



***FIRST MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLE***  
***“ENSURING ACCESS TO LONG-TERM CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARERS AND FAMILIES”***  
***17 DE JUNIO DE 2022***  
***11:30-13:00***

***INTRODUCTION & MODERATOR:*** Vice-Chair of the Conference

***INTERVENTIONS:*** ministers and heads of delegations

***RAPPORTEUR:*** tbn, UNFPA Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office

Thank you chair

First, I want to thank the United Nations for the preparation of this conference, and to the Italian government for hosting the event. I also want to express our recognition to the Standing Working Group on Ageing, and to the Population Unit for all the work done.

Twenty years after the Madrid International Plan of Action (MIPAA), we meet here to renovate our commitment to build more inclusive, accessible, sustainable, age-friendly, and person-centered care systems.

In Spain, LTC is regulated by a Law approved in two thousand and six, which was a milestone in the public action. It structured the System for Autonomy and Attention to Dependency.

Today, we are working towards a profound transformation in the care policy.

The person-centered attention, community-based services, the dignity of care, and the full respect for each person's life project are guiding the Spanish roadmap.

For this transformation process we have a twofold approach. An immediate shock plan for dependency, to solve the most urgent problems; and a medium-term global strategy to make structural changes.

The Dependency Shock Plan was approved in January 2021. I would like to mention its main lines of action and the results already achieved:

- First, increasing economical investment. The budget allocated by the Central Government for dependency was doubled in the last two years. This amount together with the regional investment makes a total of more than 10.5 billion euros for 2022.
- Second, to improve access, by **reducing the waiting list**. So far, we have already reduced in a 12% the people waiting to be evaluated, and the number of people waiting to receive care in another 17%. Today, one hundred thousand more people are receiving services than a year ago. But still we have work to do to simplify access to social services.
- Third, to improve services with a new accreditation and quality framework, which has been designed, and debated with all the stakeholders and regional administrations, **and will be approved shortly**.
- And fourth, to **improve working conditions**. We have increased ratios and promoted training and capacities as well as quality of the employment in the care sector.

Besides the Shock Plan, we are working on a mid-term strategy to strengthen community care and support systems, so LTC facilities are not the main (nor unique) option for people that need care. Among its lines of action, we can highlight:

- The reform of the structure of the Long-Term Care Centers, as well as how care is provided. **We want to change architecture as well as mindset**.
- The promotion of **better and more coordinated community services**, aimed at the permanence of people in their environment, at home, if they so decide.
- And to improve the **coordination between social and health services** to guarantee health care to **all** people in **all** situations.

And **all this** is strongly supported and boosted by the Component 22 of the Spanish Plan for the Next Generation European Funds, which **addresses specifically the improvement of the care system**.

These are some of the challenges that Spain has ahead, and most of them are shared by the rest of the countries, as we have heard.

The Declaration that is going to be approved today considers our challenges and defines lines of action to face them. We trust that this Declaration will be **once more** a stimulus to improve our public policies on ageing.

Thank you