

**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 2. POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR “EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFELONG LEARNING AND CAPACITY BUILDING” AND “SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL SECURITY (INCLUDING SOCIAL PROTECTIONS FLOORS” (<https://undocs.org/A/AC.278/2021/CRP.2>)

- A. **LEGAL FRAMEWORK:** Education and life-long learning is a fundamental right that guarantees equality and non-discrimination of older persons. Age discrimination in this field undermines equality and dignity and excludes them from access to the communication technologies so necessary in these pandemic times.
- B. **AVAILABILITY:** In my country, Argentina, there is no opportunity for education or skills training beyond a certain age. Older women are particularly affected since they have had little opportunity to go to school at a younger age, or because of child-rearing responsibilities and later, caregiving for their older relatives, resulting in total dependency upon family for coping with complexities of life, culture, health, economy and society. Making non-contributory schemes available is critical for older persons who do not have access to contributory schemes. Older persons, like people of all age groups, need access to basic literacy training so they can function independently and can contribute to their families and communities.
- C. **ACCESSIBILITY:** Opportunities for learning throughout the lifespan is essential as research indicates that remaining active and engaged can lead to better physical and mental health as people age. With technological advancements happening at a rapid pace, workers should not be denied access to training and retraining due to age. If we are serious about leaving no one behind and eradicating poverty, a convention to protect the rights of older persons is essential.
- D. **ACCOUNTABILITY:** It is important to guarantee worldwide equal and effective participation of older persons in training, lifelong learning and capacity building, and social protection and social security (including social protections floors). We have to work hard to recognize the right to access to the labour market in equal conditions like the others, such as the Regional level IAC Human rights older Persons, and the Protocol to African Charter do.

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- E. CLAME: An international convention would guarantee for older persons everywhere:
- The right to education and life-long learning which would protect older persons against labor and economic exploitation, foster their personal autonomy, reduce their dependence and secure their full social integration in the larger society (or community).
 - A means to eliminate all discrimination, including ageism.
 - o Basic income security to protect them from poverty and ensure a decent quality of life.

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.