

Decisions taken at the second quarter session of the Bureau of the Standing Working Group on Ageing on 24 June 2021

The second quarter session of the Bureau took place on 24 June 2021 and was held online. The Bureau members from the following member States participated in the meeting: France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Republic of Moldova, Slovenia, and Spain. The Chair, Mr. Edmundo Martinho (Portugal), was excused and represented by his representative. Mr. Kai Leichsenring, European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research (European Centre Vienna), and Ms. Heidrun Mollenkopf, Age Platform Europe, participated on behalf of research and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), respectively. In addition, a team of four representatives of Italy, host country of the 2022 Ministerial Conference, took part in the meeting. The session was chaired by the Vice-chair Mr. Alexis Rinckenbach (France).

- Date and place for the UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing was confirmed by the host country – it will be held in Rome, Italy, on 16 and 17 June 2022.
- The joint Civil Society and Scientific Research Forum will precede the Conference and take place on 15 June 2022.
- The working title of the Conference was discussed and agreed – “A sustainable world for all ages: joining forces for solidarity and equal opportunities throughout life”.
- The Conference Content Group presented a draft on the Conference content and structure. It was discussed and accepted with some proposed changes. The themes for the expert panels were proposed as follows:
 - (1) Promoting active and healthy ageing throughout life;
 - (2) Ensuring access to long-term care, and support to families and caregivers;
 - (3) Mainstreaming ageing to advance a society for all ages.
- The Declaration Drafting Group presented a draft text for the Ministerial Declaration. The general format and content were discussed at length. Due to limited time, it was agreed to have additional online drafting sessions and revise the document according to the received comments.
- The secretariat will facilitate the drafting process and before the end of July will share the two documents – a zero draft of the Ministerial Declaration and a draft on the Conference content and structure - with members of the Standing Working Group for review and comments. The deadline for comments is 15 September 2021.
- Draft Provisional Agenda for the 14th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Ageing (22-23 November 2021, Geneva) was presented, discussed, and agreed upon taking into account that the current hybrid mode allows for usual morning and afternoon three-hour sessions with interpretation.
- The next quarterly session of the Bureau will take place at the end of September. The date will be confirmed later.