



**ACAMAGE -Association Camerounaise pour la prise en Charge des Personne Agées  
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## **OPEN ENDED WORKING GROUP ON AGING, 11<sup>th</sup> SESSION**

### **WRITTEN STATEMENT ON**

#### **RIGHT TO WORK AND ACCESS TO THE LABOUR MARKET**

Older persons have the right to meaningful and decent work on an equal basis with others, To end age discrimination in the workplace that undermines equality and dignity.

Older persons have to work for several reasons : Not only they have knowledge, experience and skills that contribute to a healthy economy, in addition and first of all in order to survive and for their desire to self-fulfillment, then the great range does not have social pension, they want to contribute to their families, community and population they serve, they want to continue to participate actively in economic and public life and to enjoy the benefits that work brings

In my country , the right to work and access to the labour market for older persons is not

That protected : It is very hard for older people to work and have access to the labour market. Mainly young people are the one privileged. Mathew, 69, an older people representative says : “We don’t have social pension, we don’t have work, this is so hard for us.

This is why we need an international convention that would guarantee for older persons everywhere : the right to work and access to the labour market under the law, without discrimination, the prohibition of discrimination against older persons on the basis of age alone in all matters related to employment, recruitment, hiring, training, career advancement, performance evaluation on the basis of competency rather than on age-based assumptions, enjoyment of fair and safe conditions of work when undertaking informal or unremunerated work, and social protection systems that are not influenced by ageist assumptions and stereotypes.

If we are serious about leaving no one behind and protecting the rights of older people to work and access to the labour market, we ask our country and member states to put pen on paper to drafting the UN Convention on Older people’s rights.



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### **WRITTEN STATEMENT ON**

#### **ACCESS TO JUSTICE**

Older People have the right to justice because they should be able to live in dignity and security and be free of exploitation and elder abuse

In my country, access to justice is not sufficiently available for older persons. They do not really enjoy all their rights to protect themselves or the right to seek remedies from harm, exploitation, danger.

An older woman, 77, says “ Our Ministry of social affairs, community justice centers, National human rights institution and court are there but we do not have that much satisfaction when we are seeking justice because of abuses, discrimination, and mainly for our land, money..”

Older persons must have the right to access to justice. They must be valued and age with rights With special attention to older women and widows who are the most discriminated, violated, abused and neglected. In addition, they are the one experiencing more and more witch accusations with very bad consequences as : physical, material, financial abuse, they are also put away from their places.

Therefore, we call on our country, all member states as well, to start drafting without more delay, the UN Convention on Older People’s Rights, because it will guarantee for older persons everywhere the internationally applicable standards to access justice, a fair solution to disputes over land or property, financial rights, accessing public services, family disputes, elder abuse and neglect and other forms of violations of their rights. It will also give opportunities to older persons to use courts, community justice centres, mediation or paralegal support to protect their rights.

