



ACAMAGE -Association Camerounaise pour la prise en Charge des Personne Agées
ONG DOTEÉ DU Statut Consultatif Spécial ECOSOC/ONU

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14th session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing

Guiding questions for the focus area on participation in public life and in decision-making processes

National and local legal and policy framework

1. What are the national and local legal provisions and policy frameworks in your country that guarantee

a) right to equality and prohibition of all forms of discrimination against older persons on the basis of age, alone or combined with other grounds, in the context of participation in public life and in decision-making processes;

We have some following provisions in addition to international and human rights Laws :

The national political document for the protection and promotion of older people in Cameroon. The AU Protocol on older peoples' rights ratified. The Cameroon Constitution. The older peoples' Directorate at the Ministry of Social Affairs, the National Commission on Human Rights.

The implementation are not done properly older people's rights are violated.

That is why the new United Nations that protect older persons human rights is needed without further delay as it will protect their rights to participate in public life and in decision making processes, and oblige member states to tackle all forms of ageism, discrimination, elder abuse, neglect.

b) elimination of all forms of ageism and age discrimination from laws, frameworks, programs, policies, strategies and practices regarding participation in public life and in decision-making processes;

The national political document for the protection and promotion of older people in Cameroon. The AU Protocol on older peoples' rights ratified. The Cameroon Constitution. The older peoples' Directorate at the Ministry of Social Affairs, the National Commission on Human Rights.

As said earlier, the implementation of the above must be proper.

That is why the new United Nations that protect older persons human rights is needed without further delay as it will protect their rights to participate in public life and in decision making processes, and oblige member states to tackle all forms of ageism, discrimination, elder abuse, neglect.

c) right to freedom of expression, including freedom to seek, receive and impart information;

The Cameroon Constitution

d) right of peaceful assembly;

Law n° 90/55 OF 1990, Art. 3 and 4

e) right to freedom of association;

The 1990 law amended by Law 2021/022 of December 2021

f) right to take part in the government of one's country, directly or through freely chosen representatives;

g) active, free and meaningful participation of older persons and their representative organizations in all matters related to participation in public life and in decision-making processes;

h) access to prompt remedies and redress when older persons' above mentioned rights are violated.

The Constitutional Law of 18 January 1996 revising the Constitution of 2 July 1972 in its preamble guarantees access to justice for a number of categories of people including older people. Also the penal code.

But the proper implementation of the above is needed.

2. What steps have been taken to ensure participation in public life and in decision-making processes without discrimination?

The fighting against ageism, discrimination, elder abuse, violence ; The decision to creating more geriatric structures for older people's health through the Ratification of the AFRICA UNION PROTOCOL, The national political document for the protection of older people, the Directorate of older people, the instauration of the national solidarity day one a year.

But proper implementation lack.

The support given to the United Nation for the drafting of the CONVENTION ON OLDER PEOPLE'S RIGHTS.

Data and research

3. What data and research are available regarding older persons' participation in public life and in decision-making processes? Please indicate how national or sub-national data is disaggregated by sex, age and inequality dimensions, and what indicators are used to monitor older persons' participation in public life and in decision-making processes.

Data awaited

Equality and non-discrimination

4. What are the challenges and barriers that older persons face regarding participation in public life and in decision-making processes, including the impact of intersectional discrimination and inequality based on age, gender, disability, race, ethnicity, migratory status and other grounds?

Ageism, discrimination, elder abuse, poverty, intergenerational conflicts, human rights violation, medicine high cost and limited access to hospitals, difficult accessibility to loan and resources, rare training, difficulty to find a job

Accountability

5. What judicial and non-judicial mechanisms are in place for older persons to complain and seek redress when their right to participate in public life and in decision-making processes is violated

Judicial mechanism in place: court, police

Non judicial mechanism : National Human Rights Commission, traditional leaders, paralegal, Ministry of Social Affairs, the National Social Insurance Fund Veterans National Office.

Proper implementation is needed

Signed

**Paulette METANG
President ACAMAGE**



14th session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing

Guiding questions for the focus area on “accessibility, infrastructure and habitat”

National legal and policy framework

1. What are the national legal provisions and policy frameworks that recognize older persons’ rights to accessibility, infrastructure and habitat (transport, housing and access)? This could include, but is not limited to:

a) the right of older persons to adequate housing, including land, property and inheritance.

The Cameroon Constitution, customary and cultural laws, Except women.

Need of implementation.

b) the right of older persons to access and enjoy, on an equal basis with others, the physical environment, transportation, information and communications (including ICTs), and other facilities and services open or provided to the public, both in urban and in rural areas (e.g. buildings, roads, transportation and other indoor and outdoor facilities, schools, housing, green spaces, medical facilities and workplaces; information, communications and other services, including electronic services and emergency services).

The National Constitution, the Ministry of Social Affairs with a Directorate protecting older peoples’ rights.

c) policies/programmes that enable older persons to live independently and to be included in their communities as they age.

The national policy on the protection of older people in Cameroon, the Cameroon Decree of December 9 consecrating the reorientation of the missions of the Ministry of Social Affairs to be responsible for the elaboration and implementation of the government policy as concerns prevention, assistance and protection of older people (other vulnerable people too) from potential resources to real development resources, ensure their harmonious integration.

2. What are the challenges and barriers faced by older persons for the realization of their right to accessibility, infrastructure use and habitat (transport, housing and access) at the national and international levels?

Ageism, discrimination, elder abuse, poverty, intergenerational conflicts, human rights violation, medicine high cost and limited access to hospitals, difficult accessibility to loan and resources, rare training, difficulty to find a job, illiteracy, poverty, lack of sufficient social security, lack of friendly environment.

The drafting right away of the New Convention on Older peoples' rights must be draft without further delay to oblige member state to give better lives to older people.

Data and research

3. What data, statistics and research are available at the national level regarding older persons' rights to accessibility, infrastructure and habitat (public transport, housing and access)?

Data awaited

Equality and non-discrimination

4. What measures are being taken to eliminate ageism, ageist stereotypes, prejudices and behaviours that hinder older persons' rights to accessibility, infrastructure and habitat (transport, housing and access)?

Some of them are The creation of a Directorate to promote and protect older peoples' rights in the Ministry of Social Affairs, Ratification of the African Union Protocol on Older Peoples' Rights, the support of the

Open Ended Working Group on Aging and the UN Convention on Older peoples' rights, the national politic document on the protection of older people.

All the measures need to be implemented properly.

Older people are not enjoying properly their rights.

Remedies and Redress

5. What mechanisms are necessary, or already in place, for older persons to submit complaints and seek redress for denial of their rights to accessibility, infrastructure and habitat (transport, housing and access)

Judicial mechanism in place : court, police

Non judicial mechanism, National Human Rights Commission, traditional leaders, paralegal, Ministry of Social Affairs, the National Social Insurance Fund, Veterans National Office.

There is an urgent need for these mechanism to be properly implemented.

Signed

**Paulette METANG
President ACAMAGE**