FINAL REPORT

27th Anniversary of the United Nations International Day of Older Persons (UNIDOP)

Stepping into the Future
Tapping the Talents and Participation of Older Persons

ECOSOC Chamber, UNHQ, New York
5 October 2017 (3–6 PM)

Organized by
The NGO Committee on Ageing/NY
www.ngocoa-ny.org

In partnership with
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Focal Point on Ageing

Sponsored by
The Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations

UN2017 Video
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XOyA8HHakaE

UN Archive
http://webtv.un.org
2017 Event Co-Sponsors

Group of Friends of Older Persons at the United Nations in New York

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Laurie Norris, in memory of Clarence Pearson
The 27th anniversary of the United Nations International Day of Older Persons (UNIDOP) took place on October 5, 2017 at the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Chamber of UN headquarters in New York from 3 to 6 pm. UNIDOP explored the future of global ageing, examining how technology, entrepreneurship and civic engagement enhance older persons’ contributions and participation in global societies. 2017 UNIDOP also featured the formal launch of the highlights of World Population Ageing 2017 prepared by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). Following the UNIDOP event, an evening reception was held at the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) headquarters in New York.

UNIDOP was organized by the NGO Committee on Ageing, New York (NGOCOA-NY) in partnership with UNDESA Focal Point on Ageing and sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the UN. The Group of Friends of Older Persons at the UN, New York and the United States Mission to the UN were UNIDOP’s co-sponsors. Co-Chairs of the 2017 UNIDOP Program Subcommittee were Sandra Timmermann, Ed.D, UN Representative of the International Federation on Ageing and Rebecca Riger Tsurumi, PhD, UN Representative of AARP.

As the world population rapidly ages, there must be wide opportunities for older persons to contribute and participate fully in their global communities and societies. 2017 UNIDOP showcased cutting-edge research, age-related technological innovations and models of civic involvement and entrepreneurship.
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Opening Session
Welcome
Janet Sigal, Chair of the NGO Committee on Ageing in New York
Sandra Timmermann and Rebecca Riger Tsurumi, Co-Chairs, UNIDC Program
Sub-committee, NGO Committee on Ageing in New York

Remarks
František Ružička, Chef de Cabinet to the President of the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly
Frederico S. Duque Estrada Meyer, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Mission of Brazil to the United Nations on behalf of the Group of Friends of Older Persons
Thomas Gass, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, UNDESA
Lakshmi Puri, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Deputy Executive Director of UNWOMEN

Formal Launch: World Population Ageing 2017 Highlights
Sara Hertog, Population Affairs Officer, UNDESA Population Division

Keynote Address: A Solution Waiting to Happen
Marc Freedman, Founder and CEO, Encore.org

Panel Discussion: “Stepping into the Future - Tapping the Talents and Participation of Older Persons”
Moderator
Donna Butts, Executive Director of Generations United
Panelists
Frank Leyhausen, General Manager, MedCom International, Germany
Edward Rogoff, Dean at LIU Brooklyn School of Business, Public Administration, and Information Sciences, USA
Livingstone Bartholomew Byekwaso, Executive Director of the NGO Saidia Wazee Karagwe (SAWAKA), Tanzania

Interactive dialogue

Closing Session
Remarks
Lidija Dravec, Vice-Chair of the General Assembly’s eighth session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing
Rosemary Lane, Focal Point on Ageing, UNDESA
Janet Sigal, Chair of the NGOCOA-NY and Main UN Representative of the American Psychological Association

In her welcoming remarks at UNIDOP, Janet Sigal spoke on behalf of the NGOCOA-NY, acknowledging its partnership with UN DESA Focal Point on Ageing and the sponsorship of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the UN. Sigal thanked the co-sponsors of UNIDOP, including the 20 member states in the Group of Friends of Older Persons New York and the Permanent Mission of the United States to the UN. She also referred to the generous support of Pfizer, AARP and Ms. Laurie Norris in memory of her late husband Clarence Pearson. Sigal pointed out that the NGOCOA-NY has worked on behalf of older persons since its inception in 1977, raising world awareness of the opportunities and challenges of global ageing. Through the NGOCOA’s Stakeholder Group on Ageing, which worked on the formation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) leading to the 2030 Agenda, the ageing community successfully highlighted the importance of the inclusion of older persons concerns and making older persons visible. She thanked the UNIDOP Co-Chairs and the Planning Subcommittee with the assistance of UN DESA and the Focal Point on Ageing.

