

# United Nations Nations Unies

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REFERENCE: DESA-13/00400

The Secretariat of the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 67/139 of 13 February 2013, entitled “Towards a comprehensive and integral international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons” that decides, inter alia, that the open-ended working group on ageing, shall, as part of its mandate, and starting from its upcoming fourth session to be held in 2013, consider proposals for an international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons, based on the holistic approach in the work carried out in the fields of social development, human rights and non-discrimination, as well as gender equality and the empowerment of women, as well as the contributions from the second global review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002. (OP1).

In particular, the resolution requests the Open-ended working group on ageing to present a proposal containing, inter alia, the main elements that should be included in an international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons, which are not currently addressed sufficiently by existing mechanisms and therefore require further international protection (OP2), and further invites, among other, States to make contributions to the work entrusted to the Working Group.

Governments may wish to provide their views on such main elements as follows: (a) Purpose; (b) general Principles; (c) definitions – particularly of old age/older persons; (d) equality and non-discrimination as applied to older persons; (e) specific human rights to be included; and (f) national and international supervisory mechanisms.

Governments that may wish to provide information on the issues above may kindly submit a brief summary by 1 May 2013, preferably in electronic format to the address below:

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T. C. H.

Annex enclosed