

**Information from the Russian Federation on the topic
"Autonomy and Independence"
of the 9th Session
of the Open-ended Working Group on Aging**

In the Russian Federation, the main provisions of the state policy on older persons are enshrined in the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the Civil Code of the Russian Federation, the Family Code of the Russian Federation, Federal Laws "On the Bases for Providing Social Services for the Population in the Russian Federation", "On the Provision of Social Services for Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities in the Russian Federation", "On the Social Protection of Persons with Disabilities in the Russian Federation", "On Public Associations", "On Charity and Charitable Organizations", etc. In 2016, the Russian Federation adopted the Action Strategy on Senior Citizens (Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 164-r of February 5, 2016).

In order to exercise the rights to autonomy and independence for older persons such rights as to pensions and additional disability benefits, to medical care, to state support through social protection agencies and to cultural and educational activities are also of vital importance.

The following tasks of the Action Strategy contribute to the realization of the right of older persons to autonomy and independence:

- provision of equal access to health care, social protection, education, nutrition, culture, sports, communications, transport, etc., including for senior citizens living in rural and remote areas;
- accessibility of targeted, timely assistance for senior citizens in need;
- financing of well-being of senior citizens;
- creation of economic, social and legal conditions which ensure non-discrimination of senior citizens and contribute to encouragement of senior citizens to continue working beyond the retirement age both at the former jobs and at new jobs in accordance with their wishes, professional skills and physical capacity;
- creation of conditions to meet the educational needs of senior citizens;
- increase of the level of financial and legal literacy of senior citizens;

- creation of conditions to provide senior citizens with access to information;
- creation of opportunities for senior citizens to systematically train in sports;
- involvement of senior citizens in cultural life of society;
- increase of the accessibility of tourist services for senior citizens;
- development of a geriatric service and a framework to assess the need in such care;
- improvement of a health care system for senior citizens;
- development of the social services system for senior citizens and creation of conditions for the development of a market of social services, participation in this market of various organizations;
- stable development of trade infrastructure;
- provision of senior citizens in need with high quality balanced nutrition taking into account appropriate norms of food consumption;
- development of public transport production including such public transport which takes into account the needs of low-mobility citizens;
- development of charity and volunteering activities for the benefit of senior citizens.

One of the most influential non-state actors in this field is the Union of Pensioners of Russia. The Union carries out the following activities: channel activities of older persons in a constructive manner, arouse public interest, draw the attention of authorities to problems, involve the pensioners themselves in solving of their problems, make older persons feel needed.

The number of self-initiated public organizations of the elderly is small as compared with organizations working under the auspices of and on the basis of well developed organizations partially sponsored by the state, such as «Znanie» society, the Society of the Disabled, the Society of the Blind and the All-Russian Society of the Deaf.