

Daily Bulletin – Day One

Organisational Meeting of the Intergovernmental Working Group on Older Persons (18-20th February)



Above: Ambassador Carlos Mario Foradori of Argentina was elected Chair of the IGWG

Highlights

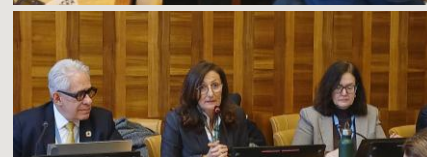
- The Working Group opened today with supportive statements from the UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Ambassadors of Argentina and Slovenia, and Ambassador Luis Gallegos, President of the Global Initiative on Ageing & Longevity. The Argentinian Ambassador Foradori was then elected Chair of the Working Group.
- Rose Gahire, Co-chair of GAROP, participated in the first 'Setting the Scene' panel and shared GAROP's proposals for the modalities of this new drafting process, emphasising the meaningful participation of older persons.
- It was clear in the General Statements in the afternoon that the support for a convention remains strong and many Member States showed a keen readiness to get started with the drafting.
- Elijah Mwega of KARIKA presented the joint GAROP statement on behalf of our members. Civil society was aligned in its messaging and consistently emphasised the importance of centering the voices of older persons and their representative organisations. There was also strong support for the Working Group to focus on the conceptual basis, underlying principles and scope of the convention before moving into detailed line-by-line negotiations of the text.

IGWG Programme Wednesday 18th February

1. Opening remarks
2. Election of Chair
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Interactive Discussions
Panel I: Setting the Scene
A panel followed by interactive discussion
5. General Statements

- Watch Day One recordings:
[morning](#) | [afternoon](#).

[Below: Photos from the NGO Preparation Meeting on 17th February with Permanent Representatives of Argentina and Slovenia, UN Independent Expert, NHRIs, and representatives of GAROP and NGO Committee on Ageing Geneva]



More information:

- Official IGWG website: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsiadiaries/iwg-older-persons>
- Follow live on <https://webtv.un.org/en> ('Intergovernmental Working Group on older persons')
- Get involved on social media using #AgeWithRights and #IGWGI
- info@rightsofolderpeople.org | rightsofolderpeople.org