

**SOME POINTS FOR POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN STATEMENTS TO BE MADE AT THE OEWGA,
11th Session, 29 March – 1 April 2021**

PROPOSED BY THE NGO

“INTERNATIONAL NETWORK FOR THE PREVENTION OF ELDER ABUSE (INPEA)” - ARGENTINA

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POINT 5. DISCUSSION ON THE WAY FORWARD

- A. **LEGAL FRAMEWORK:** Discussions on strengthening the rights of older persons cannot and should not look the same after this COVID-19 pandemic. Member States should respond to the call of the Secretary-General for developing proposals for an international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons – 146 Member States have signed a statement in support of his statement. Older persons are not disposable. OEWGA has had 10 sessions discussing issues concerning older persons and the violation of their rights. The time for action is long overdue. A convention must be drafted NOW! What is the status of the intergovernmentally negotiated recommendations as requested by the General Assembly in its resolutions 74/125 and 75/152? 5
- B. **AVAILABILITY:** In my country, Argentina, it is not unusual for older persons to be considered of less value and not worthy of medical attention during a health crisis; ostracized, abandoned, and even sometimes believed to be witches; under-nourished, neglected or abused; less-deserving of social protection, adequate housing, health care services, palliative and end of life care; discriminated against, because of their age – at work; health care services including palliative and of life care; education and training; participation in economic, social, cultural and political life of a community; housing and a healthy environment, among others.
- C. **ACCESSIBILITY:** It is a primary need to fight ageism, and to work on awareness, accessibility, availability, and effective remedies to solve the problems mentioned above. It is fundamental educate the older person about their rights (literacy, translation into indigenous languages, and easy languages) and train all the labor market and society about human rights of older persons
- D. **ACCOUNTABILITY:** Ageism must end now! The World Health Organization has recently issued its Global Report on Ageism (launch date 18 March), highlighting that ageism is

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extremely detrimental to everyone's health and well-being. Governments are urged to take concrete steps toward drafting a convention.

- E. CLAME: A convention will mean international, official, and legal recognition that life, and the dignity of life, is valued throughout the lifespan, from birth until death.
- F. In sum, a new Convention will provide effective tools to combat ageism, will empower older people, promote their social value, their inclusion and make sustainable the construction of a society for all ages.**