#### INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

"QUALITY AND EQUALITY FOR ALL"

21st. September 2008, RIMINI FIERA,

Sunday

10:30 hours











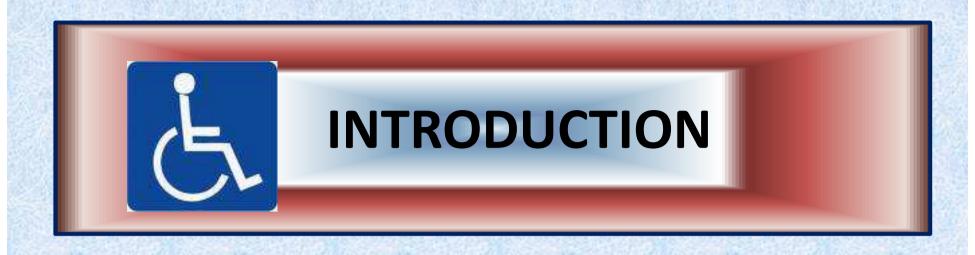












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### THE REAL PROBLEM APPROACHED BY A DISABLED PERSON

"A unique example"

- Baroness Campbell of Surbiton, DBE (Dame Commander of the British Empire), was a Commissioner of the Equality Human Rights Commission, among other nominations
- ➤ She was born with spinal muscular atrophy. She cannot lift her head from the pillow unaided and needs a ventilator to help her breathe at night. She uses a powered wheelchair and has a computer on which she types with one finger.



#### **KNOWN FACTS**

Many countries in Europe have not yet asumed this declaration

CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ARTICLE 26

- □ The Union recognizes and respects the rights of persons with disabilities to benefit from measures designed to ensure their independence...
- □ The Equality and Human Rights Commission opened for business on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2007

A key aim of the commission is to end discrimination and harassment of people because <u>of their disability</u>, age, religion or belief, race, gender, or sexual orientation.



#### **KNOWN FACTS**

#### **Disabled People**

- > There is estimated up to 39 million disabled people in Europe alone.
- > It is also estimated that there are 610 million <u>recognized</u> (probably a lot more) <u>disabled people</u> worldwide.
- > A huge amount of the above population of disabled have their rights violated constantly

Source of the information: Disability Lawyers Company Guide



#### **KNOWN FACTS**

According to : Disability Lawyers Guide:

- > There are approximately over 8.6 million people who are classed as disabled in the UK alone
- >8% of the people registered disabled use a wheelchair.
- As well, from the commercial point of view, an enormous potential to develop better services



### EUROPEAN CONCERN

- ☐ The term 'disability' can mean different things to different people
- ☐ These differences are heightened when we consider the cultural context in which people are living.
- ☐ The way in which disability is defined and understood has implications for how people with disabilities are treated



# EUROPEAN CONCERN

Camping entrance with no ramp!

- It is well known that an expected general agreement to vindicate the status of the disabled in Europe has not yet been reached.
- It is also known that services in camping sites, with the exception of very few, are not giving an attention up to standard for the disabled.
- Some holiday resorts show a total disregard on this matter



#### **EUROPEAN CONCERN**

- ➤ MHADIE Project (Measuring Health and disability in Europe)
- ➤ ICF (International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health)
- Thereby, both of them, providing a standardized and comparable means of collecting disability statistics.



## EUROPEAN CONCERN



- ➤ We can confirm that camping sites and Itinerant Tourism as whole are failing to attract an important part of disabled clients
- ➤ Mainly because companies haven't got appropriate criteria
- ➤ In general, they lack clear guidelines on this matter



#### Access

□ Every effort must be made to welcome and accommodate visitors with disabilities by having ramps for easy access

#### **Mobility:**

☐ Wheelchair assistance should be available.

#### **Toilets**

☐ Disabled facilities must also be available on different floors of a building



#### **Parking:**

- ☐Some disabled parking spaces should always be available by displaying a valid disabled badge
- □ It is important to make sure that parking places are ready; it could happen, from to time, that those parking spaces are used by someone else





- Ramps for disabled riders are a real necessity, but as well are important for baby pushchairs
- □ Again, this is a matter of 'law enforcement' by local authorities
- □ Even though we are not generalizing, campsite proprietors should realize that correct installations for the disabled can favour their business



- ☐ Installing a latch (with an easy push mechanism) in a door to make it accessible for the disabled is an important step forward
- ☐ Easy to install, will make life much simpler for the disabled





# WHAT CAN WE EXPECT IN THE FUTURE?

- ✓ Some countries in Europe are subsidizing companies when their business is adapted
- ✓ On the other hand, a number of entrepreneurs are realizing the business potential of this sector
- ✓ The proportion of people with disabilities in Europe is very high
- ✓ Therefore, a good design of future business structure is becoming very important



# CAMPSITES AND CAMPING ENTITIES

- ✓ Surely, for <u>the sake of quality and equality</u>, we must get involved in pushing forward a project where all camping entities can assume a compromise
- ✓ We need to encourage policies at national level, in each country, by approaching state authorities



### CAMPSITES AND CAMPING ENTITIES

- **❖** We are backed by 39 million disabled people in Europe alone.
- **❖ Just only consider 10% of that population practicing camping**
- ❖ It has been proved that camping is always a much better option for people with disabilities – is cheaper, gives them freedom and easier access which, after all, is their main object

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# THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION/ GRAZIE MILLE PER LA VOSTRA ATTENZIONE

José Iglesias González

F.I.C.C. Council Member

Fédération Internationale de Camping et de Caravanning

