



TECHNICAL MEETING TO FOLLOW UP ON THE INTERNATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION ON AGEING IN MADRID

Segovia, 15th and 16th November 2006

Proposal for thematic content:

Older persons faced with loneliness and insufficient economic resources.

Explanation:

The welfare of the elderly essentially depends on the availability of the necessary economic resources in order to maintain a decent standard of living and continue having the capacity to decide on their own lives.

As well as security in receiving the resources, there is another factor that is often present and which conditions the participation of the elderly in society: their loneliness.

The profile of the older persons that lives alone is associated to women in a high percentage. However, nowadays the fact that women have joined the work market, the new forms of co-existence and family and geographical mobility, among other causes, have led to different situations of loneliness that can ultimately increase isolation, the lack of necessary socio-sanitary care and early weakening of those who might otherwise be fully incorporated in their environment.

Aspects to be dealt with during the meeting for follow-up on progress made:

- Identification of this most vulnerable group:
 - According to sex
 - According to age brackets, starting at 60 years old
 - According to income levels
 - According to whether they belong to a particular race or ethnic minority.

- Elements that hinder the life of these more vulnerable older persons in rural areas. Two aspects to be dealt with: improvement of infrastructure and the role of social community networks.

- Active ageing programmes: Instruments that can stimulate the social integration of the elderly and improve their living conditions.

- Older persons living alone and without sufficient economic resources: how do they meet their needs of goods and services? Social protection levels.

- Effective protection of these people's rights: do they know their rights? Do they exercise their rights?

Proposals for presentations in order to develop these subjects further:

- DESA / UNECE – Presentation of the data available on this group, emphasising the most notable aspects (both positive and negative).

- Networks: The role they play, how they work and what response they obtain from their members. Examples of best practices.

- The economic perspective: Analysis of the social protection mechanisms at the lowest protection levels and how they complement the social services: Coordination between the various social security / healthcare / dependency services.

- The local dimension: how the Public Administrations are vertebrated to respond to needs on a fast, efficacious and efficient basis.

- Examples of best practices in the field of active ageing:
 - Healthy ageing
 - Education / training to facilitate the transition from active life to retirement.
 - Dissemination of the rights of the elderly and how to exercise these rights.
 - Multiple discrimination: how to combat it and heighten social awareness that these problems do not affect exclusively those that suffer directly, but affect the entire society.

WORK SCHEDULE

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AFTERNOON SCHEDULE:

Commencement of technical meeting.

16.00 – 16.15 Formal opening and course of the meeting.

Courtesy of: Mr. Angel Rodríguez Castedo,
General Director of the IMSERSO

16.15 – 17.45 *Factors that identify the situation of the elderly that live alone and lack sufficient resources.*
Presentation of the most revealing indicators..

Courtesy of:

- Mr. Andres Vikat United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- Mr. . Asghar Zaidi, European Centre, Vienna
- Mrs. Dolores Puga, Spanish Higher Council of Scientific Research..
- Mrs. Helen Hamlin IFA

17.45 – 18.15 *The down-up approach.*
Methodology according to the down-up approach:
Its efficacy and the importance of always maintaining feedback between the various decision-making and participation levels.

Courtesy of:

- Mr. Alexander Sidorenko. DESA- UN
- Mr. Eduardo Rodríguez Rovira CEOMA

18.15 . 18.30 Debate.

16th November 2006

MORNING SCHEDULE:

09.00 – 10.30 **FIRST ROUND TABLE:**
"Preventing loneliness and lack of resources"

Speakers:

- Dr. Ramona Rubio Herrera. Chair of Psychogerontology. University of Cartuja. (Granada)
- Mrs. Ana Isabel Lima Fernández, Spain.
- Mr. Antonio Martínez Maroto and Mr. Carlos Mirete Valmala (IMSERSO-CSIC)
- Mr. Giovanni Lamura, CARMA Programme. Italy.
- Mrs. Angeles Martín Quirós. "Minority Elderly Care Planexcel".

Chair and moderator: Mr. Antonio Martínez Maroto

10.30 – 10.45 Coffee Break

10.45 – 12.15 **SECOND ROUND TABLE:**
"Exercising rights against discrimination"

Speakers:

- Astrid Struckelberger, University of Geneva.
- Mr. Fernando Olivan Lawyers' Association. Not
- Mr. Antonio Jiménez Lara. Sociologist
- Mr. Javier Gómez Pavón. Geriatrician. Spanish Society of Geriatrics and Gerontology.
- Mr. Albert Magarian FIAPA / DAPHNE Project

Chair and moderator: Mr. Antonio Jiménez Lara

112.15 - 13.30 **THIRD ROUND TABLE:**
***“Extending social protection mechanisms
against acts of discrimination ”***

Speakers:

- Mrs. Margarita García Durá. Pensioners' Association UDP *Democratic Union of Pensioners*.
- Mrs. Rocío Fernández Ballesteros. Chair of Psychobiology. Autonomous University of Madrid.
- Mrs. Rachel Buchanan, AGE,

Chair and moderator: Mrs. Rocío Fernández Ballesteros

13.30 – 14.00 Presentation of summary of conclusions, highlighting the data that may be of help in the process of revision of the MIPAA at hand.

14.00 Closure courtesy of Mr. Ignacio Robles, General Secretary of IMSERSO.

14.15 Buffet luncheon to close the meeting.

Explanatory note on the duration and format of presentations:

Presentations shall be sent in advance to the Organisation, in order that they may be translated and handed to attendants during the meeting. Deadline: November, 7, 2006.

Speakers are requested to send a brief description of their most relevant personal and professional data