

Calendar for the first cycle of the review and appraisal¹

2006

(a) The Commission for Social Development decides on the timing, modalities and theme for the first cycle of the review and appraisal;

(b) Member States receive practical guidelines for the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action prepared by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in consultation with the regional commissions and programmes and agencies of the United Nations system. As a first step, Member States will indicate their priorities for review and appraisal and undertake an “instrumental” assessment, including identifying laws and implementing regulations, institutions, policies and programmes introduced or altered since 2002 in response to the Madrid Plan of Action. Countries will also recall national priorities and review the national ageing situation. As a result, each country will have identified for itself specific areas for in-depth participatory inquiries using the bottom-up approach. They would present this information to the Commission for Social Development in 2007;

(c) The Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations system will work jointly to promote awareness of the bottom-up approach and familiarity with the guidelines, to assist countries in beginning the process;

(d) Regional commissions, at their governing bodies, will undertake an initial regional assessment of the ageing situation based on country reports on the accomplishments of national plans of action on ageing and submit their findings to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs for inclusion in a report of the Secretary-General to the Commission for Social Development;

2007

(a) The Commission for Social Development will mark the fifth anniversary of the Second World Assembly on Ageing. The Secretary-General will submit to the Commission a report on major developments in the area of ageing since the Second World Assembly (report on the world ageing situation), which could include short regional contributions (regional ageing situations) by the regional commissions. Member States will inform the Commission about the actions they have taken since the Second World Assembly to implement the Madrid Plan of Action (for example, new laws, policies and programmes, the establishment of coordinating mechanisms and information campaigns) and exchange information on which area each country will determine for itself to evaluate using a bottom-up participatory approach;

¹ Report of the Secretary-General E/CN.5/2006/2

(b) National and regional processes of review and appraisal will begin. Countries will review and appraise the national policies and strategies that they identified. Information on the initial experience and good practices in organizing and conducting bottom-up participatory evaluation at the local and national levels will also be collected, analysed and presented to the regional commissions;

(c) Upon request, the regional commissions, in cooperation with other entities, will assist countries in conducting their national review and appraisals and encourage participatory approaches to the process;

(d) Regional commissions will convene regional conferences (pending the availability of sufficient resources) to consider the findings of national reviews, share experiences and good practices and identify priorities for future action. The commissions will submit the conclusions of the meetings and individual national reports to the Commission for Social Development in 2008;

2008

The Commission for Social Development, at its forty-sixth session in February 2008, will conduct the global segment of the first cycle of the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action. The modalities of this segment could include a series of plenary meetings or deliberations of a series of round tables. An outcome document could include the conclusions of the first review and appraisal exercise along with the identification of prevalent and emerging issues and related policy options. A series of parallel events, including panels, workshops and seminars organized by all major stakeholders will be conducted, including the presentation of findings of independent monitoring projects.