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 framework?

**Answer:**

The legislation of the Russian Federation in the field of education includes the Constitution of the Russian Federation, Federal Law No 273-FZ as of December 29, 2012 "On Education in the Russian Federation", other by-laws and other regulatory legal acts of the Russian Federation adopted in accordance with it, as well as laws and other regulatory legal acts of the subjects of the Russian Federation in the field of education.

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 services1?

**Answer:**

The UNESCO slogan - “Learning Throughout Life” - is more relevant today than ever.

Educational activity ceased to be only the prerogative of the young. Moreover, education in modern Russian society is considered as the most important condition for the fulfillment of life of people of any age, including aging.

1. 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?

**Answer:**

The Constitution of the Russian Federation established that the state support in the Russian Federation is provided to the senior citizens.

In order to implement the forms of state support for the senior citizens, the Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 164-p as of February 5, 2016 approved «Strategy of action for senior citizens in the Russian Federation until 2025».

1. 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?

**Answer:**

Educational project for the elderly (The Republic of Tatarstan) "University of the Third Age" provided 2500 students with knowledge on psychology, pedagogy, philosophy, economics, law, history of religions, history of world culture, basics of computer literacy, healthy lifestyle, foreign languages. The social education center “School of the Third Age” (St. Petersburg), which also works in various Russian provinces, offers educational courses on financial literacy, computer design, and the English language. The Interregional Resource Center "Silver Age" (St. Petersburg), bases its training programs on European approaches to learning in old age in line with modern ideas of gerogogika - the science of methods and forms of education for the elderly. The main educational programs of the Resource Center "Silver Age" are "Transitional Age", "Become a Volunteer, or New Opportunities", "5 Steps to Volunteering". There are also available educational courses of computer literacy, graphics and design, etc. "Silver Volunteers" is actively involved in various international projects (Universiade in Kazan, the Olympics in Sochi). On the basis of ITMO (St. Petersburg National Research University of Information Technologies, Mechanics and Optics) a distance learning portal for the elderly - the University of the Third Age - was created, offering online training courses.

Equality and non-discrimination

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

**Answer:**

In the Russian Federation, a mechanism is being improved at the legislative level aimed at protecting and eradicating *de facto* age discrimination of employed elderly people.

A vivid example of this is the program of the additional professional education of citizens in order to promote the employment of people of pre-retirement age, developed by the Government of the Russian Federation for the period up to 2024.

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?

1 including for example: literacy and numeracy programmes; adult education; vocational and professional training; higher education; information and communication technologies (ICT); and informal, recreational and community- based programmes, including volunteering

**Answer:**

The state protects the rights and freedoms of all citizens regardless of their age, gender, religion, national, racial or ethnic belonging, etc.

The protection of the violated rights of senior citizens for education, vocational training, continuing education and advanced training is implemented through civil justice.

GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR THE FOCUS AREAS OF THE X SESSION OF THE OPEN-ENDED

WORKING GROUP ON AGEING:

Social protection and social security (including social protection floors)

National legal framework

1. What are the legal provisions in your country that recognizes the right to social security and social protection, including non-contributory and contributory old-age benefits? Do they have a constitutional, legislative or executive foundation?

**Answer:** The Constitution of the Russian Federation guarantees everyone, in accordance with the goals of the welfare state (Part 1 of Article 7), social security for old age, in case of illness, disability, loss of a breadwinner, for raising children and in other circumstances established by law (Part 1 of . 39).

Based on Art. 72 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation; social protection, including social security, is under the joint jurisdiction of the Russian Federation and constituent subjects of the Russian Federation.

Availability

1. What steps have been taken to guarantee universal coverage, ensuring that every older person has access to social security and social protection schemes including noncontributory, contributory and survivor old-age pensions, to ensure an adequate, standard of living in older age?

**Answer:** Within the framework of the above-mentioned Strategy, the work continues on the implementation of measures aimed at increasing the real level of pensions for older citizens, and establishing a decent level of pensions. In order to improve the material situation of older generation citizens from among the non-working pensioners, the total amount of material support for which does not reach the subsistence minimum established in a subject of the Russian Federation, from January 1, 2010, social supplements to the pension are established.

1. What steps have been taken to ensure that every older person has access to social security and social protection schemes which guarantee them access to adequate and affordable health and care and support services for independent living in older age?

Answer: The constitutional guarantee of the right to free labor fully extends to the elderly and disabled, and does not contain any restrictions.

Adequacy

1. What steps have been taken to ensure the levels of social security and social protection payments are adequate for older persons to have access to an adequate standard of living, including adequate access to health care and social assistance?

**Answer:** Currently, the legislation of the Russian Federation provides for the possibility of exercising the right to provide the necessary medicines and medical products. In the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, agreements have been concluded that regulate the interaction and cooperation between medical, pharmacy organizations and social security agencies.

Accessibility

1. What steps have been taken to ensure older persons have adequate and accessible information on available social security and social protection schemes and how to claim their entitlements?

**Answer:** Within the framework of the “Accessible Environment” program, a lot of work is being done not only for people with disabilities, because the accessibility of objects is information in a larger font, this is the reduction of barriers, these are ramps, these are clearer text notation, sound, information reinforcement institutions of culture, health, education.

1. The design and implementation of normative and political framework related to social security and social protection benefits included an effective and meaningful participation of older persons?

Answer: The development and implementation of legal provisions on social security and social protection benefits with the active and full participation of older people is carried out on the basis of article 33 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, which guarantees the right of everyone to apply personally, as well as send individual and collective appeals to state bodies, including proposals for changes in legislation.

Equality and non-discrimination

1. Which are the measures adopted to ensure equitable access by older persons to social security and social protection, paying special attention to vulnerable groups or those in vulnerable situation?

**Answer:** Measures aimed at enhancing the legal protection of senior citizens by promoting special standards in the current legislation to ensure a decent standard of living for older people by maintaining a guaranteed subsistence minimum, raising the health status of older people; promoting the role of the family in caring for the elderly, assisting in providing the elderly with decent housing in accordance with the minimum state standards, providing targeted social assistance to the elderly; creation of favorable conditions for feasible employment of the elderly.

Accountability

1. What mechanisms are in place to ensure social security and social protection schemes are effective and accountable?

**Answer:** The social policy of the state is implemented through the mechanism of state social security programs and the system of social services. Mechanisms for monitoring the effectiveness and accountability of social security and social protection systems are designed to improve the social climate in society, reduce poverty, reduce the differentiation of the population by income level.

**9**. What judicial and non-judicial mechanisms are in place for older persons to complain and seek redress for denial of their right to social security and social protection?

**Answer:** The right to judicial protection guaranteed by article 46 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation. An important extrajudicial mechanism for protecting the rights of senior citizens on these issues is the work of the Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation.