Press Conferences on COVID-19

Around the World

With Interpretation into National Sign Languages

The World Federation of the Deaf would like to share some examples of good practice around the world.

Press Conference for COVID-19 in Beijing, China, 15 March 2020

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Key points:

• In all situations it is critical that professional sign language interpreters or translators with national-level qualifications are hired.

• Information should be available through all media channels and on all platforms. If the sign language version is only available through some channels (i.e. narrowcast), or only through web-based platforms, there is a risk that deaf people will miss out on crucial updates at critical times.

• An interpreter should be physically present and visible on camera alongside whomever is speaking in making new announcements. This will ensure deaf people can access information through a variety of media outlets as other members of the public do.

2. The interpreter should be displayed in the full screen image at all times, with no text or graphics covering the interpreter.

3. Broadcasts may be multiplatform but should always be broadcast on the main public TV channels to ensure easy access for a wide audience.

Live (Special) News broadcasts with interpreter in studio:

1. Positioning and size of the interpreter:
   a. Preferred: on screen placement of the interpreter (using chromakey / green screen), size of interpreter inset should at least be half of the screen.
   b. Alternative: interpreter is placed in a box filling 25% of the screen, separate from the actual image of the screen.

2. Broadcasts should be multiplatform but should always at least be provided on the main public TV channels to ensure easy access for a wide audience.

Guidelines on Providing Access to Public Health Information in National Sign Languages during the Coronavirus Pandemic

More than 70 million deaf people throughout the world have the right to access information in their national sign languages on the Coronavirus Pandemic.

18 March 2020 | Click here for International Sign version

In this document we outline best practices for providing sign language access in different contexts.
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PARAGUAY (President)

PARAGUAY (Minister of Health)

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UNITED KINGDOM

SWEDEN

UNITED KINGDOM
The Guidelines are drawn from the
WFD/WASLI Guidelines on Providing Access to Public Health Information During the Coronavirus Pandemic.

For more information please go to http://wfdeaf.org/coronavirus/