



Distr.
LIMITED
LC/L.3526
3 October 2012
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

**REPORT OF THE THIRD REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE
ON AGEING IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

San José, 8-11 May 2012



UNITED NATIONS



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A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Place and date of the meeting

1. The third Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in San José, from 8 to 11 May 2012.

Attendance

2. The Conference was attended by representatives of 19 States members of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean: Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

3. The meeting was also attended by a large number of panellists and special guests, whose names appear in the list of participants (see annex 3).

4. On behalf of the United Nations Secretariat, the meeting was attended by a representative of the Social Integration Branch of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

5. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) was represented at the meeting.

6. The following specialized agencies of the United Nations were also represented: International Labour Organization (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

7. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the Ibero-American Social Security Organization (OISS), Central American Institute for Public Administration (ICAP) and the Organization of American States (OAS).

8. Numerous non-governmental organizations, whose names appear in the list of participants, were also represented (see annex 3).

Chair and Rapporteur

9. The following officers were elected to preside over the third Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing:

<u>Chair:</u>	Costa Rica
<u>Vice-Chairs:</u>	Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Chile

B. AGENDA

10. The Conference adopted the following agenda:
 1. Election of officers.
 2. Adoption of the agenda.
 3. Report by the secretariat on the implementation of the Brasilia Declaration and the Regional strategy for the implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing.
 4. Statements by the countries.
 5. Thematic sessions on trends and emerging issues relating to ageing and social protection.
 6. High-level symposium on key actions for the implementation and follow-up of the Brasilia Declaration.
 7. Review and adoption of the agreements of the Conference.
 8. Other matters.

C. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Opening session

11. At the opening session, statements were made by Fernando Morales, Chair of the Governing Board of the National Council for Older Persons (CONAPAM) of Costa Rica; Marcela Suazo, Director of the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); Hugo Beteta, Director of the subregional headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Mexico; José Enrique Castillo Barrantes, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica; and Martín Monestel, Vice-President of the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica. Finally, Laura Chinchilla, President of Costa Rica, took the floor.

12. The Chair of the Governing Board of the National Council for Older Persons (CONAPAM) of Costa Rica said that the Conference would be an opportunity to review the achievements in implementing the commitments made in Brasilia in 2007, when countries had agreed to spare no effort to protect the human rights of older persons, eradicate age discrimination and create networks for the protection of older persons with a view to the effective exercise of their rights. It would also be an opportunity to determine key actions to strengthen the exercise of rights in old age over the next five years, build national capacities and tackle emerging issues, as well as a forum for dialogue on the realities of population ageing and the unprecedented, extremely pressing responsibilities of all social actors in the short- and medium terms.

13. In the first decade of the twenty-first century progress had been made in establishing legal frameworks for improving the living conditions of older persons, but it was essential to raise awareness of the fact that ageing issues should not be confined to current generations and that the budgetary resources that should be allocated to ageing should be consolidated on public agendas. He thanked ECLAC for choosing Costa Rica to host the Conference and acknowledged the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Health and Culture of Costa Rica. He called on all Latin American and Caribbean societies, authorities, families, young people, civil organizations, churches and the media to promote an image of ageing with dignity, eradicate abandonment, neglect and abuse, create solidarity networks for older persons, promote a more democratic society and encourage deeper integration between countries. Lastly, he thanked the President for her support in creating the progressive care network for the comprehensive care of older persons in Costa Rica.

14. The Director of the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) said that population ageing had a significant impact in the economic, family, social and political spheres. Improving the situation of older persons was a necessity and a challenge in view of the high ageing index resulting from changes in the population age structure. The challenge was to tackle this transformation through social cohesion, capacity for growth and intergenerational solidarity. Two trends had emerged simultaneously in Latin America and the Caribbean: increasing life expectancy and declining fertility. Older persons accounted for a larger proportion of the total population and currently represented one in every ten inhabitants. Older persons would soon account for 20% of the population. There were 9 million people over 80 years of age and 5 million over 85 years of age. A total of 106 million young people lived in Latin America and the Caribbean, which was the largest generation of young people in the region's history. Those young people would be the older persons of tomorrow. The ageing process was creating new demands on the health and care systems of Latin America and the Caribbean at a time when it had not resolved existing problems. Ageing also had a gender bias. Given that women usually lived longer than men and their partners tended to be older, they were more likely to be alone, more numerous in the informal labour market and more prone to disability. As a result, they constituted a vulnerable group.

15. Since 2007, UNFPA in conjunction with ECLAC had been providing technical support for the Governments of the region to promote the drafting of a convention on the rights of older persons. Economic growth on the continent had not resulted in the elimination of inequalities or solved existing problems, but efforts were being made to create a more inclusive society in which older persons could exercise their rights. It was therefore essential to raise awareness among decision makers of the importance of considering demographic changes so that access to rights did not have an age limit in practice.

16. The Director of the subregional headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Mexico said that the Brasilia Declaration had had an extraordinary impact on the treatment of ageing and the situation of older persons in the region and worldwide. Countries had promoted the creation of the United Nations Open-ended Working Group on Ageing established by the General Assembly in 2010 and were working to reach an inter-American consensus that would culminate in the adoption of a convention on the rights of older persons in the context of the Organization of American States (OAS). The progress made since Brasilia was a starting point for tackling the challenges posed by demographic changes. The region was entering a new era in the sense that its population structure had changed from being very young to increasingly old. The shift would take place much more quickly in Latin America and the Caribbean, where the number of older persons compared with the number of young persons under 15 years of age would exceed all expectations. The current ratio would be reversed, which would result in different needs emerging and require a rechanneling of available

resources. Paying more attention to older persons was a priority, but it was also necessary to create the conditions that would enable older persons to become a force for development instead of mere recipients of assistance.

17. The region had demonstrated its capacity to overcome challenges. It had reduced the number of persons living in poverty and extreme poverty, but was still plagued by persistent inequalities. In old age, inequalities were reflected in the lack of access to quality health services and pensions, which had resulted in excessive demands on families and an unfair burden on women compared to men. In addition, the institutional capacity to overcome these difficulties was limited and the region lacked the appropriate mechanisms to enforce rights. As a result, it was urgent that a new regional consensus was reached to overcome the limitations and move from commitment to action. Countries needed to move towards greater equality and protection for all inhabitants regardless of age, join forces and strengthen horizontal cooperation. The speaker concluded by acknowledging the significant contribution that the President of Costa Rica had made in incorporating social services on the social protection and ageing agenda and reiterated that ECLAC was willing to help delegations in moving forward on the course set at the Conference, so that the outcome of the Conference would have the same impact as the Brasilia Declaration.

18. The Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica said that protecting vulnerable populations constituted a pillar of his country's foreign policy and that Costa Rica therefore supported the conclusions of the report on human rights and extreme poverty and the appointment of a special rapporteur to ensure the promotion and protection of the human rights of older persons. Costa Rica had a history of high standards of human development and had established a committee to monitor and implement human rights instruments in conjunction with public institutions in order to focus efforts and comply with the commitments made in the various international instruments relating to protection measures. In addition, a plan on combating racism and racial discrimination would be presented soon in order to address issues affecting specific populations.

19. In its efforts to comply with international obligations, Costa Rica believed that major decisions should be taken not only by politicians but also with the participation of the social bases. The country supported the negotiations taking place in the context of the Organization of American States on a convention on the rights of older persons, which would constitute progress in reaffirming respect for the rights of older persons and their enjoyment. The Minister hoped that the convention would be supported by all countries and adopted soon. Lastly, Costa Rica supported the work of the United Nations Open-ended Working Group on Ageing established by the General Assembly and welcomed the agreements that would be adopted at the Conference, given that they would provide clear direction in the efforts to establish a network for the protection of older persons and ensure the effective exercise of their rights throughout the region.

20. The Vice-President of the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica said that, given the irreversible reality of population ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean, it was essential to move forward at a quicker pace and take steps to strengthen the legislation in force in each country. The solidarity shown in Costa Rica was reflected in the promulgation of legislation on older persons and the creation of the National Council for Older Persons (CONAPAM) as the governing body entrusted with the task of promoting non-discriminatory treatment of older persons. Such measures should be strengthened. To that end, the Legislative Assembly was pushing for the complete institutional and financial autonomy of CONAPAM and supported the appointment of a special rapporteur responsible for promoting and protecting the rights of older persons within the United Nations Human Rights Council.

21. The speaker expressed the hope that the Conference would be a success for all delegations, especially given that all countries were ageing and the impact of that trend created major challenges. Tackling those challenges required solidarity, the acceptance of commitments and responsibilities and the promotion of good practices.

22. The President of Costa Rica said that the Conference was the best recognition possible for a country that had reached the peak of its human development and was promoting the older persons agenda. She highlighted the work carried out by CONAPAM and the achievements of the progressive care network for the comprehensive care of older persons, which had achieved its initial goals ahead of schedule.

23. In view of the transformation taking place in the countries of the region, States needed to embrace the principle of solidarity and give support to families. Costa Rica was on the right path given that it had not only been raising concern for the comprehensive care of older persons but also building up a wealth of successful experiences of care for this sector of the population. Despite fiscal constraints, the country was approaching 100% coverage of the indigent population, but lacked a solidarity support network that would enable their needs to be addressed in a comprehensive manner. Increased support and resources were needed but the President was confident that Costa Rica would achieve those goals.

24. Society was committed to joining the crusade. It was important that every participant at the Conference wholeheartedly conveyed the message that Latin America and the Caribbean had a legacy to protect given that older persons passed on the values of society. The purpose of the Conference was not only to honour the legacy created by older persons in Costa Rica but also to work towards a better future for the entire region. In short, the time had come to be farsighted, adopt a solidarity approach and do things well.

Work

Report by the secretariat on the implementation of the Brasilia Declaration and the Regional strategy for the implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (agenda item 3)

25. The Chief of the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC presented the document “Ageing, solidarity and social protection: time for progress towards equality”.¹ The report presented sociodemographic data on older persons, as well as information on public policies and the legal and institutional frameworks in Latin America and the Caribbean. In the first part of his presentation the speaker referred to the mandate established in the Brasilia Declaration. Two articles of the Brasilia Declaration —25 and 26— focused on the subsequent work of States beyond their borders by pointing out the need to appoint a special rapporteur within the United Nations Human Rights Council and draft a United Nations convention on the rights of older persons.

26. The report also indicated that older persons in the region would outnumber the number of children for the first time in 2036, that women were in the majority among older persons, that the older adult population was ageing internally and that, by 2050, the region could have aged as much as developed regions had already aged. As a result, the supply of goods and services needed to be increased in order to meet the demand generated by that reality.

¹ LC/L.3451(CRE.3/3).

