

**AGEING – A CHALLENGE AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE COUNTRIES OF EASTERN
EUROPE, CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA
TRAINING WORKSHOP**

Chisinau, 13-16 March 2007

Documents to be submitted three weeks before the workshop (deadline: 1 March 2007)

One of the main objectives of the workshop is to share experiences.

For the preparation of the workshop, we would kindly like to ask you to provide us three different documents by 1 March 2007. These documents should be jointly elaborated by the two representatives of your country participating in the workshop (1 representative of the government; 1 UNFPA staff member).

- 1. Situation, Activities and Priorities Related to Ageing in your country (800 words, 2 pages)**
- 2. National Capacities for Follow-up to MIPAA/RIS (800 words, 2 pages)**
- 3. Detailed information on one RIS commitment (4 pages, 1600 words)**

Please note that these documents would constitute sections of the country report on the implementation of MIPAA/RIS, which the UNECE secretariat has requested by 16 April 2007, and that the detailed guidelines in the following pages are corresponding extracts from the guidelines for the country reports.

If you would like to make a presentation at the workshop and share the experiences in your country on a specific issue, we would like you to prepare a power-point presentation.

A country presentation could be based on any of the above three documents :

- a) Situation, Activities and Priorities Related to Ageing in your country
- b) National Capacities for Follow-up to MIPAA/RIS
- c) Detailed information on one RIS commitment

We would appreciate hearing back from you as soon as possible and at the latest by 19 February whether you would be interested in making a country presentation, and if so, on which topic. A country presentation should last no longer than 15 minutes.

1. Situation, Activities and Priorities Related to Ageing in your country (800 words, 2 pages)

You are invited to provide an overview over the national ageing situation in your country. Please kindly refer to the guidelines for reporting on national follow-up, chapter 1.

This first chapter includes an overview of the national ageing situation with respect to demographic, social, economic and political developments.

One of the key objectives of the workshop in Moldova is to allow Member States share good practices and different approaches to similar challenges and opportunities related to the ageing of their societies, deeply understanding the different contexts in which the latter evolves. Therefore, this chapter may consist of the following sections:

- *Presentation of **demographic indicators** that could help better understand the country's development regarding the issues discussed.*
- *Presentation of key quantitative social and **economic indicators** and features that may help to put into focus the issues treated and ease quantitative analyses.*
- *Brief description of the **social and political situation**, which may help to understand in which context ageing related issues are dealt with in your country*

You are invited to use the indicators developed in the European Centre Vienna [MA:IMI](http://www.euro.centre.org/detail.php?xml_id=81) project (http://www.euro.centre.org/detail.php?xml_id=81) for the above descriptions.

b) Instrumental assessment

This assessment should focus on **policies, laws and regulations** adopted and/or modified since the Berlin 2002 Conference (in the last five years) (for instance, a new law on palliative care, etc.); on **programmes** established to adjust to demographic change (such as a new program for home care, etc.); on measures to adapt the **physical environment** (such as new housing or new transportation facilities for older persons); and on the allocation and rates of change per annum of **budgets** relevant for ageing related issues.

c) Identification of areas for in-depth evaluation

Based on the overview of the national ageing situation and the instrumental assessment, an identification of national priorities can be undertaken. These priorities reflect the main axes of intervention for your country and indicate which areas deserve an in-depth evaluation. These priorities would also be the subject of the short (max. seven minute) statement that your government delegation may wish to make at the Commission for Social Development in February 2007.

2. National Capacities for Follow-up to MIPAA/RIS (800 words, 2 pages)

You are invited to provide an overview over the current situation in your country. Please kindly refer to the guidelines for reporting on national follow-up, chapter 3.

This document analyses to what extent national capacities exist to ensure national follow-up of the commitments made by your country in the MIPAA/RIS. Issues to be analyzed could include:

- a) *institutional follow-up: what institutions are responsible for follow-up to MIPAA/RIS?*
- b) *organizations of older persons: do national organizations of older people take part in the follow-up activities?*
- c) *educational, training and research activities on ageing: what activities on education, training and research are undertaken in your country with regard to ageing?*
- d) *data collection and analysis: does the available data and research allow getting an adequate picture on ageing related situation in your country?*
- e) *mobilization of financial resources: what resources have been specifically dedicated to MIPAA/RIS follow-up?*
- f) *independent and impartial monitoring of progress in implementation: what are the monitoring mechanisms in place for the review and appraisal of MIPAA/RIS?*

3. Detailed information on one RIS commitment (4 pages, 2000 words)

Please provide detailed information on one RIS commitment, which is considered a priority by your country. To do so, please kindly follow the guidelines for reporting on national follow-up.

Example: your country chooses RIS commitment number 4 as one of its priority commitments (but you may also chose any other RIS commitment). In this case, we would like to ask you to respond to the following questions:

RIS Commitment 4: Adjustment of social protection systems in response to demographic changes and their social and economic consequences

Member States committed to take steps to **ensure the financial sustainability of social protection systems** in the face of demographic ageing. They agreed that social security systems should strengthen incentives for citizens to participate in the labour force while protecting the weakest groups in society. Social protection systems should be adjusted so that they can fulfil their basic functions of safeguarding those who are deprived and covering those who are at risk. They need to be supported by high level of employment, comprehensive health services, functioning educational systems and active labour market policies.

In this regard, the Member States agreed to pursue the objective of preserving and strengthening the basic objectives of **social protection**, namely to prevent and/or reduce poverty and provide adequate benefits for all. In addition, the Member States agreed to adapt existing social protection systems to demographic changes and changes in family structures.

- a) *How has your country adapted social protection systems to societal and demographic changes?*
- b) *What steps has your country taken to achieve a sufficient income for all older persons?*
- c) *What policies has it adopted to address on time the needs of older persons for a variety of social and health services, including sheltered housing and long-term care?*
- d) *How has your country promoted standards of living for persons with disability and for fragile older persons that allow them to maintain their independence and dignity?*

Member States also committed to establishing a regulatory framework for occupational and private **pension provision**.

- a) *What steps has your country taken to establish or further develop a regulatory framework for occupational and private pension provision?*

b) Which changes have been implemented to the laws regulating mandatory retirement?

Member States also pledged to pay special attention to the social protection of women and men throughout their life course.

a) What policies has your country adopted to ensure the equal treatment of men and women in social protection systems?

b) What policies has your country adopted to ensure that social protection systems support a better reconciliation of work and family responsibilities throughout the life cycle (e.g. through special leave arrangements for working parents and other caregivers, or supportive measures such as respite care services (professional care services provided on an ad-hoc basis to give the regular caregiver some time off)?