Welcoming Remarks of UNIDOP Co-Chairs: Sandra Timmermann, Ed.D, UN Representative of the International Federation on Ageing and Rebecca Riger Tsurumi, PhD, UN Representative of AARP

Sandra Timmermann focused her remarks on the theme of UNIDOP and why it was selected. She noted that while we are all well aware of older people throughout the world who live in poverty and are victims of abuse, she wanted to highlight the other side of the story. Timmermann emphasized that older people have much to contribute, including their current roles as family caregivers, community leaders and entrepreneurs of business startups. She affirmed that “all of this untapped talent could be mobilized for the greater social good and to make the world a better place for our descendants.” She looked forward to the end of ageist stereotypes, moving toward
an appreciation and utilization of older persons’ talents while meeting their needs to give back to society.

In her comments, Rebecca Riger Tsurumi pointed to the “formidable challenges and prodigious opportunities” that ageing presents to our global society. What is certain, she said, is that today we must be ready for the coming boom in ageing and ensure that “older people play a central role in preparing for that vital, universal process” by enabling them to fully participate in their communities and societies. Tsurumi observed that the 2017 UNIDOP event put a spotlight on the future by analyzing three key elements: technology, entrepreneurship and civic engagement to strengthen older persons’ contributions. In her view, the UNIDOP program hoped to provide a perspective on where we are now and where we are headed, what we have accomplished and what needs to be done.
František Ružička

CHEF DE CABINET TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE 72ND SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Ambassador Ružička cited the example of his friend, an entrepreneur who ran his family’s business until it closed. Instead of retiring, when he was in his sixties, his friend chose to start a new company that became a success. This is proof, Ružička said, that it is never too late to start a new business because “age is still just a number.” The Ambassador welcomed the launch of the highlights of 2017 World Population Ageing at UNIDOP. In his view, data and analyses are critical to our ability to respond to demographic trends showing the ageing of society. Referring to older persons’ contributions around the world, Ružička observed, if we want to attain the full potential of our human resources, we should encourage greater participation by older persons. He affirmed that our goals and policies must reflect their challenges, contributions and rights now and in the future. Referring to the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPA), he said that older people must be recognized as “change agents and active contributors” to their societies. With the implementation of the SDGs,” he added, “we can integrate the contributions of older persons who have significant skills and expertise which we cannot afford to lose.” Recognizing the vulnerability of some older persons, he urged that their specific concerns be reflected in the
SDGs. He added, that we must “apply zero tolerance for any abuse or negligence affecting the needs and rights of anyone, including older people, whose vulnerability may increase by age.” In his conclusion, he said “tapping the talents of older persons is not an option but... a necessity” and called for the promotion of civic involvement, entrepreneurship and technological innovations that safeguard and benefit older persons.

Frederico S. Duque Estrada Meyer

**DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE, MISSION OF BRAZIL, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF FRIENDS OF OLDER PERSONS**

Deputy Permanent Representative Estrada Meyer said he was happy to be at the UNIDOP celebration on October 5th because it was his father’s 92nd birthday. Speaking on behalf of the Group of Friends of Older Persons, he observed that UNIDOP is important because it reminds us of older persons’ contributions to society, the need to help them fulfill this purpose and to recognize their human rights. He sees the 2017 UNIDOP theme as aligning perfectly with the efforts and contributions of older persons to achieve the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs around the world. Citing the projected boom in our aging population, Estrada Meyer, said this rapid increase presented a real challenge to our society’s development, and more attention must be given to the challenges affecting older persons. He affirmed the importance of empowering older persons to make contributions so they will not only be “recipients of social protections but also active agents and beneficiaries of change.” He affirmed that we should encourage “intergenerational dialogue, solidarity and coexistence” to increase society’s cohesiveness. Despite the international community’s prior success in supporting, protecting and empowering older persons, Estrada Meyer warned that it was not enough. If we support older persons' human rights and their active participation in society, he noted, we can achieve the promise of the 2030 Agenda, uphold commitments made at MIPA and reflect the potential of 21st century by supporting “the development of society of all ages.” He pledged the Group of Friends’ commitment to the full participation of older persons in a “social, economic, cultural and political life” without discrimination or violence so they can enjoy human rights and freedoms and take part in their societies and development. He affirmed that it is the responsibility of all UN members to make it possible for older persons to become “genuine rights holders and active beneficiaries and contributors.
Thomas Gass

ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL, POLICY COORDINATION AND INTERAGENCY AFFAIRS, UNDESA

Assistant Secretary General Gass thanked the organizers of UNIDOP, the NGO COA-NY, its sponsors, the Permanent Mission of Argentina and co-sponsors, the Group of Friends of Older Persons for drawing the world’s attention to the importance of UNIDOP. He joined other UN speakers in making the connection between facilitating older persons’ contributions to society and realizing the goals and targets of the 2030 agenda and MIPA. Attaining the goals of older persons, he maintained, connects “the future that we need with the talents, experience, wisdom but also …the passion of older persons.” Referring to the predictions of an explosion in the global aging population by 2030, Gass said that this megatrend must be considered in the implementation of the SDGs that requires the “real inclusion of older persons.” The Assistant Secretary-General also called on the UN and the world outside its limits, to make a major effort to boost the importance of aging issues and ensure that the needs and interests of older persons will be taken seriously to fulfill the promises of the SDGs. In that spirit, Gass announced that UNDESA and UNDP have launched an informal network of groups within the UN committed to the discussion and information exchange on age-related work and to finding areas of cooperation and synergy. Among some of the UN entities taking part in this new network are UNFPA, ILO, OHCHR, UN-Women, WHO, and ESCWA.

Lakshmi Puri

ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UN WOMEN

Assistant Secretary-General Puri asserted that we must not tolerate ageism against the young or old just as we fight against gender-based discrimination. Referring to the fact that women tend to live longer than men, she cited statistics to show that women make up a large majority of the older population and that the proportion of females of the total population increases with age. Puri observed that while older women are often the
mainstays of their families, they are also among the most vulnerable, and “the greatest but most overlooked and underappreciated” sources of experience, knowledge and skills in the world. At the same time, she explained, lower income, lack of access to education, full employment, health and social protection, all expose women to poverty. So far, Puri said, governments have been slow to create policies to protect the rights and tackle the needs of older persons, especially older women. Puri highlighted the link between the UNIDOP theme and Agenda 2030 when she asked: “How can older women be beneficiaries and contributors to the implementation of Agenda 2030?” She observed that a combination of ageism and gender-based discrimination cause us to neglect older women, a very rich social and economic resource in their roles as caregivers and care receivers. In her view, older women are an under tapped productive sector with the potential to contribute their knowledge, experience, resourcefulness and social and community authority. Puri added that their wisdom and social equity make them “community harmonizers and builders of sustainable development.” Puri called for a policy and attitudinal shift to reflect the contributions of older women to society and to enable them to realize their full potential. Puri concluded, “it is never too late for action to empower older people and to support the promotion and protection of the human rights of older persons.”
In the launch of the *Highlights Report on World Population Ageing 2017*, Hertog presented two new sets of data produced by UNDESA’s Population Division. The first is the 2017 revision of biennial data called *World Population Prospects* released earlier in 2017 covering population estimates from 1950 and projections through 2100. She said the *Highlights Report* draws on population estimates of older persons (60+) and projections of the proportion of older persons in the population. The second data set Hertog introduced is on global household living arrangements of older persons that analyzes where older persons live (alone, with a spouse, with children or in another household). She affirmed that global trends over recent decades indicate a shift away from intergenerational co-residency. Looking into the future, she indicated that the number of older persons is projected to double with a total of 2.1 billion globally in 2050. Hertog affirmed that data indicate development successes have led to longer lives. She maintained that they also mean we must anticipate future demographic changes and formulate policies on health, lifelong learning, employment, social insurance, housing and infra-structure to meet the needs and potential of older persons. Hertog introduced the
findings of the second data set the **UN Database on Living Arrangements of Older Persons 2017**, which includes estimates of the percentage of persons 60+ living alone, with a spouse, with their children or in other household living arrangements, excluding those in institutionalized settings. Hertog revealed that differences in living arrangements across countries and regions indicated differences in family size, availability of family, distinctions in social and cultural norms and preferences for inter-generational co-residency. She said the analysis shows among other factors that older persons throughout the world are more likely to live independently. Hertog added that the Population Division now offers new online tools to accompany the release of the **Highlights Report; an Interactive Database on the Living Arrangements of Older Persons** and the **Aging and Database 2017—Global Profile Database**.

