**Guiding Questions for the focus areas of the X Session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing: Education, training, life-long learning and capacity building**

**National Legal Framework**

1. **In your country/region, how is the right to education, training, life-long learning and capacity building in older age guaranteed in legal and policy frameworks?**

Apart from general affirmation of the right to education for all, there is no legal and policy framework tending to promote education of older people. But they are not prevented.

In the other hand, illiteracy rate is high among older people.

**Availability, Accessibility and Adaptability**

1. **What are the key issues and challenges faced by older persons in your country/region with regard to the enjoyment of all levels of quality education, training, life-long learning, and capacity building services?**

Poverty, unemployment, age limitation during higher vocational schools and training schools entrance examination, limited training opportunities. Lack of older people official employment after training.

**3. What steps have been taken to ensure that education, training, life-long learning, and capacity building services are available and accessible to all older persons, adapted to their needs, suited to their preferences and motivations, and of high quality?**

Little has been done for older people in this area. The Ministry of social affairs has initiated “the Maison des Ages” but this is not yet operational. Their alphabetisation was current in villages and towns as well long time ago but nowadays, nothing.

Some NGO’s are alphabetising older people, as ACAMAGE, OLDER WOMEN NETWORK…BUT still lacking sufficient funding. For instance, Older women in Batoum village says “ WE NEED TO BE ALPHABETISED TO KNOW AT LEAST HOW TO WRITE OUR NAMES , USE INTERNET AND TAKE CARE OF OUR LANDS”. “WE NEED TO LIVE AUTONOMOUS AND INDEPENDENT LIVES”

“IAI CAMEROON”, a vocational training school has put in place a program called “operation 100.000 Femmes” initiating women of all ages in data processing. This school has also initiated specifically some older people.

The limitation of age in vocational and training schools, retirement age (55 for public workers, 60 for private sectors).

**4. In your country/region, are there studies and/or data available on the access of older persons to the right to education, training, life-long learning and capacity building in older age**?

There are some studies

**Equality and non-discrimination**

**5. In your country, is age one of the prohibited grounds for discrimination in relation to education in older age?**

Although education is accessible to older people in Cameroon, the practice is somewhat discriminatory : lack of recruitment, age limitation in vocational and highest schools, precoce retirement age, lack of interest due to unemployment

**Accountability**

**6. What mechanisms are necessary, or already in place, for older persons to lodge complaints and seek redress for denial of their right to education, training, lifelong learning and capacity building?**

Older people must get themselves organized to ask to the Government or private sectors to trust their expertise (local expertise) in advice, studies, control