



UNECE



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

MIPAA at 20: fit for the future?

Side event | 61st session of the Commission for Social Development

8 February 2023 | 1.15-2.30 PM EST | Conference Room 8 UN Headquarters

A light lunch will be served before the event.

1. Background

The Fourth Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) at the 61st Session of the Commission for Social Development marks the 20-year milestone of MIPAA implementation, which was adopted at the Second World Assembly on Ageing in April 2002. To this day its bold and comprehensive vision for a society for all ages remains the leading international policy framework on ageing and has guided policy developments around the world. But is MIPAA fit for the future? Or do we need to adjust and strengthen the international policy framework on ageing to better respond to the dynamics, challenges and changed realities that shape our world 20 years after its adoption?

The side event, which will build on the deliberations of the [High-Level Panel discussion on the Fourth Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action at the 61st session of the Commission for Social Development](#) that precedes it, invites Member States, United Nations representatives and civil society stakeholders to share their vision on what is needed at both international and national levels, to strengthen the international agenda on ageing going forward.

We celebrate the 20-year milestone of MIPAA implementation against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic that has caused untold suffering and loss of life, disproportionately affecting the health, lives, rights and well-being of older people across the world. The pandemic has uncovered the shortcomings in the protection of the needs and human rights of older persons and drawn international attention to the urgency of addressing them.

The side event invites participants to discuss the success, the challenges and future of MIPAA and how synergies in the global implementation of MIPAA, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing and the human rights of older persons can be achieved and how these different processes can be better be interlinked to create a positive dynamic to the implementation of MIPAA and the lives of older persons worldwide. The side event also strives to discuss adequate responses to new dynamics and challenges of the changed realities (digitalization, climate change, among others).

2. Objective

The session will aim to:

- Identify challenges for the implementation of MIPAA
- Highlight opportunities for cross-regional learning
- Discuss how a positive dynamic can be created to improve the lives of older persons
- Discuss how MIPAA can give answers to the changed realities

3. Participants

The session will bring together government representatives, civil society, research, and international organizations in an inclusive discussion.

4. Proposed Agenda

5 mins	Opening remarks – Mr. Alfredo Ferrante – Chair UNECE Standing Working Group on Ageing
40 mins	<p>Panel discussion</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Amal Abou Rafeh, Chief, Programme on Ageing, DESA</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Daniel Zavala Porras, Vice-Chair, Commission for Social Development• Mr. Alexandre Sidorenko, Senior Adviser, European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research and former Head of DESA Programme on Ageing• Ms. Elmas Esra CECELİ, Director General of Services for Persons with Disabilities and the Elderly, Türkiye• Ms. Heidrun Mollenkopf, NGO Representative to the Bureau of the UNECE Standing Working Group on Ageing• Ms. Maren Jimenez, Social Affairs Officers, Division for Inclusive Social Development, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What challenges hinder the implementation of MIPAA?• How could a new dynamic be created to improve the lives of older persons?• What could be adequate responses to the changed realities?• Is MIPAA sufficient to respond to population ageing?• What are some opportunities for cross-regional learning?
25 mins	Interactive discussion with Regional Commissions, Member States, and Civil Society.
5 mins	<p>Key messages and outlook</p> <p>Ms. Amal Abou Rafeh, Chief, Programme on Ageing, DESA</p>

The event is co-sponsored by Germany, Italy, Türkiye, and UNDESA and is organised by the UNECE Standing Working Group on Ageing.