27. The speaker also mentioned the situation of older persons in terms of social security and health, as well as the institutional and legal frameworks in place. The main challenges identified in those areas were social security restrictions, new demands for health care and other types of care, public institution shortcomings and limited institutional and citizen guarantees. Social protection needed to be adapted to the context of ageing, which meant integrating the three basic pillars: a minimum pension that provided income security for older persons; guaranteed basic health care; and the supply of social services to foster autonomy in old age. The three pillars acted in concert to close gaps in protection and build capacities.

Presentation of the conclusions of the subregional report on the implementation of the Brasilia Declaration in the Caribbean

28. The Population Affairs Officer at the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean referred to a study carried out in the Caribbean to assess the measures adopted by countries to implement the Brasilia Declaration and determine the priorities for future action. The report gave an overview of the situation of Caribbean countries in 18 policy areas relevant to older persons, which showed that the most progress had been made in the areas of social security, equitable access to health services, training for health workers, social services and support for carers.

29. The report had identified the following priorities for future action: establishing legislation to protect the human rights of older persons and combat discrimination, abuse and violence; strengthening social security and care services; improving home-care services so that older persons could remain in their own homes; ensuring equitable access to health services; and access to decent work, public spaces, transport, housing and continuous learning, among others.

30. Examples of best practice in the Caribbean included several innovative initiatives in the Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago.

Conclusions of the Regional Meeting of civil society organizations on ageing. Madrid+10: from plan to action

31. The member of the Advisory Forum of the National Council for Older Persons (CONAPAM) of Costa Rica read out the Declaration of civil society on ageing, which had been adopted at the Regional Meeting of civil society organizations on ageing: Madrid +10: from plan to action, held in Tres Ríos (Costa Rica). In the Declaration, Governments and States were urged to take concrete steps in favour of older persons in the area of public policies. It was hoped that the Declaration would be included on the public agendas of Governments as a contribution to the efforts to promote the well-being of older persons.

32. The Vice-President of the Inter-institutional Centre for Collaboration with Older Adults (CICAM) of Uruguay, read out the commitments made by civil society organizations in the Declaration, such as demanding respect for human rights and recognizing older persons as social actors, developing actions to promote the full exercise of the rights of older persons and promoting inclusion.

33. After the conclusions had been read out by the representatives of civil society, the ECLAC secretariat proposed that the entire Tres Ríos Declaration be included in the draft report of the Conference. The proposal was welcomed enthusiastically by the entire plenary (see annex 2).

Statements by countries on the progress made in implementing the Brasilia Declaration (agenda item 4)

34. Statements on the main achievements in implementing the Brasilia Declaration were made by representatives of the following countries: Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

35. All the representatives who took the floor said that population ageing was a challenge in terms of formulating public policies but that it also constituted a challenge for families and society. All countries were ageing, albeit at different rates, which was creating new dilemmas for policymakers. In response to population ageing, most administrations had taken steps to strengthen the legal frameworks to protect older persons as individuals with rights and expand the coverage of social security and health-care systems. Many delegates mentioned the progress made in their countries in adopting a national policy on ageing based on international instruments, with an emphasis on promoting a healthy, active lifestyle in old age, ensuring financial security and an enabling environment and eliminating discrimination, abuse and ill-treatment of older persons.

36. The representative of Argentina pointed out that her country was the chair of both the United Nations Open-ended Working Group on Ageing and the Organization of American States Group, which had been given the mandate to draft an inter-American convention on the rights of older persons. With the leadership of Argentina, the United Nations General Assembly had adopted resolution 66/127 in which it decided to designate 15 June as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

37. Most delegations expressed their support for the work of the United Nations Working Group and the Organization of American States Group and urged both Groups to continue working to draft a convention to protect the rights of older persons. They also underlined the importance of appointing a special rapporteur within the Human Rights Council, given that it would help to improve the mechanisms for protecting rights in old age and strengthen measures targeting that population group.

38. The representative of Brazil gave a comprehensive overview of the country's legal system for protecting the rights of older persons and emphasized its importance in transforming public policies and clarifying the obligations of the State relating to older persons. The representative of Uruguay said that the heterogeneity of the older adult population should be taken into account and that the agenda should be widened to include factors such as the gender dimension, health status and sexual diversity.

39. The representative of Chile said that the direct, active participation of older persons was required, as active individuals determining their own future. The representative of Mexico said that, with regard to income security, Mexico had made progress at the federal level towards introducing a universal non-contributory pension and a programme to that end was being implemented by the Ministry of Social Development.

40. Some Caribbean delegates mentioned that progress had been made in their subregion but international assistance was needed to fully achieve the goals set. Other delegates pointed out that the aim was to promote and strengthen the State institutions that were responsible for protecting the rights of older persons.

Thematic session: Protecting the rights of older persons at the national, regional and global levels

41. The session was moderated by Juan Manuel Cordero González, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Security of Costa Rica. The panellists were Mónica Roqué, Director of the National Division for Policies for Older Persons of the National Secretariat for Childhood, Adolescence and Family, Ministry of Social Development of Argentina; Evelyn Jacir, Director of the Department of Social Development and Employment, Executive Secretariat for Integral Development of the Organization of American States (OAS); and Lupita Chaves, Member of the High Judicial Council and Coordinator of the issue of access to justice for the older adult population in the Commission for Accessibility of Costa Rica.

42. The Director of the National Division for Policies for Older Persons of the National Secretariat for Childhood, Adolescence and Family, Ministry of Social Development of Argentina, referred to articles 25 and 26 of the Brasilia Declaration and to the regional follow-up promoted by the ECLAC member countries. The meetings held in Rio de Janeiro in 2008 and Buenos Aires and Santiago in 2009, together with the subregional meetings held in El Salvador and Argentina in 2010, had resulted in a regional consensus which had facilitated the creation of the United Nations Working Group. The two sessions of the Working Group held in 2011 had shown that the rights of older persons were invisible, implementation of the international instruments for their protection was patchy and limited, their situation was not followed up adequately by the treaty bodies and there was a lack of information on these issues. Lastly, a convention would enable States to clarify their obligations relating to older persons, promote the participation of organizations that represented older persons in decision-making and encourage the adoption of a human rights-based approach in the policies and programmes implemented for older persons.

43. The Director of the Department of Social Development and Employment, Executive Secretariat for Integral Development of the Organization of American States (OAS) spoke about the rights of older persons in the context of OAS. She reiterated that older persons constituted a particularly vulnerable social group and, after analysing the international legal framework, said that provisions that could be used in favour of older persons existed but were not applied. The Organization of American States was making substantial efforts to overcome those difficulties and the issue had been the subject of resolutions adopted by its General Assembly since 2009. The Working Group on the human rights of older persons had completed two work stages. The first had been to carry out an assessment of the situation of older persons in the hemisphere and the second had been to draw up a draft inter-American convention on the rights of older persons. In conclusion, it was necessary to make progress without delay in promoting and disseminating the issue throughout the Americas. The hemispheric process was complemented by the international process promoted by the United Nations and countries should continue working to strengthen the legal protection of older persons by means of a legally binding treaty.

44. The Member of the High Judicial Council and Coordinator of the issue of access to justice for the older adult population in the Commission for Accessibility of Costa Rica spoke about Costa Rican public policy on guaranteeing access to justice for older persons. Work was being carried out by the Commission for Accessibility of the Judiciary, whose aims were to highlight the obstacles and barriers faced by older persons in accessing the administration of justice, achieve effective access to justice for vulnerable populations and promote public policies and actions designed to guarantee the inalienable human right of access to justice for all age groups. The judiciary had designed a specific management model for all judicial proceedings which involved an older person. The procedure included clearly identifiable covers for court records concerning older persons, the obligation to provide a special guichet for older persons in offices, submission of a special card containing information on the case to facilitate follow-up, a computerized alert system to speed up the processing of cases and the generation of statistics to monitor policy implementation and follow-up.

Thematic session: Building public institutions for the current sociodemographic environment

45. The session was moderated by Sonia Montaña, Director of the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC. The panellists were Víctor Abramovich, Executive Secretary of the MERCOSUR Institute of Public Policy on Human Rights (IPPDH); Sandra Huenchuan, Specialist in ageing, Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC; and Adriana Rovira, Director of the National Institute for Older Adults (INMAYORES) of Uruguay.

46. The Executive Secretary of the MERCOSUR Institute of Public Policy on Human Rights (IPPDH) said that it was important that an international convention on the protection of the rights of older persons was drafted and mentioned the effects of a convention at the national level, especially in terms of public institutions in the broad sense. The effects included regulatory harmonization, the development of rights-based public policies and the generation of case law. The speaker also mentioned the obligations of States relating to older persons and how those obligations should be reflected in effective actions. He identified some of the main legal points that should be included in an international convention, including the right to equality and non-discrimination, the right to social security in the broad sense, the duty to protect based on the principle of due diligence (especially in relation to institutions) and access to justice.

47. The Specialist in ageing, Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC said that public institutions for older persons had been created in the region as a result of political consensus and that institutions helped to increase the visibility of the issue of old age and ageing on the public agenda and establish channels for the participation of older persons and civil society by acting as an interlocutor in political dialogue. Numerous difficulties were still being faced in the efforts to consolidate institutions for older persons in the region, but the fact that such institutions existed was a good starting point. The bodies that already existed varied in terms of their institutional ties, hierarchy, autonomy and functions, but many of them provided direct services to the older adult population. The challenges included achieving institutional and budgetary autonomy, establishing sufficient institutional hierarchy, providing training for personnel, standardizing procedures, carrying out periodic evaluations of the work of institutions and mainstreaming the issue.

48. The Director of the National Institute for Older Adults (INMAYORES) of Uruguay referred to a number of areas that needed to be strengthened in the institutions that existed for older persons. The areas mentioned included the lack of adequate mechanisms for social participation, which had given rise to political lobbying concentrated among power groups; the trend towards a perpetual focus on certain sectors of the population; the gap in research and knowledge-building with regard to the lack of protection of rights; and the creation of an image of old age associated with partial, sectoral perspectives. The speaker gave an account of the main advances relating to institutions in the region, including the creation of the National Institute for Older Adults (INMAYORES) of Uruguay, which provided guidance on issues relating to older persons and helped to define public policies.

Thematic session: Inclusion and strengthening of social services as part of the agenda on ageing

49. The session was moderated by Adolfo Rodríguez Herrera, Technical Secretary of the Presidential Council of Social Welfare and Family of Costa Rica. The panellists were Rosemary Lane, Focal Point on Ageing, Social Integration Branch, Division for Social Policy and Development, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs; Nieves Rico, Social Affairs Officer, Social Development Division of ECLAC; and Faith Innerarity, Director General, Ministry of Labour and Social Security of Jamaica.

