

Summary

1 Opening and adoption of the agenda	<p>After the opening by the Chair, the Senior Advisor to the Executive Secretary of the UNECE, Mr Patrice Robineau, welcomed the participants on behalf of the Executive Secretary.</p> <p>The meeting adopted the agenda (ECE/AC.30/2007/1).</p>
2 Summary of the outcome of the bureau meeting of the previous day	<p>The major issues regarding the declaration considered in the bureau meeting of 8 October included</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the importance of preparing a short declaration; 2) the incorporation of concepts and terms such as ‘intergenerational solidarity’, ‘active ageing’, ‘discrimination’, ‘poverty’ ‘gender’, ‘social changes’ in the declaration; 3) an agreement that the focus should remain on life course as a whole rather than on older persons specifically. <p>The composition and number of delegates to be present at the conference was also discussed, as well as the organization of panel discussions.</p>
3 Overview of preparations to the conference	<p>The secretariat (Mr Andres Vikat) provided a brief overview of the preparatory process. There was a discussion of side events, efforts made since MIPAA especially by NGOs and registration matters. Significant discussion of the power balance between NGOs and governments were made.</p> <p>After discussing the organizations of the ministerial panels, the meeting agreed that the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson of the Conference will chair the ministerial panels.</p>
4 Drafting of the ministerial declaration	<p>The secretariat provided an overall comment on the declaration. It announced that an extended version of the summary report of the country reports will be published after the Conference.</p> <p>After a break, rewording and editing of declaration began. Comments were thoroughly made point by point, covering paragraphs 1 to 15. Since the meeting did not complete discussing the Draft Version 2, the deadline of 12 October was fixed for sending comments for paragraphs 16 and above. The Secretariat explained that a new version of the declaration is distributed on the 22 October. Until 29 October, all members of the Preparatory Committee can submit written comments on that version. This will facilitate the meeting on 5 November, which is the last one scheduled before presenting the draft to ministers.</p> <p>The bureau took note of the valuable organizational and substantive input from the participating member States and NGOs. Of the discussed paragraphs (1-15), the delegations present at the meeting agreed on paragraphs 1, 3-9, 13 and 15. Some member States notified the bureau that experts from capitals would need to be consulted before finally agreeing on any change to the text. Further comments or edits were expected to paragraphs 2, 10, 11, 12, 14.</p>
5 Agenda of the 2 nd meeting of the Preparatory Committee, León, 5 November	<p>The meeting agreed with the provisional agenda as proposed by the secretariat.</p>