaf people from being allowed to marry (or to be allowed to marry another deaf person):

4.11 Are Deaf people allowed to have children?

- Yes, please go to Question No 4.12
- No, please go to Question No 4.11.1

4.11.1 If Deaf people are not allowed to have children, please list any specific Government legislation or policy that stops Deaf people from being allowed to have children.

4.12 Are Deaf people allowed to adopt children?

- Yes, please go to Question No 5.1
- No, please go to Question No 4.12.1

4.12.1 If Deaf people are not allowed to adopt children, please list any specific Government legislation or policy that stops Deaf people from being allowed to adopt children.

5.0 Access to Government Services

5.1 Do Deaf people have access to government services such as education, health care, employment, social welfare and any general government services?

Yes, please go to Question No 5.1.1

No, please go to Question No 5.2

5.1.1 If yes, how do Deaf people access these government services?

5.1.2 Are Deaf people satisfied with the level of access they have to the government services?

5.2 Are Deaf people entitled to any financial assistance from your country's government?

Yes, please go to Question No 5.2.1

No, please go to Question No 6.1

5.2.1 What type of financial assistance are Deaf people entitled to receive from your country's government?

Disability allowance General Pension Disability-specific Pension

Other, *please write down:*

6.0 Access to the Media

6.1 Does your country's government provide sign language services for news and/or current affairs programmes on public television?

Yes, please go to Question No 6.1.1

No, please go to Question No 6.2

6.1.1 Please provide detailed information on how many hours or days per week Deaf people receive sign language services for news and/or current affairs programmes on public television.

6.2 Does your country's government provide subtitles / captions for news and/or current affairs programmes?

Yes, please go to Question No 6.2.1

No, please go to Question No 6.3

6.2.1 Please provide detailed information on how many hours / days per week are news / current affairs programmes (subtitled / captioned) offered for Deaf people?

6.3 Does your country's government offer governmental documents in your country's sign language?

Yes, please go to Question No 7.1

No, please go to Question No 7.1

7.0 Status of the Country Sign Language

7.1 Does your country's government formally recognise your country's sign language(s)?

- Yes, please go to Question No 7.1.1
- No, please go to Question No 7.1.3

7.1.1 What legislation/regulation formally recognises your country's sign language?

- Constitution Legislation Policy Guideline
- Other, *please write down:*

7.1.2 When did your country's government formally recognise your country's sign language?

Please go to Question No 7.2

7.1.3 Does your Deaf Association lobby your government for the recognition of your country's sign language(s)?

- Yes, please go to Question No 7.2
- No, please go to Question No 7.1.4

7.1.4 If no, please explain the reason your Association does not lobby your current government for the recognition of your country's Sign Language.

7.2 Does your country have a sign language dictionary?

- Yes, please go to Question No 8.1
- No, please go to Question No 8.1

8.0 Access to Education

8.1 Does your country's government recognise that Deaf children and Deaf students have the right to receive an education?

Yes, please go to Question No 8.2

No, please go to Question No 8.2

8.2 Does your country's government have any legislation or policies on Deaf Education?

Yes, please go to Question No 8.2.1

No, please go to Question No 8.2.2

8.2.1 If yes, please list the specific name of the legislation or policies relating to Deaf Education:

Please go to Question No 8.3

8.2.2 If no, are all Deaf children and Deaf students entitled to receive any education in your country?

Yes, please go to Question No 8.3

No, please go to Question No 8.3

8.3 Does your country's government provide any of the following educational settings for Deaf children and Deaf students?

Early intervention (Up to 5 years old) Yes No

Kindergarten (Between 3/4 years old to 5/6 years old) Yes No

Primary (From 5/6 years to 12/13 years old) Yes No

Secondary (From 12/13 years to 17/18 years old) Yes No

University (After 18 years old) Yes No

Vocational Education / Training Yes No

8.4 Does your country's government provide bilingual education using your country's sign language for Deaf children and Deaf students in your country?

Yes, please go to Question No 8.4.1

No, please go to Question No 8.5

8.4.1 If yes, in which educational setting is bilingual education offered in your country using your sign language?

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|----|
| Early intervention (Up to 5 years old) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| Kindergarten (Between 3/4 years old to 5/6 years old) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| Primary (From 5/6 years to 12/13 years old) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| Secondary (From 12/13 years to 17/18 years old) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| University (After 18 years old) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| Vocational Education / Training | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |

8.5 Does your country have any schools specifically for Deaf children and Deaf students?

- Yes, please go to Question No 8.5.1
- No, please go to Question No 8.5.3

8.5.1 If yes, how many Deaf schools does your country have?

8.5.2 What is the educational approach for communicating with Deaf children and students at the Deaf School in your country?

- Bilingual Education Oral Method Cued Speech
- Oral and Sign Language (Total Communication) Auditory Verbal
- Other, *please write down:*

Please go to Question No 8.6

8.5.3 If no, where do Deaf children and students receive an education in your country?

8.6 What is the general opinion of the level of education received by Deaf children and Deaf students in your country?

8.7 What is the general opinion of the current literacy level of Deaf children and Deaf students in your country?

8.8 Do Deaf people have access to a University education in your country?

- Yes, please go to Question No 8.8.1
- No, please go to Question No 8.8.2

8.8.1 If yes, how many Universities provide access to studies for Deaf people in your country?

Please go to Question No 8.9

8.8.2 If no, why do Deaf people not have access to a university education in your country?

Please go to Question No 9.1

8.9 Do Deaf people have full access to sign language interpreting services at University?

- Yes, please go to Question No 9.1
- No, please go to Question No 9.1

9.0 Status of the Sign Language Interpreting Service

9.1 Does your country have any sign language interpreters?

- Yes, please go to Question No 9.1.1
- No, please go to Question No 9.1.6

9.1.1 How many sign language interpreters does your country have?

9.1.2 Are there any sign language interpreting qualifications available in your country?

- Yes, please go to Question No 9.1.3
- No, please go to Question No 9.2

9.1.3 Who provides the training for people who want to become qualified sign language interpreters?

- University Community College National Association of the Deaf
- Other, *please write down:*