50. The Focal Point on Ageing, Social Integration Branch, Division for Social Policy and Development, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, emphasized the importance of social inclusion in the provision of care, described several models of home care and identified a number of work practices that were being promoted around the world in that area. Social services, including care, had a direct impact on the maintenance of social relations and the feeling of belonging to a community, since they facilitated the autonomy of older persons and therefore their participation. That was especially important for the older population since physical deterioration or frailty produced by their environment could result in exclusion or isolation. After explaining the experiences of several developed and developing countries, the speaker pointed out the main lessons learned, including the need to establish care as an area of responsibility of public administrations, expand access to existing programmes and study financing arrangements taking into account the options available to different countries and future viability.

51. The Social Affairs Officer, Social Development Division of ECLAC, spoke about the situation in Latin America and the Caribbean. Poverty among older persons had declined compared with poverty among children and young people, but one in every five persons aged 65 years still lived in households with no type of social protection. Older women were protected even less, since they did not enjoy financial autonomy but continued to be responsible for providing care in the home. Given that situation, several strategies were put forward to prepare for the demographic shift and changes relating to families. Recommendations were made in areas such as social protection, fiscal covenants and the fight against poverty. It was essential to devise collective support strategies for the provision of care taking into account the balance between the roles of families, the State and the market. Moreover, the contribution of older persons in ageing societies should be rethought and collective life adapted to them as the new social actors.

52. The Director General, Ministry of Labour and Social Security of Jamaica, gave a detailed presentation of the situation of Jamaica which included a historical, demographic and socioeconomic overview. Jamaica had made progress in implementing the Brasilia Declaration in areas such as social policy, the coverage of its social protection systems and the participation of older persons. Gaps existed and the country was facing challenges in increasing the protection and participation of older persons, but general recommendations were made to overcome those difficulties. The main conclusions were that, in the area of income security, efforts needed to be made to close the gaps in the protection provided by the contributory social security system and strengthen the solidarity pillar to provide access to non-contributory pensions and other benefits. In terms of health care, continued work was required to achieve equitable access to preventive care. Jamaica had made considerable progress in promoting the participation of older persons and improving their image, but further advances were needed to strengthen the overall framework for the protection of their rights.

Thematic session: Health care, sustainability and human rights

53. The session was moderated by Paulo Saad, Chief of the Population and Development Area of the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC. The panellists were Timothy Miller, Demography Expert, CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC; Enrique Vega, Regional Advisor on ageing and health of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO); and Fernando Morales, Chair of the Governing Board of the National Council for Older Persons (CONAPAM) of Costa Rica.

54. The Demography Expert, CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC, said that a key characteristic of ageing economies was health care. After decades of declining demographic pressure on health-care systems, countries were now facing rapid, sustained increases in pressure on those systems. Spending on health care was expected to expand considerably throughout the region as the number of older persons grew and health

services were used more intensively. Health systems would not only expand rapidly but also shift their focus towards prevention and the treatment of non-communicable diseases. Emphasizing the significance of population ageing and health care, the speaker said that the fiscal impact of population ageing in 10 countries of Latin America had been similar in magnitude to the impact in 15 countries in the European Union. In addition, the impact of health-care financing had been greater than the impact of pensions. Given that ageing was a modern phenomenon and that the ageing economy would become the dominant economy type of the twenty-first century, international monitoring of the impact of population ageing on the economy was required, together with long-term budget projections covering a period of 75 years.

55. The Regional Advisor on ageing and health of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) presented the main advances at the regional and hemispheric levels relating to health care for older persons, in particular the Strategy and Plan of Action for the period 2009-2018 adopted by the Pan American Health Organization, which was based on the United Nations Principles for Older Persons and in which an interdependence approach was recognized with a view to tackling the challenges of health and ageing. The speaker analysed the approach to the health of older persons in public policy, which was an issue that had been addressed from different perspectives. Health systems were facing pressures in tackling the challenges of ageing arising as a result of the complexities of health in old age, given that it combined aspects relating to the life cycle, the availability of health services, self-care, care models and other factors. The speaker also emphasized the importance of training human resources to provide health care for older persons and generating information for the implementation and evaluation of health interventions.

56. The Chair of the Governing Board of the National Council for Older Persons (CONAPAM) of Costa Rica gave a comprehensive overview of the health-care system for older persons in Costa Rica, analysed the future challenges posed by the growth in that age group and recommended that countries incorporate geriatrics in their health systems. First, he presented the model of comprehensive health care for older persons established in Costa Rica, which involved a broad spectrum of governmental institutions, including the National Council for Older Persons (CONAPAM), the Costa Rican Social Security Fund (CCSS), local governments, communities and universities. He provided information on the hospital care network and explained in detail how it had been implemented in three of the country's hospitals. He also analysed in detail how spending had changed in the three hospitals as a result of the growth in the older adult population. Extensive work was being carried out at the national hospital for geriatrics and gerontology, including hospital day care, telemedicine, prevention of abuse and ill-treatment, clinical sessions and teaching and research. He outlined the costs of care at that hospital and the efficient management of resources designed to increase the coverage and quality of its services. He concluded by saying that geriatrics should be incorporated into health systems as part of social security coverage, on the basis of a community approach and integrated social infrastructure in order to increase the benefits for older persons.

Thematic session: National mechanisms for the implementation of the Brasilia Declaration

57. The session was moderated by Emiliana Rivera, Executive Director of the National Council for Older Persons (CONAPAM) of Costa Rica. The panellists were Rosa Kornfeld, Director of the National Service for Older Adults (SENAMA) of Chile; Alberto Fernández, Director of the National Department for Older Adult Care and Social Welfare of Cuba; Jennifer Rouse, Director of the Division of Ageing, Ministry of the People and Social Development of Trinidad and Tobago; and Alejandro Orozco, Director of the National Institute for Older Persons (INAPAM) of Mexico.

58. The Director of the National Service for Older Adults (SENAMA) of Chile gave an overview of the living conditions of older persons in Chile. Chile had the second oldest population in South America, one in every five older persons was dependent and 92% of carers were relatives. Less than 10% of older persons were living in poverty and about 80% were home owners. On average, older persons had completed seven years of study and 11% were unable to read or write. With regard to institutions, the speaker explained that SENAMA was a functionally decentralized public body with its own assets created in 2002 for the purpose of strengthening autonomy in old age and promoting recognition and the exercise of rights. The current administration was focusing on three areas in its efforts to close the gaps in well-being: income security, health care and participation and was doing so by means of programmes implemented by SENAMA in conjunction with other bodies in the State apparatus. The speaker also referred to research that was being conducted on the issues of dependence and ill-treatment. Lastly, she presented the progress made with regard to the country's new comprehensive policy on ageing covering the period 2012-2025.

59. The Director of the National Department for Older Adult Care and Social Welfare of Cuba gave a demographic overview of Cuba. In 2011, the population aged 60 years and over accounted for 18% of the Cuban population, although there was some internal variation. By 2050, Cuba would have one of the oldest populations in the world. With regard to social programmes, the right to health was enshrined in the Constitution and the national health system was universal, free and accessible to all. In addition, Cuba had been providing international medical assistance since 1960 and was currently providing services to 66 countries around the world. The country had recorded achievements in several areas. With regard to income security, all workers had the right to retire but it was not compulsory. The retirement age had gradually been raised since 2009 in order to ensure the sustainability of the health system and improve the quality of pensions. In terms of health, the regulations governing nursing homes had been updated in 2011 in order to strengthen protection of the rights of older persons living in institutions. The country also had trained health teams for older persons. In social services, the social security system provided monetary benefits in both cash and in-kind to promote the autonomy of older persons. Lastly, the speaker pointed out that Cuba had completed a study of centenarians, carried out an evaluation of the community care subprogramme of the national programme for comprehensive care of older adults and conducted a national survey on population ageing.

60. The Director of the Division of Ageing, Ministry of the People and Social Development of Trinidad and Tobago, began by explaining the research conducted by her institution and how it had been disseminated in academic circles, the press and political debates. With regard to human resources training, work had been carried out with several universities to provide training for health professionals, carers and community leaders. Efforts had also been made to raise awareness of specific situations affecting the older adult population. Public policies were well developed in Trinidad and Tobago and included the national policy on ageing, which had been launched in 2007 and established 12 priorities for action as part of the national plan on ageing. On the legal front, there were gaps in protection which needed to be overcome. Although older persons were not expressly mentioned in the Constitution, the rights enshrined in the Constitution were valid for the entire population. Key actions included promoting an intergenerational approach within the public administration, strengthening national institutions, supporting family carers, expanding the training offered for professionals, increasing financial resources, coordinating care for older persons who suffered abuse and measures targeting returning migrant older persons.

61. The Director of the National Institute for Older Persons (INAPAM) of Mexico explained the actions being implemented in Mexico. There were currently 10 million people aged 60 years or over in Mexico, accounting for 9.2% of the total population. Given the magnitude of the challenges faced, the

Government and civil society were working together to create a culture of ageing that would enable the needs of such an enormous segment of the population to be met. The law on the rights of older persons in Mexico had entrusted the National Institute for Older Persons (INAPAM) with the task of guiding actions targeting older persons. That law —promulgated in 2002— had also changed the working perspective with a view to promoting the exercise of rights in old age by establishing clear obligations for the family, society and the State. At present, 26 of the 32 federal entities had a specific state law. The principles laid down in the law on the rights of older persons were in line with the United Nations Principles for Older Persons. Two innovative aspects of Mexican legislation were preferential treatment in the public and private sectors and legal certainty. With regard to the mechanisms established to implement the Brasilia Declaration, Mexico had focused on four areas: creating a culture of ageing, guaranteeing income security, ensuring access to health care and disseminating rights. The speaker explained what each area comprised and said that, in the area of income security, 3.5 million older persons were currently receiving a non-contributory pension thanks to the 70+ scheme. Lastly, countries were urged to increase the exchange of good practices.

Open session on ageing and care, organized by the National Council for Older Persons (CONAPAM) of Costa Rica

62. Statements on institutional experiences were made by representatives of the National Institute of Social Services for Retirees and Pensioners (PAMI) of Argentina, National Institute for Older Adults (INMAYORES) of Uruguay and the Progressive Care Network for the comprehensive care of older persons in Costa Rica. Statements were also made on local experiences in Costa Rica, specifically in Puntarenas and Heredia.

High-level symposium on key actions for the implementation and follow-up of the Brasilia Declaration

63. The panellists were Sissy Castillo, Deputy Minister of Health of Costa Rica; Jorge Argüello, Ambassador of Argentina to the United States; Steven Blackett, Minister of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment and Community Development of Barbados; José Miguel Guzmán, Chief, Population and Development Branch of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); and Dirk Jaspers_Faijer, Chief of the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC.

64. The Deputy Minister of Health of Costa Rica focused on the well-being and health of older persons. She said that meeting international commitments required the will of leaders to be expressed in concrete actions targeting older persons. Examples in Costa Rica included the care network and the regulations governing the operation of residential care. Local administrations played a role in providing social protection for older persons and countries were urged to promote ageing based on quality and dignity. Older persons should be actors in the development of their societies. To that end, old age should not be associated purely with homes for the elderly and dependence. Old age should be included in a culture of human rights.

