

**Third meeting Working Group on Ageing,
Provisional Agenda
Item 4, para 21**

Concept Note by Austria for Ministerial Conference on Ageing 2012 in Vienna

Entries

- **Theme of the Second review and appraisal (2nd R&A) as adopted by the Commission for Social Development (E/CN.5/2010/L.6):**

Full implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing: social situation, wellbeing and dignity, development and the full realization of all human rights for older persons

- **Themes proposed in the UNECE Note of the Secretariat (ECE/WG.1/2010/5)**

- *Ageing in dignity: well-being, participation, and human rights;*
- *Harmonizing population ageing and societal development;*
- *Active ageing: well-being, integration, and participation.*

- **Proposal by Austria**

- a. General theme of the Conference:

- ***Towards a society for all ages:
Ensuring quality of life, promoting active ageing***

- a. Purpose and objectives

Purpose: the conference is supposed to be the concluding event and highlight of the second review & appraisal process of MIPAA-RIS, a celebration of its tenth anniversary and at the same time marking 30 years after the first global conference on Ageing in Vienna in 1982.

Simultaneously its vision and messages should motivate member states to further strengthening the process of implementation.

Objectives

- Review and appraisal of the implementation-process
- Exchange and sharing of experience and knowledge
- Including civil society and researchers
- Reflections and conclusions on past successes and future challenges

c. Duration: 2 days

Following the format of the Ministerial Conference on Ageing 2007, the 2012 Conference will include a plenary segment, a panel segment and a ministerial segment. Their length will be subject to available resources and the decision of the Working Group on Ageing.

Satellite events will be a forum for NGOs and a researcher`s forum on the first day.

- **1st conference day – morning session**
- Opening with official addresses
- UNECE Review and appraisal report
- General discussion

- **1st conference day – afternoon session**
- First expert panel: “Living longer: Promoting employability of older persons”
 - Has a deeper understanding been developed of the continuing gains in longevity as an important achievement to our societies , while being aware of the considerable differences in pace of ageing process among member states?
 - How do our societies deal with the adaption of the work environments to the ageing workforce, which includes flexible life course transitions among education and flexible retirement schemes?
 - Which measures strengthened health and social protection to provide the foundation for a longer working life and subsequently a higher employment rate?
 - Which measures have we been setting to acknowledge the contribution of an older work force to greater productivity and economic growth?
 - Are our societies willing to face age discrimination and to remove obstacles and disincentives to extend active working life?
 - Have all these measures been implemented to simultaneously contributing to tackle poverty among older persons?
- Second expert panel: “Creating an enabling environment for health, independence and participation in society”
 - Which measures succeeded in strengthening preventive health policy strategies: eg promoting healthy working conditions and life styles?
 - and participative life styles, in creating possibilities for civic and voluntary engagement?
 - What have been societal contributions on different levels to enable older people to live independently, experience longer life spans free from disability and making more use of information- and communication technologies?
 - How are our societies nowadays dealing with protection from elder abuse and neglect? And so taking care of older people`s dignity and human rights?
 - In which ways do our societies progress in supporting older persons and their families in need of long term care? Are sustainability and standards in quality of social and care services and provisions aimed at?
 - How are our societies dealing with old age related diseases - within the professional sector and in society in general? How is cross sectoral cooperation in research common state of art?

- **2nd conference day – morning session**

- Panel discussion between government representatives and civil society representatives:
“Stimulating intergenerational dialogue and solidarity between the generations: a shared responsibility”
 - How intensely are positive and realistic images of ageing and older people promoted in the education system and the media? What has changed?
 - How much has public awareness raised in relation to the potentials and contributions of the different generations?
 - In which ways do societies support older people, as well as all generations, to realize the power of life long learning and its vital role for active participation and inclusion?
 - Which measures have been initiated to promoting intergenerational solidarity as one of the important pillars of social cohesion?
 - Which initiatives raise public awareness of the potential of the young people and of older persons and promote the understanding of ageing and intergenerational solidarity
 - How effective have been family friendly policies aiming at reconciliation of work and family life for responsibilities for dependent relatives?
- First Ministerial panel:
“Strategies to promote active ageing and participation of older persons”
- **2nd conference day – afternoon session**
- Second Ministerial panel:
“Policies and effective measures to improve the quality of life of citizens at all ages”
- Presentation of the Ministerial Declaration with priorities for the further implementation of the UNECE RIS/MIPAA
- Presentation of the declarations of the NGO and the scientific communities
- Closing addresses
- **Content and organisation of the preparatory process**

A political declaration as the result of the conference would ensure the necessary political support and motivation for further policy action on ageing in the region and assist Member States in selecting future priorities.

A declaration containing a “new message” would be drafted before the conference for adoption at its ministerial segment.

Planning, organizing and carrying out of the preparatory process should be the task of the Working Group on Ageing, functioning as the preparatory committee and its secretariat and bureau, as the drafting group of the ministerial declaration.

Tentative calendar

Time	Activity	Implementing agent(s)
February 2010	Adoption of the global calendar for MIPAA review and appraisal	UN Commission for Social Development
May 2010	First discussion of review and appraisal modalities in the UNECE region	Bureau of the UNECE Working Group on Ageing
November 2010	Agreement on the modality of reporting on the implementation of MIPAA/RIS by member States	UNECE Working Group on Ageing
March 2011	Finalizing of Reporting Guidelines	Bureau of the Working Group
April 2011	Transmission of Reporting Guidelines to the member States	UNECE secretariat ECV
October 2011	Implementation reports provided to the UNECE secretariat	Governments of member States
November 2011	Initial review of the reporting process and decision on the format of the synthetic report	Working Group on Ageing
February 2012	Synthetic report and the proposed political conclusions	UNECE secretariat, ECV
March 2012	First draft of the declaration discussed	Drafting group/Bureau of the UNECE Working Group on Ageing
March-June 2012	Negotiation of the declaration	UNECE Working Group on Ageing
September 2012	Conference, adoption of the declaration	Austria, UNECE