

# Daily Bulletin – Day One

14<sup>th</sup> session of the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWG), 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> May 2024



Above: H.E. Ambassador Zacarias of Portugal calls for negotiations to be opened on a new international legal instrument on older people's rights

## Highlights

- Despite a late start due to a disappointing delay in reaching a quorum, the session opened with supportive messages from the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the UN Independent Expert on the rights of older persons.
- The accreditation applications of 10 NGOs were then approved by Member States. Congratulations to newly accredited NGOs!
- Many States spoke in the General Discussion today. As States failed to reach a consensus before the session on the draft recommendations to be presented by the co-facilitators, there were calls for States to engage constructively this week to reach agreement. Many States expressed support or openness to developing a new UN convention with particularly supportive statements from Nigeria, Portugal, Argentina and the Philippines.
- In the afternoon, DIS-MOI presented the [joint GAROP statement](#). NHRIs and NGOs made a strong case for a dedicated UN convention and urged States to reach agreement on the draft recommendations. There was frustration about the fact that only a tiny number of States remained in the room at this point.
- There were two side events at lunchtime, organised by Germany, AGE Platform Europe, BAGSO ([The role of the EU as a global human rights actor](#)) and Portugal, GAROP, Josef and Luise Kraft Stiftung ([Imagining a world with a UN convention on the rights of older people](#)), of which recordings are available on UN WebTV.

## OEWG Programme Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May

### 1. Opening Session

Includes participation of NHRIs and NGOs in the work of the OEWG and adoption of agenda

### 2. General Discussion

Opening statements from Member States, then NHRIs and NGOs, and a discussion of measures to enhance promotion and protection of the rights of older persons.

### From Social Media (X):

@DrDMacaskill

“An excellent lunchtime meeting held by @GAROP\_Sec at #OEWG14 at the @UN New York hears a robust argument in favour of a legally binding instrument of an #OlderPersons Convention from the Ambassador from Portugal. She calls for the need to go from paper to people. @CarolineEdAG”

[Below: GAROP Steering Group member, Naraidoo Gava Naraidoo of DIS-MOI, presents the joint statement on behalf of all GAROP members]



## Further information

- The draft decision containing the intergovernmental negotiated recommendations has been posted online [here](#) today. This will be presented by the co-facilitators on Tuesday afternoon.
- UN website: <https://social.un.org/ageing-working-group>
- Get involved on X (formerly Twitter) using #AgeWithRights and #OEWG14

## Get in touch:

- [info@rightsofolderpeople.org](mailto:info@rightsofolderpeople.org)
- [@GAROP\\_Sec](https://twitter.com/GAROP_Sec)
- [www.rightsofolderpeople.org](http://www.rightsofolderpeople.org)