65. The Ambassador of Argentina to the United States presented an analysis of the international human rights framework in relation to the protection of older persons and pointed out the need to expand and adapt the framework in view of the ageing process taking place worldwide. The main human rights treaties applied to older persons since none of them established an upper age limit for the enjoyment and exercise of the rights laid down. However, international studies had shown that there was a lack of protection of older persons. The attention paid by the human rights treaty bodies had been isolated and the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council had focused on a narrow range of economic, social and

cultural rights, in particular those relating to health, social security and adequate housing, and had not addressed relevant issues relating to civil and political rights. That was also the case with regard to situations of discrimination on the basis of age. Older persons were not a homogenous group and the challenges that they faced in exercising their human rights varied according to their individual circumstances. Progress had been made in recent years, but the absence of a legally binding treaty protecting the rights of older persons continued to hinder the full realization of human rights for all age groups. In conclusion, the debates and exchanges taking place within the United Nations Open-ended Working Group on Ageing were crucial in the efforts to establish a platform to create the political conditions required to make progress towards a convention on the rights of older persons.

66. The Minister of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment and Community Development of Barbados said that the world's older adult population had grown significantly since the second half of the twenty-first century as a result of improved health and other factors. According to available data, the number of people in the world aged 65 years and over had tripled since 1950 and was projected to continue rising. The older adult population in the Caribbean was now larger than ever. However, ageing was taking place against the backdrop of a poor economic performance, institutional weaknesses and inequality, among other limitations. Barbados had strived to improve the quality of life of older persons since the adoption of the Brasilia Declaration. The national policy on ageing had been expanded and included the development of programmes, human resources training and the establishment of national regulations. The speaker highlighted the experience of Barbados in the areas of caregiving and home care. The programmes implemented including the annual senior games, the pilot community nursing programme, the community technology programme, the home-care programme, free public transport and the free medication service. Challenges remained, however, including the need to strengthen protection of the rights of older persons and increase public awareness of the prevention of chronic non-communicable diseases, given that such diseases would have a significant impact on rising health costs.

67. The Chief, Population and Development Branch of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) said that three major challenges had to be overcome in tackling the issue of ageing. First, the traditional view of ageing as a problem instead of an opportunity. Second, the division of responsibilities between the State and family and third, the perception of older persons as recipients instead of actors. Policies on ageing should take five criteria into account: social and intergenerational equity as a basic criterion for actions; the need to base measures and their planning on evidence; recognition of the synergies, interaction and effects of international and national policies; adjustments to short-term actions as part of a long-term strategic framework; and consideration of the needs and capacities of older persons. Lastly, the basic requirements for policies on ageing were adequate institutions, sufficient technical capacities in the area of ageing and the effective participation of all stakeholders. In conclusion, the speaker outlined the support that the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) could provide at the national, regional and global levels in the development of strategies to position the issue, the completion of studies and the planning of strategic measures, as well as in other areas.

68. The Chief of the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC focused on the factors that should be taken into account when devising new public policies in the region. The State should be capable of implementing strategic management based on a long-term development perspective, including sectors currently excluded and working to eradicate inequalities. Every country in the region had been involved in the process initiated in Madrid in 2002 and the Brasilia Declaration had boosted the momentum and opened up new possibilities in terms of actions. Challenges had to be overcome with regard to the health and care of older persons, the introduction of universal social security, the establishment of legal frameworks to promote institutional and citizen guarantees and the strengthening of public institutions. Channels of participation for older persons needed to be established in the areas that

affected them and the difficulties relating to access to information by the different sectors of the population had to be overcome urgently. In addition, the design and implementation of rights-based public policies needed to be strengthened and existing legal frameworks needed to be modernized to effectively protect the rights guaranteed. In conclusion, articles 25 and 26 of the Brasilia Declaration remained fully in force and a legally binding international treaty on the rights of older persons was a necessity.

Open session on senior-friendly cities, organized by the National Council for Older Persons (CONAPAM) of Costa Rica

69. Statements on their experiences were made by representatives of the Institute for the Care of Older Adults in the Federal District of Mexico City (IAAM), ISALUD University of Argentina and the National Pension Board for Teachers of Costa Rica. In addition, accounts were given of local experiences in Heredia and Puntarenas.

Closing session

70. Statements were made by Fernando Morales Martínez, Chair of the Governing Board of the National Council for Older Persons (CONAPAM) of Costa Rica; Dirk Jaspers_Fajjer, Chief of the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC; and Carlos Roverssi Rojas, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica.

71. The Chair of the Governing Board of the National Council for Older Persons (CONAPAM) of Costa Rica said that the meeting had been made possible by the innovation and determination of all parties involved. In particular, he acknowledged the work of ECLAC, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Municipality of San José and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). He also gave special thanks to the President of Costa Rica for the vital support that she had given for both the Conference and the other activities being carried out in the country for older persons. The debate during the Conference and the work carried out by participants and panellists had built on the proposed agreements submitted by Costa Rica. The San José Charter contained concrete actions and it was now necessary to ensure follow-up. The work carried out by the representatives of civil society during the Conference had been exceptional and had demonstrated that all social actors should be included and participate on an equal footing. It only remained for all actors to apply their determination to do things well and fully commit to working for older persons around the world.

72. The Chief of the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC thanked everyone present for their active participation and said that the outcome of the Conference —the San José Charter— went beyond a reaffirmation of the Brasilia Declaration, exceeded the goals that had been set and constituted a road map for work over the following five years. The Charter contained information and the achievements arising from the meetings held in recent years, as well as the contributions of countries, international experts and representatives of civil society, whose collaboration had been vital in achieving such a positive outcome. He also thanked UNFPA for its support in carrying out the Conference and urged it to continue its efforts to support the implementation of the San José Charter.

73. The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica, speaking in his capacity as Chair of the Conference, said that he had sent the Tres Ríos Declaration and the San José Charter to the President of the Republic so that they could serve as a guide in decision-making concerning social and economic policies in Costa Rica. He thanked ECLAC and the representatives of civil society and acknowledged the work of CONAPAM, which had not only made the Conference possible but was also carrying out invaluable work every day to protect the rights of older people.

Report by the Rapporteur

74. The representative of Chile, speaking in her capacity as Rapporteur, presented an oral report highlighting the strong representation at the Conference and briefly summarizing the proceedings. She commended the quality of the report presented by the Secretariat and the presentations made by national representatives and experts.

Review and adoption of the agreements of the Conference (agenda item 7)

75. The Conference unanimously adopted the San José Charter on the rights of older persons in Latin America and the Caribbean (see annex 1).

Annex 1

**SAN JOSÉ CHARTER ON THE RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS IN
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Adopted at the third Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean. San Jose, Costa Rica, 8 to 11 May, 2012.

We, the representatives of the Governments gathered in San José, Costa Rica, from 8 to 11 May 2012 at the Third Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Determined to identify the key actions relating to the human rights and social protection of older persons in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Aware that age continues to be an explicit and symbolic basis for discrimination which affects the exercise of all human rights in old age and that older persons require special attention from the State,

Expressing concern over the dispersion of measures to protect the rights of older persons at the international level, which hinders their implementation and results in a lack of protection at the national level,

Convinced that it is essential to take additional steps to protect the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of older persons, including the possibility of developing new international instruments,

Recognizing that, despite the efforts made by several countries in the region to incorporate greater solidarity into their social protection systems and expand the protection of the human rights of older persons, limitations and exclusions persist, which affects the quality of life and dignity of these persons,

Having examined the reports of the special mechanisms of the United Nations Human Rights Council, in particular the thematic study on the realization of the right to health of older persons¹ and the Report on the question of human rights and extreme poverty,²

Guided by the general comments of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which cover issues of special concern to older persons,³ General Recommendation No. 27 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and General Comment No. 2 of the Committee against Torture,

Endorsing the conclusions and recommendations arising from the meetings held in follow-up to the Brasilia Declaration between 2008 and 2010; the International meeting to monitor implementation of the Brasilia Declaration and promote the rights of older persons held in 2011; and the International Forum on the rights of older persons held in 2012,

¹ See document A/HRC/18/37, 2011.

² See document A/HRC/17/34, 2011.

³ General Comment No. 6 on the economic, social and cultural rights of older persons, 1995; No. 14 on the right to the highest attainable standard of health (art. 12), 2000; No. 19 on the right to social security (art. 9), 2008; and No. 20 on non-discrimination and economic, social and cultural rights (art. 2), 2009.

Expressing satisfaction at the creation of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, which was established by the United Nations General Assembly under resolution 65/182 of 21 December 2010, and bearing in mind the conclusions of its first and second meetings held in 2011,

Recognizing the systematic work carried out by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), through the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division of ECLAC, to support the countries of the region in incorporating ageing into their development agendas, and expressing appreciation for the support provided by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO),

With the firm determination to adopt measures at every level to gradually expand the coverage and quality of social protection systems, including social services for an ageing population, and implement actions designed to strengthen protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of older persons, without any discrimination,

Having considered the documentation prepared by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for this Conference, and welcoming the conclusions and proposals presented in the document entitled *Ageing, solidarity and social protection: time for progress towards equality*,⁴

1. *Reaffirm* the commitment expressed in the Brasilia Declaration to spare no effort to promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all older persons, to work to eradicate all forms of discrimination and violence and to create networks for the protection of older persons with a view to the effective exercise of their rights;
2. *Support* the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing and urge it to consider the feasibility of an international convention on the rights of older persons, and support the Working Group on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons of the Organization of American States so that it can make progress in developing an inter-American convention;
3. *Request once again* that the member countries of the United Nations Human Rights Council consider, at the earliest opportunity, the possibility of appointing a special rapporteur responsible for the promotion and protection of the human rights of older persons;
4. *Recognize* that access to justice is an essential human right and the fundamental instrument for guaranteeing that older persons are able to exercise and effectively defend their rights;
5. *Affirm* that the political, public and social participation of older persons is a fundamental human right, as well as respect for their autonomy and independence in decision-making;
6. *Declare* that we will strengthen actions designed to increase the protection of human rights at the national level and undertake to:
 - (a) Adopt appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures which guarantee differential, preferential treatment of older persons in all spheres and prohibit all forms of discrimination against them;

⁴ See document LC/L.3451(CRE.3/3), April 2012.

