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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

WORKING GROUP ON AGEING

First meeting
Geneva, 1–2 December 2008

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIRST MEETING

To be held in room XVI at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
beginning at 10 a.m. on Monday, 1 December 2008

At the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Ministerial Conference on Ageing (León, Spain, 6–8 November 2007), several countries expressed the need for a mechanism to ensure follow-up activities. In response, the UNECE Executive Committee decided at its twenty-fourth meeting to establish the Working Group on Ageing (ECE/EX/2008/L.11). The purpose of the Working Group is to reinforce and continue the implementation of the Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA/RIS) and the León Ministerial Declaration. The Working Group is expected to better integrate country-level expertise on ageing into UNECE work and to ensure that UNECE activities in this field continue to correspond to the needs of member States. For this first constituting meeting of the Working Group, the secretariat has developed the provisional agenda below.

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Decision of the Executive Committee on UNECE work on population.
4. International action supporting the Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing
 - (a) UNECE;
 - (b) United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs;
 - (c) European Commission;
 - (d) Collaboration with non-governmental organizations.
5. Programme of work for 2009–2010:
 - (a) Monitoring implementation: developing indicators, collecting data, disseminating information;
 - (b) Policy briefs with good practice examples;
 - (c) Capacity development;
 - (d) Analysis of intergenerational relationships;
 - (e) Concluding discussion.
6. Planning for performance evaluation.
7. Summary and conclusions.
8. Closing of the meeting.

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Monday, 1 December morning, starting 10 a.m.

Item 1: Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda (10 – 10.15 a.m.)

Documentation: Annotated provisional agenda (ECE/WG.1/2008/1)

1. A high-level representative of the secretariat will open the meeting.
2. The Working Group is expected to adopt the agenda.

Item 2: Election of officers (10.15 – 10.30 a.m.)

3. The Working Group will elect a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and the members of its Bureau.
4. The elected Chairperson will make introductory remarks.

Item 3: Decision of the Executive Committee on UNECE work on population (10.30 – 11 a.m.)

Documentation: Decision on matters relating to UNECE work on population: Establishment of the Working Group on Ageing (ECE/EX/2008/L.11)

5. The secretariat will inform the Working Group about the discussions relating to UNECE work on population at the UNECE Executive Committee and about the Executive Committee's decision to establish the Working Group as well as its terms of reference.
6. The Working Group may wish to take note of the information provided, in particular its terms of reference.

Item 4: International action supporting the implementation of the Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (11 a.m. – 1 p.m.)

7. The Working Group may wish to comment and take note of the information provided under the sub-items below in view of the discussion on the programme of work that will follow under item 5.

(a) UNECE

8. The secretariat will provide a brief account of its activities related to the MIPAA/RIS since the León Ministerial Conference.

(b) United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

9. A representative of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) will inform the Working Group about the global review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action, the strategic implementation framework prepared for the 2009 session of the Commission for Social Development and the envisaged role for the regional commissions.

(c) European Commission

10. A representative of the European Commission will inform the Working Group about the Commission's activities that have direct relevance to the Working Group's mandate.

(d) Collaboration with non-governmental organizations

11. A representative of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) will inform the Working Group about ways that NGOs active in the field of ageing, in particular those operating internationally, could contribute to the implementation of the MIPAA/RIS.

Monday, 1 December afternoon, starting 3 p.m.

Item 5: Programme of work for 2009–2010

12. The secretariat will explain the rationale of the proposed draft.
13. The Working Group will review the draft programme of work for 2009–2010 and take decisions on each sub-item below.

Documentation: Draft programme of work (ECE/WG.1/2008/3)

(a) Monitoring implementation: developing indicators, collecting data, disseminating information (3.15 – 4.45 p.m.)

14. The MIPAA/RIS commitments provide a broad framework of areas in which progress is to be made. Indicators of achievement would measure and help understand progress in implementation. A representative of the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research will present a proposal on monitoring activities, including conceptual work on indicators, the related data collection and dissemination, which could constitute the basis of the Working Group's activities in this area.

15. Delegates will be invited to discuss the proposed activities.
16. The Working Group may wish to decide on monitoring activities to be included in the programme of work.

(b) Policy briefs with good practice examples (4.45 – 6 p.m.)

17. Exchange of experience has been emphasized as a crucial component in international support to the implementation of the MIPAA/RIS. To facilitate the exchange, the secretariat has developed a proposal for a series of policy briefs, which will be presented to the Working Group.

18. Invited delegations will be requested to make brief interventions on the good practice examples presented.
19. Delegations may wish to discuss the presented proposal and the examples.
20. The Working Group may wish to decide on the topics and format of the policy brief series to be included in the programme of work.

Tuesday, 2 December morning, starting 10 a.m.

(c) Capacity development (10 a.m. – noon)

21. Based on the information shared in international meetings and capacity development workshops related to the MIPAA/RIS, topics will be presented on which capacity development could focus. The secretariat will present a proposal for a subregional capacity development workshop.

22. Representatives of UNDESA, the United Nations Population Fund and the International Institute of Ageing will make a short intervention on how they could contribute to such activities.

23. Delegations may wish to comment on the presented proposals and bring up issues where capacity development could be particularly beneficial to them. Delegations may also wish to inform the Working Group on how their countries could contribute to capacity development and whether they are willing to organize and host a capacity development workshop.

24. The Working Group may wish to decide on capacity development activities to be included in the programme of work.

(d) Analysis of intergenerational relationships (noon – 1 p.m.)

25. On the basis of the data collected in the UNECE Generations and Gender Programme on intergenerational relationships, a proposal is put forward on how to benefit from this work to support policymaking related to intra- and intergenerational solidarity (commitment 9 of the MIPAA/RIS).

26. The Working Group may wish to discuss and decide on the format and content of the analysis to be included in the programme of work.

Tuesday, 2 December afternoon, starting 3 p.m.

(e) Concluding discussion (3 – 4.30 p.m.)

27. The Chairperson will summarize the decisions on each programme element and the main points of the discussion.

28. The Working Group is expected to approve its programme of work.

Item 6: Planning for performance evaluation (4.30 – 5.15 p.m.)

Documentation: Reporting on programme performance (ECE/WG.1/2008/4)

29. The secretariat will briefly present the document containing the draft expected accomplishments the related indicators of the UNECE subprogramme on housing, land management and population for the biennium 2008–2009 and the draft strategic framework for the biennium 2010–2011.

30. The Working Group may wish to take note of the provided information pertaining to the cluster of activities on population.

Item 7: Summary and conclusions (5.15 – 5.45 p.m.)

31. The Chairperson, with the assistance of the secretariat, will summarize the meeting's decisions. The scheduling of the next meetings of the Working Group and the Bureau will be proposed and decided upon.

Item 8: Closing of the meeting (5.45 – 6 p.m.)

32. The Chairperson will close the meeting.
