



# UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Population Unit

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## Decisions from day 1 and 2

5th meeting of the Working Group on Ageing  
Geneva, 22-23 November 2012



# Decisions: day 1

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## Items 1-3 of the Agenda

- Agenda adopted without additional changes
- Amendments to the terms of Reference of the Working Group on Ageing adopted (Russia abstained)
- The Working Group agrees on the composition of the Bureau until the next WGA meeting:
  - Armenia (Vice-Chair), Austria (Chair), Belgium, Canada, Germany, Georgia, Malta, Serbia, Spain and Dirk Jarre (NGO-representative) and Bernd Marin (European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research Vienna)
- The Working group took note of the current status of the EXCOM review of UNECE 2005 Reform



# Decisions: day 1

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## Item 4 of the Agenda:

- Report on the UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing (Vienna, September 2012):
  - The success of the Conference attested by the WGA members (high participation, relevance of the topics, high-level engagement, prominent role of the NGO and research community)
  - Critical remarks: expert panels focused more on the technical aspects and somewhat shied away from bringing in “hot” topics of abuse, rights, etc.; ministerial panels could be more interactive
  - The Vienna Ministerial Declaration unanimously adopted by 50 MS reaffirmed the mandate of WGA and will guide the work programme of WG.
  - UNECE will publish the proceedings of the Ministerial Conference, with the synthesis report, keynote speeches, reporters’ summaries, and all three declarations included (early next year)
  - Proceedings of the NGO and Research forums will be published with support by European Commission



# Decisions: day 1

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## Items 5 & 6

- Concluding the second cycle of review and appraisal of RIS/MIPAA
  - In total 40 reports received - Latvia and Turkey submitted reports recently. The late reports will not be included in the Synthesis Report but areas of achievements and challenges will be incorporated into the final recap. table
  - UNECE will present the Synthesis Report and results of the Ministerial Conference at the 51<sup>st</sup> session of the UN SDC. Higher representation at this session by MS is encouraged
- The WGA work programme for 2012-2013 and beyond
  - Report on successful implementation of the main elements of the WG work programme in 2012 was approved
  - Main planned outputs for 2013 were agreed including a topic for a Policy brief -“Abuse of older persons”
  - Work programme for the for the 3<sup>rd</sup> MIPAA/RIS cycle will be drafted by the extended Bureau (volunteers from MS) discussed at the 2013 Bureau meeting
  - Inputs from WGA members (electronic communication) were encouraged



# Decisions: day 2

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## Items 6 of the Agenda

- The WGA work programme for 2012-2013 and beyond

4 groups were formed to agree on focus (within the respective goal of the Declaration) for the next year's interactive discussion at the WGA meeting

- Group 1: Promoting Longer working life...
  - Leader – tbn, rapporteur- Ms. Kasia Jurczak, priority theme: Age friendly working conditions; age-management strategies (involving corporations/businesses)
- Group 2: Participation, non-discrimination and social inclusion...
  - Leader – Ms. Dorika Seib, rapporteur- Mr. Dirk Jarré , priority theme: Reducing material deprivation and facilitating the access to resources and empowering older people
- Group 3: Dignity, health and independence...
  - Leader - Mr. Ronan Toomey , rapporteur - tbn; priority theme: abuse of older persons
- Group 4: Intergenerational solidarity
  - Leader – tbn, rapporteur- Mr. Dirk Moens, priority theme: strengthening intergenerational dialogue

***Group 2: proposed a well structured way to advance work within the group and inform all WGA members on the results of internal discussion/exchange of experience***



# Decisions: day 2

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## Item 8 of the Agenda

- The Working group took note of the report on the current status of the discussions at the UN Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWGA)
  - Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, Poland, Belgium, Portugal, Netherlands, Ireland, Germany, and United States stated their official position by expressing reservations towards new international legal instruments dedicated to the human rights of older persons
  - Austria, France, Serbia and Georgia expressed their openness to the on-going discussion at the OEWG in New York
  - All countries stressed a need for a more focussed attention to the implementation of the existing normative instruments in this area



# Decisions: day 2

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## Items 7 and 9 of the Agenda

- The Working group took note of the report on the financing of the work programme
- Approved list of main decisions of the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the WGA
- Date and place of the next Bureau meeting
  - 21-22 May 2013, Belgrade (Serbia)
- Date and place of the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Group on Ageing
  - 25-26 November 2013, Geneva
  - If some MS would propose to host the annual session outside Geneva, WGA would be open to consider this possibility