- (b) Strengthen the protection of the rights of older persons by enacting special laws for the protection of such rights or updating existing laws, including institutional and civic measures which guarantee their full implementation;
 - (c) Give priority and preferential treatment to older persons in the processing, resolution and implementation of decisions taken in administrative and legal proceedings, as well as in the services and benefits provided by the State;
 - (d) Adopt affirmative action which complements the legal system and promotes the social integration and development of older persons;
 - (e) Develop public policies and programmes designed to raise awareness of the rights of older persons, including the promotion of their treatment with dignity and respect and a positive, realistic image of ageing;
 - (f) Guarantee and provide the necessary resources to ensure access to information by older persons and the dissemination of their rights;
 - (g) Guarantee also the right of older persons to participate in civil society organizations and in councils, as well as in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of policies which affect them;
7. *Agree to improve social protection systems so that they effectively meet the needs of older persons by promoting the following actions:*

Social security

- (a) Promote the universalization of the right to social security, based on country-specific opportunities;
- (b) Guarantee the long-term sustainability of contributory and non-contributory pension schemes, based on country-specific opportunities;
- (c) Ensure that social security programmes are complemented with other social policies, in particular the provision of health care and housing;

Health

- (d) Promote the universalization of the right of older persons to health;
- (e) Design and implement policies on comprehensive preventive health care, with emphasis on gerontology and an interdisciplinary approach, in particular by means of primary care including rehabilitation services;
- (f) Implement models of multi- and interdisciplinary care in geriatrics and gerontology at different levels of health care in order to meet the needs of older persons;
- (g) Facilitate preferential access to medicines, equipment, assistive devices and comprehensive rehabilitation services to promote the independence of older persons, based on country-specific opportunities;

- (h) Ensure the right to free and informed prior consent for any medical intervention, regardless of age, health or treatment, in order to promote the autonomy of older persons;
- (i) Promote the development of and access to palliative care to ensure that older persons with terminal illnesses die with dignity and free of pain;
- (j) Protect, by means of mechanisms for regular monitoring and supervision, the rights and dignity of older persons who live in public or private care institutions or medical facilities;
- (k) Promote the training of human resources in geriatrics and gerontology at all levels of care;
- (l) Implement human-rights based training programmes for health teams at all levels of care, carers and persons working in institutions which work with older persons;
- (m) Design policies to implement programmes which deal effectively with communicable and non-communicable diseases;
- (n) Formulate and adapt the legal frameworks, protocols and mechanisms to human rights instruments in order to protect the dignity of older persons living in public or private institutions or medical facilities;

Social services

- (o) Create and guarantee the necessary social services to provide care for older persons taking into account their specific characteristics and needs and to promote their independence, autonomy and dignity;
- (p) Develop home-care services to complement institutional care and enable older persons to remain in their own homes and retain their independence, based on country-specific opportunities;
- (q) Design permanent measures to provide support for families by introducing special services, especially for people who care for older persons;
- (r) Promote initiatives to achieve a work-life balance as a strategy for improving the capacity of families to provide care;
- (s) Guarantee that older persons living alone have access to formal support which is complemented by means of informal networks;
- (t) Create forums for intersectoral coordination by including work in integrated networks which generate comprehensive, progressive care plans for older persons;
- (u) Include in the operational plans of State institutions activities involving coordination and cooperation with organizations for older persons;
- (v) Guarantee that older persons are given every facility to obtain their identity documents;
- (w) Guarantee also differentiated, preferential treatment of older persons with neurodegenerative diseases in both public and private institutions, including day, specialized and long-stay centres;

- (x) Promote actions designed to pay particular attention to the situation of migrant older persons to facilitate access to services and benefits in communities of origin, transit and destination;
 - (y) Guarantee respect for the human rights of older persons who are deprived of liberty;
8. *Promote* fulfilment of the right of older persons to work and have access to income-generating activities by means of the following actions:
- (a) Promote the development of measures designed to ensure equal treatment and equal opportunities, especially with regard to working conditions, guidance and training at all levels, in particular equality in vocational training and job placement;
 - (b) Adopt active employment policies that promote the participation or re-entry of older workers in the labour market, based on country-specific opportunities;
 - (c) Promote legal reforms and economic incentives to enable older persons to continue working beyond the retirement age, in accordance with their capacity, experience and preferences, including measures such as gradually reducing the working day, part-time employment and flexible hours;
 - (d) Disseminate information on the right to retire, preparations for retirement and its advantages, as well as on the possibilities of other vocational or voluntary activities;
 - (e) Promote entrepreneurship and access to credit;
9. *Reject* any type of abuse of older persons and undertake to work to eradicate it by:
- (a) Implementing policies and procedures to prevent, punish and eradicate any type of abuse or ill-treatment of older persons, including penalizing those responsible;
 - (b) Establishing mechanisms for prevention and supervision and strengthening legal mechanisms in order to prevent any type of violence against older persons;
 - (c) Guaranteeing special protection of older persons who, because of their gender identity, sexual orientation, state of health or disability, religion, ethnic origin, homelessness or other conditions of vulnerability, are at greater risk of being abused;
 - (d) Providing older persons with access to legal remedies to protect them against property exploitation;
10. *Seek* to improve the living conditions and environment of older persons to strengthen their autonomy and independence by:
- (a) Making every effort to ensure that older persons enjoy adequate housing and are given high priority in the assignment of housing or land, particularly in situations of crisis, emergency, displacement or development-based evictions;
 - (b) Ensuring that older persons live in a secure, healthy environment and have access to transport facilities and services;

- (c) Creating and retrofitting age-friendly, safe public spaces thereby guaranteeing accessibility for older persons by eliminating architectural barriers;
11. *Reiterate* our conviction that older persons should enjoy the right to education and continuous learning and therefore undertake to:
- (a) Promote active policies to combat illiteracy among older women and men;
 - (b) Facilitate older persons' access to and active participation in recreational, cultural and sporting activities promoted by public or private organizations, associations and institutions;
 - (c) Implement educational programmes which enable older persons of different ethnic and other groups to share their knowledge, culture and values, taking into account the intercultural approach;
 - (d) Promote the incorporation of the issue of ageing and old age in curricula at all levels, from the earliest age;
 - (e) Promote actions to guarantee access by older persons to information and communications technologies, in order to reduce the technological divide;
12. *Emphasize* the obligations of States relating to ageing with dignity and rights, especially their duty to eradicate the multiple forms of discrimination which affect older persons, with particular emphasis on gender-based discrimination, by:
- (a) Preventing, punishing and eradicating all forms of violence against older women, including sexual violence;
 - (b) Promoting recognition of the role that older persons play in the political, social, economic and cultural development of their communities, with special emphasis on older women;
 - (c) Ensuring the involvement and equal participation of older women and men in the design and implementation of policies, programmes and plans concerning them;
 - (d) Guaranteeing equal access of older women and men to social security and other social protection measures, particularly when they do not enjoy retirement benefits;
 - (e) Protecting the inheritance rights of older widows, especially rights relating to property and possession;
13. *Draw attention* to the vulnerability of older persons in emergency situations and following natural disasters and undertake to work to:
- (a) Include priority, preferential assistance for older persons in disaster relief plans;
 - (b) Prepare national guidelines that include older persons as a priority group given preferential treatment in disaster preparedness, relief worker training and the availability of goods and services;
 - (c) Give priority and preferential treatment to the needs of older persons during post-emergency or post-conflict reconstruction;

14. *Propose* the following measures with the aim of strengthening public institutions working on behalf of older persons:
 - (a) Revise existing policies to ensure that they promote intergenerational solidarity and social cohesion;
 - (b) Strengthen the administrative powers and competencies of and inter-agency links between public bodies working on behalf of older persons;
 - (c) Promote the design and implementation of public policies and programmes to strengthen institutions responsible for older persons;
 - (d) Prepare five- or ten-year plans to define priorities and strategies for action;
 - (e) Guarantee the effective provision of the necessary resources and budgets to carry out the activities that should be undertaken by institutions working on behalf of older persons;
 - (f) Strengthen the technical capacity of public institutions responsible for older persons by providing training for their teams and bringing them up to date and facilitate the sustainability and permanence of specialized human resources;
 - (g) Carry out regular evaluations of programmes, projects and services for older persons which are implemented by institutions;
 - (h) Guarantee the participation of older persons in institutional consultation and accountability processes;
 - (i) Promote horizontal cooperation through the sharing of experiences among institutions in the countries of the region;
 - (j) Implement a system of specific indicators and information to serve as a frame of reference for the follow-up and evaluation of the situation of older persons at the national level;
15. *Request* the Executive Secretary of ECLAC to continue promoting the adoption of measures to intensify the activities carried out by the United Nations in the area of ageing; request also that the Commission continue providing technical support to the countries of the region in their efforts to increase human rights protection for older persons and strengthen social protection systems;
16. *Request* the Chair of the Presiding Officers of this Conference to convene a future working session to review the progress made concerning this Charter and to present the outcomes of this Conference and its follow-up to the ECLAC sessional Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development;
17. *Resolve* that this San José Charter on the rights of older persons in Latin America and the Caribbean will constitute the contribution of Latin America and the Caribbean to the fifty-first session of the Commission for Social Development of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, which will be held in February 2013;
18. *Decide* that the next Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing will be called the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean;
19. *Commend* the Government of Costa Rica for its invaluable contribution to this Third Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Annex 2

**DECLARATION BY THE CIVIL SOCIETY OF LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN ON AGEING**

In the context of the follow-up to the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and the Brasilia Declaration on ageing, we, the representatives of social and older persons' organizations, networks, non-governmental organizations and religious and academic civil society institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in the city of Tres Ríos, canton of La Unión, Costa Rica, after analysing and discussing the current situation of the older adult population in the region and the major challenge posed by population ageing, declare the following:

We consider it important to highlight the following aspects of the Latin American reality:

1. The rights of older adults continue to be violated. The management of old age and ageing lacks coherence between theoretical rights and respect for those rights in practice. In this context, older persons continue to be the victim of multiple forms of discrimination; different types of abuse and violence; poverty; and a lack of access to justice.
2. Public policies and programmes targeting older persons have not been accompanied by the development of a view of old age that takes into account the diversity of ageing. They lack intergenerational and gender perspectives and do not take into account older persons living in rural areas or indigenous and Afro-descendent peoples.
3. Policies on old age are not given priority or fixed regular budgets, which renders their implementation ineffective and hinders their monitoring and follow-up.
4. A high percentage of the population does not have access to formal, decent work and is therefore excluded from social security and deprived of the possibility of ageing with dignity. Countries which have introduced individual pension schemes are plagued by situations of inequality and inequity, as well as uncertainty with regard to financial risks.
5. The persistent structural cycle of poverty reaffirms the inequality and inequity affecting all age groups, as well as the obligation to continue working to an advanced age, in most cases in informal environments and precarious conditions.
6. Older adults who have been displaced or are refugees, migrants or living in border areas continue to be particularly vulnerable. Changes in the structure of health services and methods of enrolment tend to limit access to appropriate care and neglect even their most pressing needs. They are also unable to benefit from the other areas of social security.
7. Public health services do not take into account the needs of older adults. This shortcoming is exacerbated by the percentage and absolute growth of this group and has a direct impact on the ability older persons to function independently and therefore affects their autonomy and family income.

