

MADRID INTERNATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION ON AGEING

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

A. PRIORITY DIRECTION I: OLDER PERSONS AND DEVELOPMENT

Issue 1: Active Participation in Society and Development

Objective 1: Recognition of the social, cultural, economic and political contribution of older persons.

Objective 2: Participation of older persons in decision-making processes at all levels.

Issue 2: Work and the Ageing Labour Force

Objective 1: Employment opportunities for all older persons who want to work.

Issue 3: Rural Development, Migration and Urbanization

Objective 1: Improvement of living conditions and infrastructure in rural areas.

Objective 2: Alleviation of the marginalization of older persons in rural areas.

Objective 3: Integration of older migrants within their new communities.

Issue 4: Access to Knowledge, Education and Training

Objective 1: Equality of opportunity throughout life with respect to continuing education, training and retraining as well as vocational guidance and placement services.

Objective 2: Full utilization of the potential and expertise of persons of all ages, recognizing the benefits of increased experience with age.

Issue 5: Intergenerational Solidarity

Objective 1: Strengthening of solidarity through equity and reciprocity between generations.

Issue 6: Eradication of Poverty

Objective 1: Reduction of poverty among older persons.

Issue 7: Income Security, Social Protection/Social Security and Poverty Prevention

Objective 1: Promotion of programmes to enable all workers to acquire basic social protection/social security, including where applicable, pensions, disability insurance and health benefits.

Objective 2: Sufficient minimum income for all older persons, paying particular attention to socially and economically disadvantaged groups.

Issue 8: Emergency Situations

Objective 1: Equal access by older persons to food, shelter and medical care and other services during and after natural disasters and other humanitarian emergencies.

Objective 2: Enhanced contributions of older persons to the reestablishment and reconstruction of communities and the rebuilding of the social fabric following emergencies.

B. PRIORITY DIRECTION II: ADVANCING HEALTH AND WELL-BEING INTO OLD AGE

Issue 1: Health Promotion and Well-being throughout Life

Objective 1: Reduction of the cumulative effects of factors that increase the risk of disease and consequently potential dependence in older age.

Objective 2: Development of policies to prevent ill-health among older persons.

Objective 3: Access to food and adequate nutrition for all older persons.

Issue 2: Universal and Equal Access to Health-Care Services

Objective 1: Elimination of social and economic inequalities based on age, gender or any other ground, including linguistic barriers, to ensure that older persons have universal and equal access to health care.

Objective 2: Development and strengthening of primary health-care services to meet the needs of

older persons and promote their inclusion in the process.

Objective 3: Development of a continuum of health care to meet the needs of older persons.

Objective 4: Involvement of older persons in the development and strengthening of primary and long-term care services.

Issue 3: Older Persons and HIV/AIDS

Objective 1: Improvement in the assessment of the impact of HIV/AIDS on the health of older persons, both for those who are infected and those who are caregivers for infected or surviving family members.

Objective 2: Provision of adequate information, training in care-giving skills, treatment, medical care and social support to older persons living with HIV/AIDS and their caregivers.

Objective 3: Enhancement and recognition of the contribution of older persons to development in their role as caregivers for children with chronic diseases, including HIV/AIDS, and as surrogate parents.

Issue 4: Training of Care Providers and Health Professionals

Objective 1: Provision of improved information and training for health professionals and para-professionals on the needs of older persons.

Issue 5: Mental Health needs of Older Persons

Objective 1: Development of comprehensive mental health-care services ranging from prevention to early intervention, the provision of treatment services and the management of mental health problems in older persons.

Issue 6: Older Persons and Disabilities

Objective 1: Maintenance of maximum functional capacity throughout the life course and promotion of the full participation of older persons with disabilities.

C. PRIORITY DIRECTION III: ENSURING ENABLING AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS

Issue 1: Housing and the Living Environment

Objective 1: Promotion of "ageing in place" in the community with due regard to individual preferences and affordable housing options for older persons.

Objective 2: Improvement in housing and environmental design to promote independent living by taking into account the needs of older persons in particular those with disabilities.

Objective 3: Improved availability of accessible and affordable transportation for older persons.

Issue 2: Care and Support for Caregivers

Objective 1: Provision of a continuum of care and services for older persons from various sources and support for caregivers.

Objective 2: Support the care-giving role of older persons, particularly older women.

Issue 3: Neglect, Abuse and Violence

Objective 1: Elimination of all forms of neglect, abuse and violence of older persons.

Objective 2: Creation of support services to address elder abuse.

Issue 4: Images of Ageing

Objective 1: Enhancement of public recognition of the authority, wisdom, productivity and other important contributions of older persons.