



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Population Activities Unit
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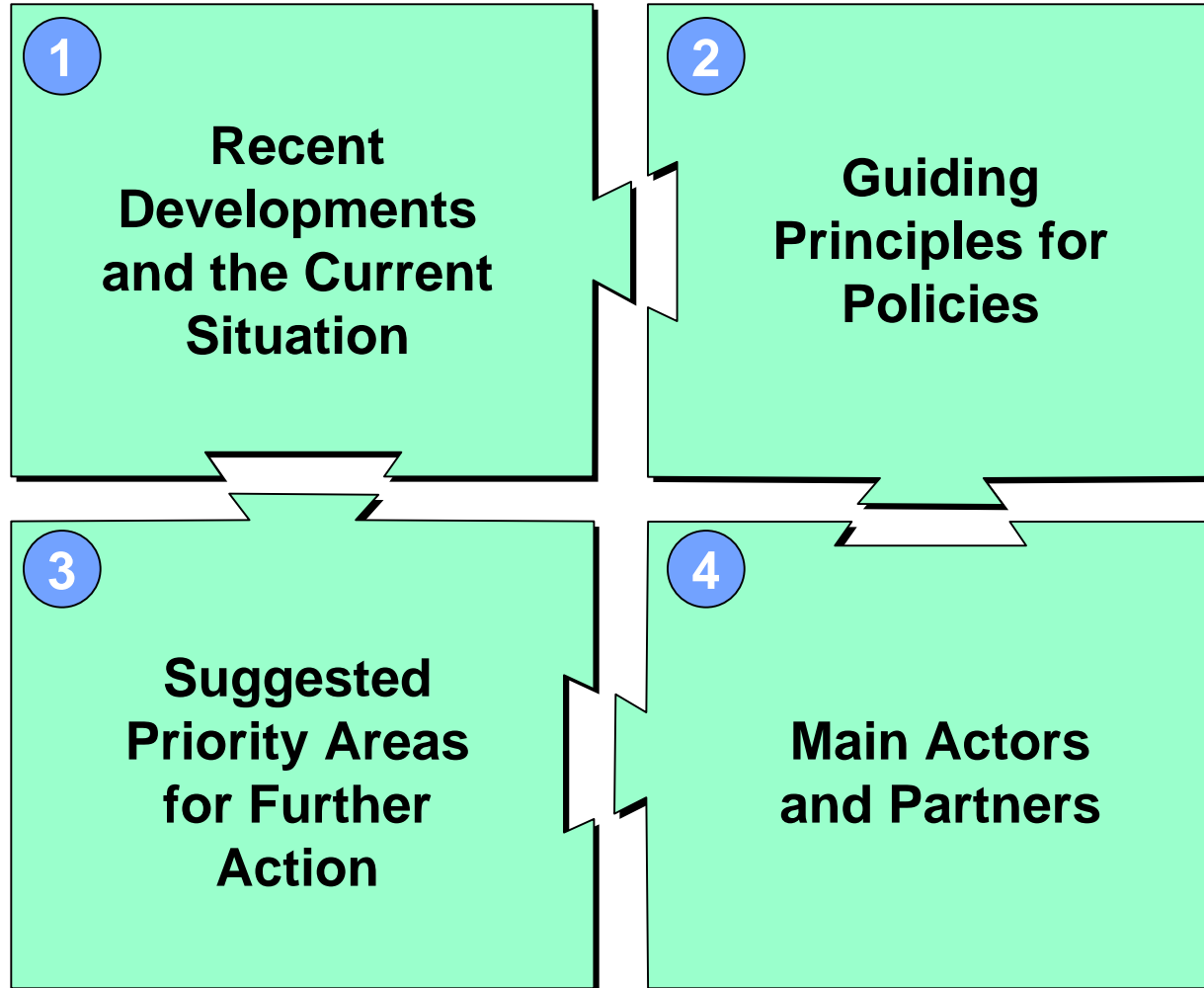
Draft Elements for the Political Declaration for the 2007 UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing

First meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the UNECE Ministerial
Conference on Ageing
Geneva, 12-13 July 2007



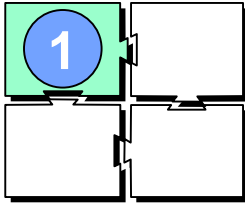
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The Draft Political Declaration should combine four main elements