8. In most countries in the region, the care of older adults has not been sufficiently incorporated in public policies and the burden of care is borne mainly by women, many of whom are older adults themselves, with no recognition of their contribution for the purposes of access to the benefits provided by social security and other State programmes.
9. The visibility and identity of older persons in social, political, economic and cultural participation is still in its very early stages and in many cases older persons are reduced to being regarded as “recipients” of State social subsidy programmes.
10. Older persons continue to be affected by the stigmatization of old age and ageing in programmes and social and legal services with no respect for their autonomy and their labelling as incapable. This reinforces the negative image of ageing which is promoted by market interests in particular.
11. The institutionalization of older persons in long-stay institutions without their informed consent and without standards on the quality of services constitutes a human rights violation.
12. The logic of the global economy (neoliberal policies) in a world characterized by concentrated wealth and market globalization entails unequal distribution and the perception that older persons are a burden for States.

Taking the above into account, as a general framework highlighting the most important aspects, we urge Governments and States to:

- Guarantee compliance with General comment No. 6 of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights concerning the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; General recommendation No. 27 of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW); the Declaration on the Right to Development; the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination; the International Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; and other international instruments.
- Decide at the present meeting of Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean that the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing shall now be called the “Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons”, in accordance with the provisions of the Brasilia Declaration of 2007.
- Support, report on and disseminate to the entire community, especially older adults, the development of the proposed inter-American and international conventions on the protection of the rights of older persons for adoption by the Organization of American States and the United Nations respectively.
- Create mechanisms for participation in the follow-up committees for these conventions, which should comprise representatives of civil society organizations, especially organizations for older persons.
- Recognize older adults as the holders of rights and actors of development with guarantees and responsibilities for both themselves and others, and promote their empowerment and integration in the different spheres of society and human activity so that they become agents of change and central participants in their ageing.

- Implement policies, programmes and projects to promote and disseminate the ancestral knowledge of older persons to encourage and contribute to intercultural education and the transmission of this knowledge to new generations, thereby contributing to eliminating the current negative view of old age by creating a new paradigm.
- Recognize the intercultural approach as a tool to promote relations between peoples and nations based on exchanges and voluntary creative reciprocity as part of a mutual relationship and the interest in understanding each other and establishing supportive partnerships.
- Guarantee and promote the recognition and use of justice systems for indigenous and Afro-descendant older persons, respecting their perspectives and world views on identity and cultural values.
- Adjust policies and programmes to the challenges of old age and ageing so that they go beyond Governments and immediate-term, improvised views, eliminating bureaucratic obstacles and ensuring their timely implementation. To that end, institutions and mechanisms should be created to implement these policies and programmes.
- Refocus measures to meet the needs of older adults towards universal, permanent policies so that State action is not limited to poverty alleviation measures.
- Guarantee social security by developing the (tripartite) contributory and non-contributory systems, valuing older persons as holders of rights and promoting intergenerational solidarity.
- Adapt access to and the quality of health services to the rising demand associated with population ageing and strengthen primary health care and the practice of traditional medicine.
- Create home-care programmes which are adapted to the specific needs in each country.
- Promote laws to guarantee protection of the assets of older persons.
- Ensure that the right to protection and care is addressed in public policy and is not merely the obligation of families and women as if care by family members was “natural”. Ensure that family support services are implemented to ensure well-being and respect for human rights.
- Create and/or strengthen bodies that provide an ombudsperson service for older adults.
- Guarantee that older adults participate in decision-making processes concerning the allocation of public resources, especially local government resources.
- Implement mechanisms for the independent participation of older adults in the formulation and monitoring of public policies concerning the full enjoyment of their rights and facilitate access to justice.
- Promote intergenerational relations to break down the barriers which separate age groups in our societies.
- Provide the older adult population with housing which meets accessibility requirements.
- Allocate resources and implement support measures to promote the inclusion of older persons in teaching, cultural creation, sport and recreational activities and public life in order to break down stereotypes.

- Eradicate illiteracy among older adults and improve their familiarity with new information technologies.
- Incorporate ageing into teaching curricula at all levels of the education system in order to build a society free of discrimination on the basis of age and promote solidarity and mutual support between generations.
- Facilitate the updating of knowledge on old age and ageing among civil servants, especially health-service workers, taking into account the fundamental principles of human rights.
- Create and support graduate and postgraduate training programmes and research in subjects relating to old age and ageing from human-rights and gender perspectives.
- Define and implement the measures necessary to fully compensate older persons who have been the victim of ill-treatment, violence or negligent health care.
- Guarantee the human rights and quality of life of persons living in long-stay institutions by means of policies to promote and diversify the types of residence and care services, operation protocols, monitoring and social supervision.
- Meet the special needs of refugees, displaced persons and migrants, especially older persons who fall into those categories, by determining the resources and mechanisms necessary to protect them and their families.
- Pay greater attention to older adults in emergency situations caused by natural disasters or armed conflict.
- Recognize older persons' organizations and non-governmental organizations as valid, essential participants in decisions on national and international policies which result in new shared tasks as part of the commitment to build a society for all ages.
- Create mechanisms to facilitate the integration and participation of older adults in the process of evaluating achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.
- Monitor and oversee inclusion of the challenges of population ageing and human rights —especially those of older persons in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean— on the agendas of United Nations specialized agencies and international cooperation bodies.
- Meet all pending demands which were made in the declarations arising from the meetings of civil society organizations held in 2007 and 2009.

As the representatives of civil society in the region, we undertake to:

- Demand and monitor respect for the human rights of older adults and recognition of their role as social actors.
- Actively participate on an ongoing basis in every forum established to enable older persons to regain their rights.
- Develop actions and assume new commitments to promote and educate people on their duty to respect and fully protect the rights of older adults and enable them to exercise those rights fully.

- Promote the inclusion of the right to culture in public policies and facilitate access to cultural and heritage properties by all citizens.
- Promote and strengthen the organization of older persons and the civil society movement based on the need to age with rights by making a concerted effort to promote their active participation as the holders of rights and actors of regional development.
- Develop, promote and enhance the visibility of the gender perspective in actions relating to ageing.
- Promote the mobilization of older adults in joint action with younger generations to promote the right to development, equal rights and the eradication of poverty.
- Seek and strengthen partnerships with social sectors which also champion human rights, in order to promote solidarity with older adults and the commitment to address other social demands.
- Promote cooperation between non-governmental organizations and associations of older persons based on fair recognition of the valuable work done by such associations in return for financing.
- Encourage the dissemination of the outcomes of the regional meeting of civil society organizations and this Declaration within our countries, especially among older adults, organizations, public institutions, local government bodies and agencies responsible for implementing policies.
- Given the pressing need to put the issue of ageing on global and regional agendas, facilitate and participate in international forums, especially the Rio+20 People's Summit for Social and Environmental Justice.
- Develop actions designed to ensure that older adults participate in evaluating the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.
- Implement the actions proposed at the Regional Meeting of civil society organizations held in Tres Ríos, Costa Rica.
- Submit and present this Declaration produced at the Regional Meeting of civil society organizations to the third Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Annex 3

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**A. Estados miembros de la Comisión
Member States of the Commission****ARGENTINA**Representante/Representative:

- Monica Roqué, Directora, Dirección Nacional de Políticas para Adultos Mayores (DINAPAM), Secretaría Nacional de Niñez, Adolescencia y Familia, Ministerio de Desarrollo Social

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- Marcela Bordenave, Coordinadora, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto
- Marcelo Rinaldi, Director de Relaciones Internacionales, Instituto Nacional de Servicios Sociales para Jubilados y Pensionados
- Nora Pochtar, Coordinadora, Oficina de Promoción y Protección de los Derechos Humanos de las Personas Adultas Mayores, Secretaría Derechos Humanos, Ministerio de Justicia y Derechos Humanos
- Federico Esteban Susbielles, Gerente de Coordinación de Unidades de Gestión Local
- Susana Ordano, Dirección Nacional de Políticas para Adultos Mayores (DINAPAM)
- Adrián Maderna, Ministro de la Familia y Promoción Social, Provincia de Chubut
- Rubén Nigita, Director Nacional de Estadísticas Sociales y de Población, Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos (INDEC)

BARBADOSRepresentante/Representative:

- Steven Blackett M.P. - Minister of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment and Community Development (MSCD)

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- Guildford Alleyne, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment and Community Development
- Charyn Wilson, Director, National Assistance Board

BRASIL/BRAZILRepresentante/Representative:

- María Dulce Silva Barros, Embajadora del Brasil en San José

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- Celso Costa Bello, Encargado de Negocios interino, Embajada de Brasil en Costa Rica
- Adriana da Silva Pereira, Coordinadora General, Servicios de Convivencia y Fortalecimiento de Vínculos, Departamento de Protección Social Básica, Secretaría Nacional de Asistencia Social (SNAS), Ministerio de Desarrollo Social y Combate del Hambre
- Iadya Gama Maio, Promotora de Justicia del Estado de Rio Grande do Norte
- Carlos Federico Bastos, División de Temas Sociales, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
- Paula Reina de Oliveira Ribeiro, Defensora Pública e Consehira , Conselho Nacional dos Direitos da Pessoa Idosa (CNDI)

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ECUADOR

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- César Jaramillo, Fundación Patronato Municipal San José, Municipio del Distrito Metropolitano de Quito
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EL SALVADOR

Representante/Representative:

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- Diego Ungaro, Embajador de Italia en Costa Rica

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- Faith Innerarity, Director General, Ministry of Labour and Social Security

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- Grace-Ann Scarlett, Manager, Social Marketing, Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH)
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JAPÓN/JAPAN

Representante/Representative:

- Yoshiharu Namiki, Embajador del Japón en Costa Rica

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- Tomoya Yamaguchi, Segundo Secretario, Embajada del Japón en Costa Rica
- Aki Ushida, Investigadora Asociada, Asesora, Embajada del Japón en Costa Rica

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Representante/Representative:

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- Norma Saeb Camargo, Coordinadora de Proyecto Milenario del Gobierno del estado de Querétaro
- Ramiro Ornelas, Director General de Atención a Grupos Prioritarios de la Secretaría de Desarrollo Social

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- Rafael Angel Rodríguez Jurado, Agregado, Embajada de Panamá en Costa Rica

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- Inés Martínez Valinotti, Directora de Derechos Humanos, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

PERÚ/PERURepresentante/Representative:

- Elia Luna del Valle, Directora Personas Adultas Mayores, Ministerio de la Mujer y Poblaciones Vulnerables

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- Teresa Torres, Asesora del Despacho del Viceministerio de Prestaciones Sociales, Ministerio de Desarrollo e Inclusión Social
- Rocío Cutipé Cárdenas, funcionaria, Gerencia de Desarrollo Social Municipalidad Metropolitana de Lima
- Elizabeth Sánchez Yturizaga, Coordinadora Ejecutiva de CONSORCIO Perú
- Consuelo Sheen Lazo de Morin, miembro fundadora de CONSORCIO Perú
- Luis Descalzi Jara, Presidente de la Mesa Perú
- Carlos Alarcón, Vicepresidente de la Mesa Perú

REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA/DOMINICAN REPUBLICRepresentante/Representative:

- Eddy Pereyra, Encargado de Información y Documentación, Consejo Nacional de la Persona Envejeciente (CONAPE)

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TRINIDAD Y TABAGO/TRINIDAD AND TOBAGORepresentante/Representative:

- Glenn Ramadharsingh, Minister of the People and Social Development

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Jennifer Rouse, Director, Division of Ageing, Ministry of the People and Social Development
- Inshan Mohammed, National Director, Targeted Conditional Cash Transfer Programme, Ministry of the People and Social Development
- Sandra Honoré, Embajadora de Trinidad y Tabago en Costa Rica

URUGUAY

Representante/Representative:

- Adriana Rovira, Directora, Instituto Nacional del Adulto Mayor (INMAYORES)

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Fernando Marri Merrello, Embajador del Uruguay en Costa Rica

B. Secretaría de las Naciones Unidas United Nations secretariat

Departamento de Asuntos Económicos y Sociales/Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

- Rosemary Lane, Focal Point on Ageing, Social Integration Branch, Division for Social Policy and Development

C. Organismos de las Naciones Unidas United Nations bodies

Fondo de Población de las Naciones Unidas (UNFPA)/United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

- Marcela Suazo, Directora Regional para América Latina y el Caribe
- José Miguel Guzmán, Jefe de la Subdivisión de Población y Desarrollo
- Cristián Vargas, Asociado de Programa

D. Organismos especializados Specialized agencies

Organización Internacional del Trabajo (OIT)/International Labour Organization (ILO)

- Leonardo Ferreira, Director Adjunto, Oficina para Centroamérica, Haití, Panamá y República Dominicana

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Alimentación y la Agricultura (FAO)/Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

- José Emilio Suadi Hasbun, Representante de la FAO en Costa Rica

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura (UNESCO)/United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

- Andrew Radolf, Director y Representante de la UNESCO en San José

Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS)-Organización Panamericana de la Salud (OPS)/World Health Organization (WHO)-Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

- Enrique Vega, Asesor Regional en Envejecimiento y Salud

E. Invitados especiales/Special guest

- Laura Chinchilla, Presidenta de Costa Rica

F. Otras organizaciones intergubernamentales Other intergovernmental organizations

Instituto Centroamericano de Administración Pública (ICAP)/Central American Institute of Public Administration

- Andrea Araya Umaña, Asistente de Investigación

Organización de los Estados Americanos (OEA)/Organization of American States (OAS)

- Evelyn Jacir, Directora, Departamento de Desarrollo Social y Empleo, Secretaría Ejecutiva para el Desarrollo Integral

Organización Iberoamericana de Seguridad Social (OISS)/Ibero-American Social Security Organization

- Laura María Fernández Colmenero, Consultora, Buenos Aires
- Francis Zuñiga, Director del Centro de Cooperación, San José

G. Organizaciones no gubernamentales reconocidas como entidades consultivas por el Consejo Económico y Social Non-governmental organizations recognized by the Economic and Social Council as having consultative status

CARITAS Internationalis

- Farrah Geraldine Álvarez Guzmán, Asistente Administrativa de los Programas Regionales de Fármacodependencias y Adulto Mayor para América Latina y el Caribe, Caritas Alemana, Lima
- Christel Wasiek, Asesora, Caritas Alemana, Berlín,
- Rafael Quispe Chura, Coordinador, Programa Adulto Mayor, Lima
- Celia Ramírez Posadas, Directora de Caritas Adultos Mayores, México
- Juan Díaz, Miembro, Consejo Nacional Adultos Mayores, Santiago
- Dorothea Schreck, Coordinadora Regional, Caritas Alemana, Lima

HelpAge International

- James Blackburn, Representante Regional para América Latina, La Paz
- María Isabel Rivera Calvo, Oficial Regional de Comunicación, La Paz
- Simón Bolívar Terrero Matos, República Dominicana

International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA)/Red Internacional para la Prevención de los Malos Tratos a los Ancianos

- Susan Somers, Secretary General

H. Otras organizaciones no gubernamentales
Other non-governmental organizations

Asociación Adulto Mayor

- Carlos Luciano Tarqui Huaman, Presidente, Arequipa, Perú

Asociación Adulto Mayor Alcohólico Indigente

- Gerardo Celedón Romero, Costa Rica
- Tibisay Rodríguez Chacón, Albergue, Costa Rica

Asociación Brasileña de Psicología Aplicada (ABRAPA)

- Dina Lourdes Fernández Frutuoso, Presidenta, Río de Janeiro, Brasil

Asociación de Educadores Pensionados (ADEP)

- Yadira Brenes Mena, Representante, Junta Directiva Central, Cartago, Costa Rica

Asociación Gerontológica Costarricense (AGECO)

- José Andrés Masis
- Johanna Fernández Gómez
- Isela Corrales Mejías
- Floribeth Murillo Jiménez

Asociación Internacional de Gerontología y Geriátrica/International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG)

- Laura María Mello Machado, Representante de la IAGG ante las Naciones Unidas

Asociación Pro Ancianos de Heredia

- Martha Mendes Lobos

Associação Santo Antônio dos Pobres de Itaperuna (ASAPI)

- Silvia María de Castro Costa, Presidenta, Brasil

Asociación Departamental Rural de Adultos Mayores de Oruro

- Federico Juan Vargas Bustos, Presidente, Oruro, Bolivia (Estado Plurinacional de)

Asociación Gerontológica Activa (AGA)

- Athenia Montejo, Presidenta, San José, Costa Rica
- Hannia Rodríguez
- Rita Flores Astorga

Asociación Gerontológica Costarricense (AGECO)

- Walter Silva Cruz, San José, Costa Rica
- Ana María Vindas Smith, San José, Costa Rica

Asociación Hogar de Ancianos Santiago Crespo Calvo

- Rodolfo Zuñiga Castro

Asociación Hogar de Ancianos Víctor Casco Torres

- Larry Wein Calvin, Costa Rica

Asociación Hogar para Ancianos de Montes de Oca Nuestra Señora de Lourdes

- Margarita Cubillo Cubillo, Costa Rica

Asociación Jicaraleña para el Bienestar del Anciano

- Idalíe Jiménez, Carranza, Costa Rica

Asociación para la Persona Adulta Mayor

- Margarita Trejos Bonilla, Directora Junta Directiva, San José, Costa Rica

Casa Hogar Mano Amiga Mano Anciana

- Soledad Carina Vélez de la Rosa, Directora, México D.F.

Corporación de Educación y Capacitación (CEC)

- Lucio Díaz Demenez, Presidente, Corporación de Educación y Capacitación (CEC), Miembro Comité Consultivo, Servicio Nacional del Adulto Mayor (SENAMA)
- Alejandro Reyes Cordova, Director de Programa Personas Mayores y Derechos, Santiago

Centro Internacional de la Longevidad

- Alexandre Kalache, Presidente, Brasil

Centro Interinstitucional de Colaboración con el Adulto Mayor

- Silvia Delia Tron Armad-Ugon, Vicepresidenta, Montevideo

Clínica de Migración y Derechos Humanos

- Jorge Luis Muñoz Villagrán, Coordinador, Neuquén, Argentina

Colegio de Gerontólogos de Chile A.G.

- Rosa A. Fuentes Leal, Asesora Comunicacional, Santiago

CONARE

- Flora Castro Venegas
- María del Socorro Hernández Chavarría

Confederación Colombiana de ONG

- Adriana Londoño Gutiérrez, Colombia

Coordinación Regional de Organismos de la Sociedad Civil sobre Envejecimiento (CORV)

- Ricardo José Adriaola Fernández, Miembro, Santiago, Chile
- Aura Marlene Marquez Herrera, Coordinadora, Bogotá, Colombia
- Santiago Norberto Pzemirower, Miembro, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Elizabeth Ferreras, México D.F.

Federación Cruzada Nacional de Protección al Anciano (FECRUNAPA)

- Rusmarily Gómez Alfaro, Presidente, Junta Directiva, Costa Rica
- Margarita Trejos Bonilla
- Juan Antonio Montero Esquivel
- Elizabeth Barquero Segura
- Víctor Julio Vargas Bolaños

Federación Internacional de Asociaciones de Personas Mayores (FIAPAM)

- Ruth Rivera Viquez, Cartago, Costa Rica
- Gonzalo Lizano Vindas, Secretario Nacional, Costa Rica

Foro de la Sociedad en Salud (FOROSALUD)

- Jaime Blas Cáceres Valverde, Perú

Fundación CEPISIGER para el Desarrollo Humano

- Elisa Dulcey Ruiz, Directora y Representante Legal, Bogotá, Colombia

Forum Nacional Permanente da Sociedade Civil Pelos Direitos da Pessoa Idosa

- Jailton Rosario, Miembro da Coordenação Nacional, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil
- Delfina Maria Carvalho Simões, Coordenação Nacional, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

Fundación Cadena Mayor

- Olga Calderón de Díaz, Presidenta

Gerontólogos Argentinos S.A.

