

Statement from the United States for the Record:  
UNECE Tenth Meeting of the Working Group on Ageing, 23 - 24 November 2017

- The United States regrets we cannot attend this meeting, but would like to submit the following statement for the record to the Chair of the UNECE Working Group on Ageing.
- As this meeting of the Working Group discusses plans for the fourth review and appraisal cycle of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, we would like to share an update regarding the unwavering commitment of the U.S. to uphold the goals and recommendations of MIPAA.
- We are pleased to share with the Working Group the news of the appointment of Lance Robertson as Assistant Secretary for Aging and Administrator for Community Living, of the Administration for Community Living (ACL), part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- As Assistant Secretary for Aging and Administrator for Community Living of ACL, Mr. Robertson oversees the work of the federal government to fund, support, and collaborate with the national network of aging services providers, and home and community-based services to work with persons with disabilities, their families and caregiver across the lifespan.
- Assistant Secretary Robertson, in his Congressional confirmation hearing, outlined his priorities for leadership of ACL, which align well with the objectives of MIPAA. They are:
  - Supporting families and caregivers;
  - Improving access to information to consumers (older adults, persons with disabilities, and their families) about the services available to them through the national network of federally-funded aging and disability supports;
  - Improving business acumen for community-based organizations, to support the long-term financial sustainability of locally-operated services and programs that work with older adults and persons with disabilities in their homes and neighborhoods to promote their independence, health, and ability to contribute to society; and,
  - Elder Justice: a commitment to protecting rights and preventing abuse of older persons and persons with disabilities across the lifespan.
- Assistant Secretary Robertson is proud to maintain the momentum in advancing the rights of older persons through increased attention to the problem of elder abuse achieved in the U.S. in recent years.
- Ensuring every older person lives out their lives with dignity, respect, and safety, is a bipartisan goal and a priority for this administration. The U.S. remains enthusiastically engaged in the work of the UNECE Working Group on Ageing, as well as with other

global partners, to promote the vision enshrined in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Aging.

- Thank you for the opportunity to add to the record.