9.1.4 How many years of training are available to someone who wants to become a sign language interpreter?

- Four Years Three Years Two Years Less than One Year
- Other, *please write down:*

9.1.5 How many sign language interpreters in your country have formal interpreting qualifications?

9.1.6 How do Deaf people access sign language interpreters?

9.2 Does your country have sign language interpreting services?

- Yes, please go to Question No 9.2.1
- No, please go to Question No 9.3

9.2.1 If yes, who provides these sign language interpreting services?

- Government National Association of the Deaf Private Sector
- Other, *please write down:*

9.2.2 What areas of life are sign language interpreting services available in your country?

- Social Services Health/Medical Services Employment Services
- Court Services Educational Services Counselling Services
- Financial Institutions Funerals / Weddings Entertainments
- Other, *please write down:*

9.2.3 What is the general opinion of these sign language interpreting services?

9.3 Do sign language interpreters receive payment for interpreting services in your country?

- Yes, please go to Question No 9.3.1
- No, please go to Question No 9.3.3

9.3.1 Who is responsible for paying for a sign language interpreter?

- Government National Association of the Deaf Deaf people
- Other, *please write down:*

9.3.2 What the average hourly rate of payment for Sign Language Interpreters in your country?

Please go to Question No 9.4

9.3.3 Do your sign language interpreters provide voluntary service for all sign language interpreting assignments?

- Yes, please go to Question No 9.4
- No, please go to Question No 9.4
- Sometimes, please go to Question No 9.4

9.4 Does your country have a National Association of Sign Language Interpreters?

- Yes, please go to Question No 9.4.1
- No, please go to Question No 9.5

9.4.1 Is your National Association of the Sign Language Interpreters independent from your National Association of the Deaf?

Yes, please go to Question No 9.5

No, please go to Question No 9.5

9.5 Is there a national Code of Ethics for sign language interpreters in your country?

Yes, please go to Question No 9.6

No, please go to Question No 9.6

9.6 Is there any legislation or policy in your country which states that the government has a responsibility for the provision of sign language interpreting services?

Yes, please go to Question No 9.6.1

No, please go to Question No 10.1

9.6.1 If yes, please list the legislation or policies that specifically state the Government has a responsibility for the provision of sign language interpreting services.

10.0 Employment

10.1 Does your country government consider Deaf people to have a right to be employed and earn a standard salary?

Yes, please go to Question No 10.2

No, please go to Question No 10.2

10.2 Does your country's government have any anti-discrimination laws in the area of employment, especially for Deaf people or People with Disabilities?

Yes, please go to Question No 10.2.1

No, please go to Question No 10.3

10.2.1 If yes, please write clearly the name of any legislation or policies that relate to anti-discrimination in employment:

10.3 Does your Association have any official or approximate figures on the number of Deaf people who are in paid employment in your country?

Yes, please go to Question No 10.3.1

No, please go to Question No 10.4

10.3.1 If yes, how many Deaf people are in employment?

10.3.1.1 Total: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

10.3.1.2 Deaf Women: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

10.3.1.3 Deaf Men: - [_____] *please write the number in this box*

10.3.2 What are the most common areas of work for Deaf people in your country?

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Office Administration | <input type="checkbox"/> Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Theatre /Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research Projects | <input type="checkbox"/> Sign Language | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Farm work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Welding | <input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jeweller | <input type="checkbox"/> Tailoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Building | <input type="checkbox"/> Painter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning | <input type="checkbox"/> Car Mechanic | <input type="checkbox"/> Panel Beater | <input type="checkbox"/> Shoe Repairing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bakery | <input type="checkbox"/> Hairdresser | <input type="checkbox"/> Printer | <input type="checkbox"/> Catering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, <i>please write down:</i> | | | |

10.4 Does your country any figures on the percentage of Deaf people who are unemployed?

Yes, please go to Question No 10.4.1

No, please go to Question No 10.5

10.4.1 If yes, what percentage of Deaf people are unemployed in your country? If possible, give percentage of unemployed Deaf women and Deaf men.

10.4.1.1 Total: - [_____] *please write the percentage in this box*

10.4.1.2 Deaf Women: - [_____] *please write the percentage in this box*

10.4.1.3 Deaf Men: - [_____] *please write the percentage in this box*

10.4.2 Why are Deaf people unemployed in your country?

10.5 Does your country provide employment service to assist unemployed Deaf people to look for employment?

Yes, please go to Question No 10.5.1

No, please go to Question No 11.1

10.5.1 Who is responsible for providing employment service for unemployed Deaf people in your country?

Government Employment Service

National Association of the Deaf

Other, *please write down:*

11.0 General

11.1 Which of the following does your National Association of the Deaf consider to be the highest priority for your Deaf Community?

- Better quality of Deaf Education
- Equal Opportunity in Employment
- Better Sign Language Interpreting quality and services
- Recognition of your country's Sign Language by your country's Government
- Improved quality and access to Government and Community Services
- Other, *please write down:*

11.2 Does your Association have any other concerns about the standard of living of Deaf people in your country? Please list those:

**Thank you for taking the time
to complete this Survey**