See the following: [https://population.un.org/ProfilesOfAging2017/](https://population.un.org/ProfilesOfAging2017/).

The electronic version of Highlights is available at unpopulation.org.
Marc Freedman opened the session by quoting US President John F. Kennedy who said ‘We've added years to life. Now is the time to add life to those years.’ According to Freedman, Silicon Valley has been focusing on extending mortality, but in his opinion “They are solving the wrong problem in the wrong way.” Instead of chasing after the elusive fountain of youth, he noted, we should embrace mortality. He noted that what’s important for us is to make contributions that are not only personally meaningful but that mean something beyond ourselves, that last beyond our years. “There is an innovators gap as well as an innovations gap” about rising to the occasion of a longer life, he said, and this calls for thinking in new ways and for creating new institutions. To help us keep pace with the gains through medicine and public health in extending the lifespan, he noted, we should take a page from the tech world and focus on cultural and social innovations. ‘We need to create the pathways to purpose to get from aspiration to action,’ he said and, added that there are already new institutional forms that are the seeds for solving the social innovation gap. Freedman reported that 4.5 million older persons are involved in encore careers—a ‘second act’ after one’s work life ends. Although there is not a name yet for a “gap year” for older adults after they retire, some colleges and corporations have embraced the idea to
help people navigate the next phase of their lives. Encore’s Fellowship Program enables older people to transfer their previous experience to engage in work that contributes to their communities and to society. Hidden in plain sight, he said, is the opportunity to turn the supposed paradox of longevity into the payoff it has so much potential to be. Freedman declared, ‘Love and people matter most,’ citing research in ageing. Referring to a Harvard study of adult development, he said, ‘Relationships are the key to life.’ ‘Biology flows downhill’, Freedman said, so instead of trying to hold onto youth later in life, ‘generational relationships are key. Older people who connect down generationally are three times as likely to be happy as people who do not. Freedman concluded his remarks by saying: “A society grows great when people plant trees under shade they will never sit.’
Frank Leyhausen

GENERAL MANAGER, MEDCOM INTERNATIONAL, GERMANY

Frank Leyhausen informed the audience about 'silver innovation' in Germany and his work collaborating with a nonprofit. He remarked that Germany is the second oldest country in the world, with the second highest age dependency ratio, but with a good social insurance system. He noted the negative perceptions of older people as sick, poor, not digital and 'all looking the same.' However, images are changing. Many are volunteers and he pointed to a 75% voter turnout among older Germans and their impressive buying power as a 'silver market' of $336 billion. Industry has discovered the longevity economy and so Leyhausen teamed up with the German Seniors League and developed a model to enable older people to design products and services so companies 'don't have to guess what older consumers want.' 'No one knows best what seniors need,' he said, 'than seniors themselves.' He was surprised at how little research existed on the innovation potential of older people when he got started in 2010. As a result, he developed an open innovation platform that, he said, also demonstrated
that older people are innovative and want to innovate. The platform can serve as a model of co-creation with senior groups for others to replicate and can help to erase stereotypes in industry. As an example, he discussed how seniors had input into the design of mobile communication to make it easier to use. A well-designed and safe walker frame was awarded the best co-creation in the nonprofit world. Older people provide city planners with pedestrian safety ideas. Leyhausen said of these entrepreneurial activities, 'This is a triple win: senior appreciation and social inclusion; a better fit to the market (research and development costs go down); and destigmatization [of older people].' He added, 'Experience creates ideas. Let’s innovate together.'