- Jorge Plano, Tesorero
- Silvia Argentina Kanje Villalobos, Comisión Fiscalizadora

Grupo de Articulação para Conquista da Moradia do Idoso da Capital (GARMIC)

- Olga Luisa Ibaceta León, Conselheira

Grupo Iberoamericano Interdisciplinario de Gerontología (GIIG)

- Celina Burmester, Coordinadora Docente, Montevideo, Uruguay

Hogar Bolívar de Ancianos

- Carmen Judith Rodriguez Montezuma, Encargada, Ciudad de Panamá

Hogar de Ancianos de Sarapiquí

- Blanca Iris Blanco Rodriguez

Hogar Nuestra Señora de Los Angeles

- Nohora Esperanza etes Ceren, Costa Rica
- Yensi Paola Ramírez Sánchez, Psicóloga, San José
- Yerelis Bejerano
- Leandro Ramirez

Intituto Ecuatoriano de Seguridad Social

- Byron Proaño, Director del Sistema de Pensiones (IESS), Quito

Junta de Asistencia Privada del Distrito Federal

- Maria Magbel Ruiz

Movimiento Mahatma Gandhi

- Sonia Andrade Tafur, Coordinadora y Vocera Nacional, Quito

Organización Nacional de Asociaciones de Jubilados y Pensionistas

- Elsa Francisca Schuett Mttos, Miembro del Consejo Directivo Nacional

Pastoral Social Arquidiocesana

- Emérita González Flores, Coordinadora del Programa, Ciudad de Panamá, Panamá
- Carmen Judith Rodríguez Montezuma, Encargada, Hogar Bolívar de Ancianos, Ciudad de Panamá, Panamá

Pastoral Social Oruro

- Elizabeth Arali Calizaya Mamani, Coordinadora, Oruro, Bolivia

Programa Integral Adulto Mayor, Universidad de Costa Rica

- Concepción Suarez Santos

Red Continental Personas Mayores América Latina y el Caribe

- Edilia Camargo, Secretariado Ejecutivo

Programa Fundación Cadena Mayor

- Arturo Ortíz Sánchez

Red de Adultos Mayores México, D.F

- Alejandra Alvirez

Red de Cuido de Miramar

- Elizabeth Mendes Rodríguez, Costa Rica

Red de Cuido de Pococí

- José Solano Trejos, Costa Rica

Red de Cuido Sarapiquí

- Lisbeth Ñuñez Castro

Red de Cuido de Siquirres

- Iabel Rodríguez Rodríguez, Costa Rica

Red de Cuido Desamparados

- Flor de María Ortiz, Costa Rica

Red de Cuido del Cantón de Moravia

- Marcela Chincilla, Comisión de Visitas, San José

Red de Cuido La Unión de Tres Ríos

- Mayra Malinse Hidalgo, Costa Rica

Red de Cuido Pavas

- Mary Laura Cordoba Morales, Costa Rica

Red de Cuido Santo Domingo de Heredia

- Gloria Elena Zamora Azofeifa, Costa Rica
- Lourdes Sanchez Campos, Costa Rica

Red Latinoamericana de Gerontología

- Ximena Romero, Coordinadora, Santiago, Chile

Sociedad Brasileña de Geriatría y Gerontología

- Regina Angela Viana Mesquita, Presidente en la Regional del Espíritu Santo, Brasil

Un granito de arena

- Patricia Rebolledo

I. Panelistas Panellists

- Evelyn Jacir, Directora, Departamento de Desarrollo Social y Empleo, Secretaría Ejecutiva para el Desarrollo Integral, Organización de los Estados Americanos (OEA)
- Monica Roqué, Directora Nacional de Políticas para Adultos Mayores, Secretaría Nacional de Niñez, Adolescencia y Familia, Ministerio de Desarrollo Social, Argentina
- Lupita Chaves, Integrante, Consejo Superior del Poder Judicial y Coordinadora del tema de acceso a la justicia de la población adulta mayor Comisión de Accesibilidad, Costa Rica
- Víctor Abramovich, Secretario Ejecutivo, Instituto de Políticas Públicas en Derechos Humanos (IPPDH), MERCOSUR
- Adriana Rovira, Directora, Instituto Nacional del Adulto Mayor (INMAYORES), Uruguay
- Rosemary Lane, Focal Point on Ageing, Social Integration Branch, Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations
- Faith Innerarity, Director General, Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Kingston, Jamaica
- Timothy Miller, Oficial de Asuntos de Población, División de Población, (CELADE), Population Affairs Officer, Division of Population (CELADE)
- Fernando Morales, Presidente de la Junta Rectora, Consejo Nacional de la Persona Adulta Mayor (CONAPAM), San José, Costa Rica
- Jennifer Rouse, Director, Division of Ageing, Ministry of the People and Social Development, Trinidad y Tabago
- Rosa Kornfeld, Directora, Servicio Nacional del Adulto Mayor (SENAMA), Santiago, Chile
- Alberto Fernández, Director, Atención al adulto mayor y asistencia social, Ministerio de Salud Pública, Cuba
- Alejandro Orozco, Director, Instituto Nacional de Personas Mayores (INAPAM), Secretaría de Desarrollo Social, México
- Jorge Argüello, Embajador de la Argentina para los Estados Unidos, Embajada Argentina en Washington, D.C.
- Sisy María Castillo Ramírez, Viceministra, Ministerio de Salud de Costa Rica
- Rosa Icela Rodríguez Velázquez, Directora General, Instituto para la Atención de los Adultos Mayores en el Distrito Federal, México, D.F, México

- Eduardo López Cárdenas, Director, Área de Salud, Clínica de San Rafael de Puntarenas, Costa Rica
- Marco Salazar Rivera, Director, Área de Salud de Santo Domingo, Heredia, Costa Rica
- Roger Porras Rojas, Director Ejecutivo, Junta de Pensiones y Jubilaciones del Magisterio Nacional, Costa Rica
- Flor de María Ugalde, Presidenta, Asociación Josefina Ugalde Céspedes y Coordinadora de la Red de Cuido de Garabito, Puntarenas, Costa Rica
- Gilberto Marín, Director del Área de Salud Heredia-Virilla, Coordinador de la Red de Cuido de Guarari, Heredia, Costa Rica
- Silvia Elena Gascón, Universidad ISALUD, Argentina
- Marco Antonio Salazar, Director, Área de Salud de Santo Domingo de Heredia, Costa Rica
- Federico Esteban Susbielles, Gerente de Coordinación de Unidades de Gestión Local
- Steven Blackett M.P. - Minister of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment and Community Development (MSCD)
- Dirk Jaspers, Director, Centro Latinoamericano y Caribeño de Demografía (CELADE) - División de Población de la CEPAL, Santiago
- Nieves Rico, Oficial de Asuntos Sociales, División de Desarrollo Social, CEPAL, Santiago
- Sandra Huenchuan, Asistente de Investigación, Centro Latinoamericano y Caribeño de Demografía (CELADE) - División de Población de la CEPAL
- Enrique Vega, Asesor Regional en Envejecimiento y Salud, Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS)-Organización Panamericana de la Salud (OPS)
- José Miguel Guzmán, Jefe de la Subdivisión de Población y Desarrollo, Fondo de Población de las Naciones Unidas (UNFPA)

J. Otros Others

- Bessy Arely Alvarado Sorto, Médico Asistencial, Centro Médico Galenos, Honduras
- José Antonio Barquero Mora, Coordinador, Red de Pensionados y Jubilados, Provincia de San José, San José, Costa Rica
- Ana Luisa Gamble Sánchez-Gavito, Coordinadora de Gerontología, Instituto para la Atención de los Adultos Mayores en el Distrito Federal, México D.F.
- Manuel de Jesús Lujan Lopez, Director de Administración, Instituto para la Atención de los Adultos Mayores en el Distrito Federal, México D.F.
- Fernando Neira Orjela, Investigador, México
- Atenea Flores-Castillo, Investigadora, México D.F.
- Marco Antonio Lucero, Responsable Nacional del Programa de Derechos Humanos de las Personas Adultas Mayores de la Defensoría del Pueblo
- Milton Gerardo López, UNAM, Nicaragua
- Jeannette Alvarado Blanco, Junta de Pensiones y Jubilaciones del Magisterio Nacional, Costa Rica
- Norma Saeb, Asesora Gobierno del Estado de Querétaro de Políticas Públicas para la Tercera Edad
- Martha Luz de la Llave Martínez, Directora de Asistencia e Integración Social, México
- María del Pilar Zuluaga Guerrero, Consultora de Envejecimiento y Vejez, Colombia
- Hídalia García Ríos, Coordinadora, Programa de Vinculación Social Emprendedores en la Edad de Oro, Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, Facultad de Administración, México
- Guadalupe Morales Mejía, Secretaria Administrativa, Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, Facultad de Administración, México

- Liliana Giraldo Rodríguez, Investigador, Instituto de Geriátría de la Secretaría de Salud, México, D.F.
- José Manuel Ramírez González, Red de Pensionados y Jubilados del Magisterio Nacional
- Francisco Lukas Barrera, Red de Pensionados y Jubilados del Magisterio Nacional
- María Hilaria Gómez Obando, Red de Pensionados y Jubilados de Guanacaste
- Víctor Manuel Zapata Zapata, Federación Nacional de Jubilados y Pensionados (FENALJUPE)
- Francisco Manuel Sánchez Alonso, Programa Integral Adulto Mayor, Universidad de Costa Rica
- Isabel Mena Rodríguez, Junta de Pensiones y Jubilaciones del Magisterio Nacional
- Nury Peralta Vallester, Federación Nacional de Jubilados y Pensionados
- Dunia Chacón Chavarría, Consejo de Notables del Consejo Nacional de la Persona Adulta Mayor
- Sonia Salas Badilla, Junta de Pensiones y Jubilaciones del Magisterio Nacional (JUPEMA)
- Luisa Villanueva Salazar, Universidad de Costa Rica
- Karen Massis Fernández, Universidad de Costa Rica
- Norma Lau Sanchez, Instituto de Investigaciones en Salud, Universidad de Costa Rica
- Melissa Sánchez Salas, Universidad Estatal a Distancia
- Yadira Brenes Mena, Representante, Junta Directiva Central, Federación Nacional de Jubilados y Pensionados (FENALJUPE)
- Jurilza María Barros de Mendonça, investigadora de la Universidad de Brasilia
- Víctor Rodríguez, Federación Nacional de Jubilados y Pensionados (FENALJUPE)
- María Alejandra Ortolani, International Longevity Center, Argentina
- Luz Elena Pineda Osorio, Técnica en Recursos Humanos, Casa Nazareth Asociación Moraiana San José
- María Ester Jimenez, Junta de Pensiones y Jubilaciones del Magisterio Nacional (JUPEMA)

K. Secretaría Secretariat

- Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (CEPAL)/Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) Dirk Jaspers_Faijer, Director, Centro Latinoamericano y Caribeño de Demografía (CELADE) - División de Población /Chief, Latin American & Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division
- Sonia Montaña, Directora, División de Asuntos de Género/Chief, Division for Gender Affairs
- Ricardo Pérez, Director, División de Documentos y Publicaciones/Chief, Documents and Publications Division
- Luis Yáñez, Oficial a cargo, Secretaría de la Comisión/Officer in charge, Secretary of the Commission
- Nieves Rico, Oficial de Asuntos Sociales, División de Desarrollo Social/Social Affairs Officer, Social Development Division
- Paulo Saad, Jefe, Área de Población y Desarrollo, Centro Latinoamericano y Caribeño de Demografía (CELADE) - División de Población, Chief, Latin American & Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division
- Magda Ruiz, Asesora Regional, Centro Latinoamericano y Caribeño de Demografía (CELADE) - División de Población, Regional Adviser, Latin American & Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division
- Tim Miller, Experto en Demografía, Centro Latinoamericano y Caribeño de Demografía (CELADE) - División de Población, Expert, Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE) - Population Division

- Guillermo Acuña, Asistente Legal, Secretaría de la Comisión/Legal Assistant, Office of the Secretary of the Commission
- Sandra Huenchuan, Asistente de Investigación, Centro Latinoamericano y Caribeño de Demografía (CELADE) - División de Población, Research Assistant, Latin American & Caribbean Demographic Center (CELADE) - Population Division

Sede subregional de la CEPAL en México/ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico

- Hugo Beteta, Director

Sede subregional de la CEPAL para el Caribe/ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean

- Francis Jones, Population Affairs Officer