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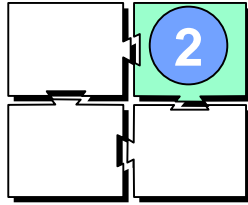
Building Block 1: Recent development and current situation

Proposed Keywords

- ▶ Demographic bonus coming to an end
- ▶ Rise in dependency ratios
- ▶ Rise in mean age
- ▶ Fertility fluctuations
- ▶ Difference in life expectancy between men and women
- ▶ Differences between member States
- ▶ Specific challenges for countries in transition
- ▶ UNECE regional report on ageing



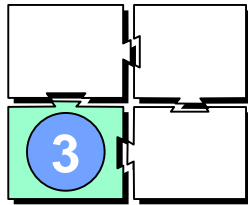
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Building Block 2: Guiding Principles for Policies

Proposed Keywords

- ▶ Reaffirmation of member state commitments to MIPAA/RIS
- ▶ Coordinated action
- ▶ Integrated approach to ageing
- ▶ Systematic approach to policymaking
- ▶ Citizen in the center
- ▶ Mainstreaming ageing
- ▶ Building a society for all ages
- ▶ Social cohesion
- ▶ Self-organization of civil society
- ▶ Bottom-up participatory approach
- ▶ Raising of public awareness through educational curricula and media
- ▶ Monitoring, evaluation and following up



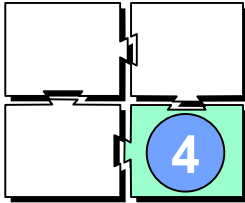
Building Block 3: Suggested Priority Areas for Further Action

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Proposed Keywords	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Age discrimination and abuse▶ Human rights▶ Special needs and rights of vulnerable population▶ Gender equality▶ Family needs▶ Dimensions of care▶ Care as a priority and a right▶ Activating, promoting and optimizing the functioning of individuals▶ Promotion of well-being and health▶ Prolongation of life free from disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Promotion of human development across the life course▶ Life-long learning▶ Service provision▶ Social protection mechanisms and emphasis on quality of life▶ Adjustment of retirement age▶ Integration to labor market▶ Life after retirement▶ Economic growth▶ Old age poverty▶ Indicators related to ageing▶ Research



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Building Block 4: Main Actors and Partners

Proposed Keywords

- ▶ Governments of UNECE member states
- ▶ Civil society
- ▶ International cooperation and monitoring
- ▶ Exchange of experiences among member states
- ▶ Coordination through UNECE secretariat
- ▶ Capacity building
- ▶ Acknowledgment of contributions:
Austria, Spain, UN Population Fund
- ▶ Establishment of intergovernmental body at UNECE
- ▶ Decision on next high-level meeting in five years



Modified elements

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- Inform citizens about new initiatives and reforms
 - RIS para. 9 and 14; Elements for 2007 para.12
- Promote “real empowerment” and involve civil society in decision-making processes
 - “bottom up approach” of RIS; Elements para. 17
- Point at “age discrimination” and abuse
 - RIS para. 8; Elements for 2007 para. 20
- Promote a new approach in care to optimize the functioning of human beings’ capacities
 - RIS Commitment 7; Elements for 2007 para. 26
- Focus on prolonging life free of disability
 - RIS Commitment 7; Elements for 2007 para. 28



New elements (1/2)

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- Improve the quality of policy advice in the whole ECE region through capacity building
 - Elements para. 19
- Introduce a systematic approach to programme development
 - Elements paras. 10 and 11
- Integrate the concerns of minorities
 - Elements para. 20
- Consider the importance of customs and traditions
 - Elements para. 37
- Enhance the follow-up process by compiling data and policy-relevant indicators
 - Elements para. 38



New elements (2/2)

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- Recognize and promote the need for research
 - [Elements para. 39](#)
- Strengthen the capacities of national and local authorities through capacity development
 - [Elements para. 44](#)
- Recognize contributions from Austria and Spain and call for voluntary contributions
 - [Elements para. 46, 47](#)
- Strengthen the central role of the UNECE secretariat by establishing an intergovernmental body
 - [Elements para. 43, 48](#)

Thank you for your attention.