Edward Rogoff

DEAN, LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY
BROOKLYN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS,
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND
INFORMATION SCIENCES

Edward Rogoff, PhD, a member of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor Research Team, spoke of the annual surveys that have been conducted of entrepreneurs for the past twenty years across the globe. As one of the early researchers and authors on senior entrepreneurship, he found that they, like most entrepreneurs, are either necessity-driven, those who lost a job or need to work, or opportunity-driven, those who do not need to do the entrepreneurial activity to make a living but find innovation intrinsically challenging. Among business owners globally, older entrepreneurs are as prevalent as younger ones. ‘Entrepreneurship among older persons is already here,’ he said, they’ve beaten us to the punch on this.’ Their networks may not be as strong as younger entrepreneurs, but they are greater risk takers and are thriving. People 50+, according to Rogoff, own half of all US businesses and among people 65+, 18.4% are business owners. Entrepreneurism is a ‘team sport’ said Rogoff, but ‘[it] is basically supported by age.’ He pointed to older entrepreneurs’ knowledge, experience, and financial capabilities. The advent of computer technology eases tasks and makes work at home possible; distribution and bill paying can be outsourced. The intergenerational aspect of teamwork is a winning combination: senior entrepreneurs teaming up with younger people brings together different skills and a built-in succession plan. In his closing remarks,
Rogoff said, “my message is that senior entrepreneurship is already happening, so let’s figure out how to best support it.”

Livingstone Byekwaso

DIRECTOR OF NGO SAIDIA WAZEE KARAGWE (SAWAKA), TANZANIA, AND MEMBER OF THE HELPAGE INTERNATIONAL’S GLOBAL NETWORK

Livingstone Byekwaso explained that the mission of SAWAKA is to develop community-based programs for vulnerable older people, orphans and other groups, and to provide social protection, health education (including information on HIV/AIDS), lobbying and advocacy work to support the rights of older people, emergency and relief and income-generating activities. He said that Tanzania has more than 2.5 million people 60 years and over who are poor, with only 4% receiving a monthly pension and 96% without social protection. In addition, the SAWAKA director stated, many, suffer from chronic illness, disabilities, social exclusion, rights abuses and discrimination. Byekwaso said that SAWAKA has three main action plans including lobbying and advocacy to work toward policy changes in rights and entitlements, practical projects to enlist older persons in income-generating activities, and providing human rights training, and information on HIV/AIDS. He added that SAWAKA also supports intergenerational projects bringing older and younger people together to change negative attitudes toward older persons. Among SAWAKA’s achievements, Byekwaso explained, is the training of over 400 older-people monitoring groups to track older persons’ access to health services, HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment services, renovation of older persons’ dilapidated homes, construction of new housing, and providing soft loans to older female entrepreneurs. He identified several government initiatives such as a poverty reduction program for older caregivers to provide cash as a healthcare incentive and a National Task Force Committee to investigate and stop violence against older persons. In the future, Byekwaso hopes that older persons will become more familiar with laws that protect them from abuse and grant access to justice, and that government officials will offer services to older persons and support their initiatives. He concluded with a call for further advocacy and lobbying to ensure the adoption and ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons and the AU Protocol to realize the SDG principle of “leaving no one behind.”
Donna Butts served as the moderator of the panel, introducing the three speakers. In her opening remarks she thanked the UNIDOP Planning Committee and the UN for understanding the value of engaging the strength of all generations, ‘especially the bookend generations of young and old who hold our society together.’ As she introduced the speakers, she commented that they are helping to shift the conversation about older people from ‘one of burden to one of benefit’.

Butts led the Question and Answer period following the panel. In response to a question on changing the general mindset about tapping older people’s talents, Freedman suggested an ‘abundance ratio’—a calculus of assets of older people. Byekwaso thought that intergenerational programs could help younger people—decision makers of the future—understand older people’s challenges. In response to what social innovations can we start building now for immediate impact, Freedman proposed that a social security innovation might be to take a year of those payments to go back to school. He noted that the founder of Elderhostel triggered a revolution in lifelong learning through educational travel. Asked about a platform to support older and younger entrepreneurs, Rogoff answered that shared co-working spaces brought together mentoring from older colleagues and tech components from younger ones, both working in proximity. Butts was a proponent of intergenerational activity. She closed the dialogue by saying ‘Make sure you have a friend who is younger than you and a friend older than you.’ And she recommended a film that captured generational connections, ‘Victoria and Abdul’ about Queen Victoria of Great Britain in the early 20th century and Abdul, a young Indian servant who became her teacher.
Lidija Dravec

VICE CHAIR, GENERAL ASSEMBLY EIGHTH SESSION, OPEN ENDED WORKING GROUP ON AGEING (OEWG)

