

Talking Points

**Report to the 79th session of the ESCAP Commission on the Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Fourth Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing
Chair, Her Excellency, Ms. Aishath Mohamed Didi, Minister, Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services, Maldives**

Agenda Item 4. Review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific and issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure of the Commission

(b) Social development

18 May 2023, 10.00-12.00, BKK time

Time allocated: 2-3 minutes/313 words

Excellencies, distinguished participants,

I have the honour to report on the outcomes of the Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Fourth Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, which took place from 29 June to 1 July 2022.

Meeting participants called for accelerating the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and they highlighted the synergies with the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing. They pointed out that countries should pursue a life-course perspective when addressing ageing, and they should support intergenerational solidarity.

Member States and stakeholders recognized the challenges faced by older persons in the labour market, in particular older women, called for the end to age-discrimination and ageism and for comprehensive and universal social protection systems. This would allow older persons to age in dignity and with security. They also called for accelerating efforts towards universal health care coverage and noted the importance of active and healthy ageing. Given the decline in fertility and smaller family sizes, they recognized the urgent need to develop and implement high-quality, integrated and long-term care systems. Climate change was threatening the livelihoods of people in the region, in particular persons in vulnerable situations. Older persons play a positive role in climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Meeting participants also called for collecting and analyzing age-disaggregated data. Member States requested the Executive Secretary of ESCAP to conduct periodic midterm assessments of MIPAA implementation, to raise awareness on ageing, to build capacity among member States to gather and analyze data and to support them in formulating forward-looking policies and actions. As the Chair of this Meeting, I am pleased to inform you that I reported on its outcomes to the 61st session of the Commission for Social Development earlier this year.

The Commission is invited to consider and endorse the matters contained in the report of the Meeting and the outcome document.

Thank you.