**QUESTIONNAIRE**

Human Rights Council resolution 24/20 requested the United Nations Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons to **assess the human rights implications of the** [implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing](http://www.unece.org/population/mipaa.html) (MIPAA).

MIPAA was adopted at the Second World Assembly on Ageing in 2002. It requires that States take measures to address ageing in order to achieve a society for all ages and calls for the mainstreaming of ageing into national and global development agendas. It also contains recommendations for action focused on three priority areas: (i) older persons and development; (ii) advancing health and well-being into old age; and (iii) ensuring enabling and supportive environments, which are divided into specific issues, objectives and actions.

The Independent Expert prepared the questionnaire below with the objective to collect information about whether the implementation of MIPAA has enhanced the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons or whether it has had a negative impact and which rights have been affected. It also seeks to identify good practices and challenges encountered by Member States regarding the promotion and protection of all human rights by older persons in the implementation of MIPAA.

All information collected is intended to help the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons to elaborate her comprehensive report that will be presented to the Human Rights Council in September 2016.

NOTE FROM AGE:

The questionnaire can be completed in English, French or Spanish. **AGE plans to send a comprehensive response based on our members’ submissions so we would like to receive your input by 31st May** in order to compile a single document. If you wish you can also send directly your responses to the Independent Expert at olderpersons@ohchr.org. Kindly indicate whether you have any objection for the responses provided to be made available on the OHCHR website of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons.

To help in your preparation you can refer to your country’s report for the review of the MIPAA in 2012 (if your government has submitted one): <http://www.unece.org/pau/age/mica2011/country_reports_2012.html>. These reports describe the policies your country has adopted to implement the MIPAA until 2012. You are also advised to contact your Ministries to find out what they are doing to apply the MIPAA in your country.

In case you don’t have answers to all the below question, it would still be useful to let us know whether older people have been consulted and aware of the MIPAA and if you have witnessed any change as a result of the MIPAA.

For more information you may contact Nena Georgantzi, nena.georgantzi@age-platform.eu

**Question 1:**

**What is the role of your organization? Do you participate in MIPAA implementation or monitoring thereof?**

**Our organisation is Christian Democrats Senior association and we are not a formal part of MIPAA implementation, but we are interested as an organisation aim to promote political development of seniors.**

**Question 2:**

**Has a human rights-based approach been integrated in the implementation framework of MIPAA in your country and if so, how did this translate into concrete policies and normative actions? Are there any mechanisms to monitor and assess the impact of MIPAA implementation on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons?**

*Please include information on existing data, legislations, policies, programmes and institutional mechanisms and resources allocated to respect, protect and fulfill all human rights of older persons through the implementation of MIPAA. Please provide references and copies/ translation of relevant instruments[[1]](#footnote-2).*

**As we can see, there are no direct mechanism to implement human rights of the elderly. However, as you can se from the Swedish report (enclosed) there are initiatives in order to improve the situation for elderly in this areas. However, since the report was written, we have changed government to a left wing coalition. They have propose to omit all suggestions in the paper and replace it with only monetary subsidies to local authorities to employ more staff, with primary aim to recruit uneducated young people in order to reduce the numbers of unemployed. We expect this to reduce to actual implementation of MIPAA, since for example staff education, meal improvement, dementia research are intended to be abolished. We find this a step completely wrong direction, since a number of uneducated and often unmotivated people will be forced to care of the elderly and this is not in the interest of the disabled elderly! However, since the present government has a very weak base in the parlament, hopefully the previous suggestions of improving the care of the elderly will be put into action, though actions in the parliament.**

**Question 3:**

**Have the needs of specific groups of older persons been taken into consideration in the process of implementation of MIPAA and if so, how?**

*Please provide information about existing data, legislations, policies, programmes and institutional mechanisms, and resources allocated regarding the protection and promotion of the rights of older women, persons with disabilities, persons of African descent, individuals belonging to indigenous peoples, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, rural persons, persons living on the streets and refugees, among other groups. Please provide references and copies/translation of relevant instruments.*

**As mentioned, the situation of people with dementia disorders, was previously in focus, but is now replace with political intentions to reduce the numbers of unemployed.**

**Question 4:**

**Have older persons been informed about MIPAA and if so, how? How are older persons participating in the implementation of MIPAA including in decision-making about MIPAA implementation?**

*Please provide information about existing data, legislations, policies, programmes and institutional mechanisms and resources allocated that ensure the full and effective participation of older persons in decision-making regarding MIPAA implementation, assessment and follow-up. Please provide reference and copies/translation of adopted instruments.*

**As far as we can se, this has been done in a very little extent!**

**Question 5:**

**What impact has MIPAA implementation had on equality and non-discrimination of older persons?**

*Please provide information about existing data, legislations, policies, programmes and institutional mechanisms and resources allocated that ensure equality and non-discrimination. Please provide reference and copies/translation of adopted instrument*

**Not must if present governments suggestions will take place!**

**Question 6:**

**What impact has MIPAA implementation had on the fulfillment of the right of older persons to an adequate standard of living?**

*Please provide information about existing data, legislations, policies, programmes and institutional mechanisms and resources allocated that ensure the right of older persons to an adequate standard of living. Please provide reference and copies/translation of adopted instruments.*

**We think that it can be an excellent instrument if properly used!**

**Question 7:**

**Please provide examples of best practices from a human rights perspective in your country in the implementation, monitoring, review and appraisal of MIPAA.**

*Please explain why it is considered a best practice and provide concrete examples.*

**Se above!**

**Question 8:**

**Please provide information about the main challenges (such as institutional, structural and circumstantial obstacles) your country faces at the various levels of government (communal, provincial and national etc.) to fully respect, protect and fulfill the human rights of older persons in the implementation of MIPAA.**

*Please explain and provide concrete examples.*

*From our point of view, the most important challenges are to abandon the ’normality’ principles in the care of elderly. This principle do not allow elderly people to be sick and meet by solidarity; this is really problematic for elderly with Alzheimers disorder. They are today expected to themselves apply for care, and if care is not enough supplied, them self appeal in court to defend their need of care! This is an result of the 60-70ties principles of that mental hospital made people sick and the schizophrenia and Alzheimers disease would disappear if mental hospital was shut down(promoted by for example Ivan Illich), without any replacement than an apartment, where people with Alzheimer disease were supposed to live ’as normal people’ . A no sens idea in people with severe cognitive decline, they must be met by solidarity from other instead of regards as ’healty’ only in need of an apartment! The change of this basic assumption, now also implement in Swedish laws through ÄDEL, is the major challenge of the future for human rights and care of the elderly*

1. For instance regarding the right to health, including primary, long-term and palliative care services; the rights to work, to an adequate standard of living, including adequate food, clothing, housing, transportation; the right to social security and social protection, including poverty strategies; the right to education, training and life-long learning, including access to new technologies; the right to legal capacity and equal recognition before the law, care and support for caregivers, among others. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)