Lidija Dravec noted that the theme of UNIDOP and issues that were raised by the speakers were very important, and were similar in many ways to the discussions at the eighth session of OWEG in 2017. She said that both discussions reflected ‘wide recognition and a common understanding of the contributions that older people can bring as well as the challenges they are facing in their daily lives.’ She added, ‘The experience of older people is a unique lens for younger people to look at their own lives.’ Dravec highlighted the deliberations of the 2017 OEWG session, noting that the delegates recognized the importance of considering older persons as an active group that can make contributions to social development as long as guarantees are in place so they can be full participants. She noted that older people are both agents and beneficiaries of change. In the eighth session, OEWG focused on violence, neglect and abuse and equality and nondiscrimination. As part of the discussion, delegates noted how ageism can lead to social exclusion and addressed the need to fully empower older people. They also addressed the possibility of a legally binding instrument. As for next steps, OEWG will continue to hold discussions at the next session, with the focus in 2018 on autonomy and independence, and long-term and palliative care. She encouraged the audience to visit the OEWG website and expressed her gratitude to all groups represented at UNIDOP.
Rosemary Lane thanked the speakers for their insightful presentations and descriptions of what older people are actually doing as entrepreneurs and community leaders. She commented that, while we focus on promoting social inclusion for older persons in society, the presentations serve as a reminder that older people are already using their talents and making contributions to their communities. With that in mind, she said, part of our job is to enact policies and help governments enact policies to take advantage of and enhance their participation, she thanked the NGO COA and the people who organized and implemented the program for an ‘incredible amount of effort’ and closed the proceedings at the UN.
NGO COMMITTEE ON AGEING/NEW YORK

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Vice-Chairperson: Cynthia Stuen (International Federation on Ageing)
Treasurer: Katharine Weiss (LeadingAge)
Corresponding Secretary: Martha Bial (International Association of Gerontology & Geriatrics)
Recording Secretary: Sandra Timmermann (International Federation on Ageing)
Members-at-Large: Erica Dhar (AARP), Rebecca Riger Tsurumi (AARP), Nélida Quintero (American Psychological Association), Ranjit Jayanti (The Guild of Service), Frances Zainoeddin (International Federation on Ageing and Gray Panthers)

United Nations International Day of Older Persons Planning Committee, 2017

Sandra Timmermann (International Federation on Ageing) and Rebecca Riger Tsurumi (AARP), Co-Chairs

Janet Sigal (American Psychological Association)
Erica Dhar (AARP)
Cynthia Stuen (International Federation on Ageing)
Frances Zainoeddin (International Federation on Ageing and Gray Panthers)
Nélida Quintero (American Psychological Association)
Valerie Levy (International Federation on Aging)
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NGO COMMITTEE ON AGEING, NEW YORK

Organizational Affiliates

- AARP International
- ACAMAGE - Association Camerounaise pour la prise en charge de la personne agee
- Agewell Foundation
- Alzheimer's Disease International
- American Psychological Association (APA)
- Armenian International Women's Association
- Association des Badinga du Congo
- Association of Former International Civil Servants
- ATOP Meaningful World - Association for Trauma Outreach and Prevention
- Brahma Kumaris World Spirituality University
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- Dobroe Delo Civic Foundation
- EURAG Europe
- Fantsuam Foundation
- FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
- Foundation for Human Horizon
- Generations United
- Global Action on Aging
- Global Alliance on Women's Health
- Gray Panthers
- Guild of Service
- HelpAge USA, an affiliate of HelpAge International
- IAHSA - Int'l Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing
- Instituto Qualivida
- International Alliance of Women
- International Association of Applied Psychology
- International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics
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- International Federation on Ageing
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- International Longevity Centre Global Alliance
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- League Of Women Voters, USA
- National Old Folks of Liberia West Africa
- New Future Foundation, Inc.
- Nonviolence International
- PRAHAR
• PROSALIS – Health Project in Lisbon
• Rassemblement des frères unis pour le développement socio-culturel (RAFUDESC - BENIN)
• Society for Psychological Study of Social Issues
• Soroptimists International
• UGT - União Geral dos Trabalhadores
• UN and International Affairs (Assistant Sec. General)
• UNANIMA International
• World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations
• Yad Sarah - Organization Aiding Disabled, Elderly, and Housebound People
• Yale University - School of Public Health
• Yogaathma Foundation