



**United Nations**

Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs

NGO Committee on  
**AGEING**  
UNITED NATIONS. NY



Permanent Mission of the  
**Argentine Republic**  
**United Nations**  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship



## 29<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Nations International Day of Older Persons (UNIDOP)

### The Journey to Age Equality

ECOSOC Chamber, UNHQ, New York  
10 October 2019 (10 AM – 1 PM)

*Organized by*

The NGO Committee on Ageing in New York

*Sponsored by*

The Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations

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**#UNIDOP**

Official Web Site [bit.ly/UNIDOP2019](http://bit.ly/UNIDOP2019)

Watch Live and On-Demand <http://webtv.un.org>

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**The 2019 event is co-sponsored by**



**Group of Friends of Older Persons at the United Nations in New York**

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile (Chair), Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Slovenia, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey and Uruguay

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# The Journey to Age Equality

## Mission Statement

On this 29<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations International Day for Older Persons (UNIDOP), the theme “The Journey to Age Equality” will focus on pathways of coping with existing and preventing future old age inequalities. Older persons are one of our greatest and often most overlooked and under-appreciated resources and empowering them is key to ensure their inclusiveness and reduce inequalities.

The theme is aligned with SDG goal 10, which specifically sets to reduce inequality within and among countries and aims to “ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome,” including through measures to eliminate discrimination, and to “empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.”

DESA’s World population Prospects 2019 highlights the unprecedented ageing of the world’s population. In 2018, for the first time in history, older persons, 65+ outnumbered children under the age of five years of age globally. Additionally, by 2050, one in six people in the world will be over age 65. The G20 Summit (2019) recognised ageing as one of the world’s megatrends that holds important implications for economic and social development.

As the world experiences population ageing at the global level, research has shown that disparities in old age reflect an accumulated disadvantage throughout life, which adversely impact all aspects of development including; health outcomes, life-long learning, social protection policies, economic growth and social cohesion, hence it is important for countries to strategically plan for population ageing and ensure the wellbeing of older persons in addition to protecting their human rights, economic security, decent work, lifelong opportunities and access to age appropriate health care services.

The Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA), adopted in 2002, recognized that the existence of inequalities within and among societies are a serious challenge to development, a decade later, there are still stark contrasts in people’s experiences in later life, where inequalities are intricately linked to poverty, maltreatment, neglect and limited access to basic services throughout life. Inequalities in old age can be deepened if there are no appropriate interventions to reverse them. “The Journey to Age Equality” can only be achieved by promoting the social, economic and political inclusion of older persons and ensuring equal opportunities throughout life.

The 2019 theme aims to:

- To help draw attention to the existence of old age inequality, and how this often results from a cumulation of disadvantages throughout life -and highlight intergenerational risk of increased old age inequality.
- To bring awareness to the urgency of coping with existing and preventing future old age inequality.
- To explore societal and structural changes in view of life course policies: life-long learning, proactive and adaptive labour policies, social protection and universal health coverage.
- To reflect on best practice, lessons and progress on the journey to ending older age inequality and changing negative narratives and stereotypes involving “older age”



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## ECOSOC Chamber, UNHQ, New York 10 October 2019

### Opening Session

- Welcome **Cynthia Stuen**, Chair of the NGO Committee on Ageing in New York  
**Maud Bruce-About**, Chair, UNIDOP Programme Sub-committee, NGO Committee on Ageing in New York
- Remarks by **H.E. Mr. Martín García Moritán**, Permanent Representative of the Mission of Argentina to the United Nations  
**Ms. Nasly Isabel Bernal Prado**, Permanent Mission of Chile, Chair of the Group of Friends of Older Persons

### Video: Secretary-General of the United Nations (TBC)

### Panel Discussion: “Pathways of coping with existing and preventing future old age inequalities”

- Keynote Speakers **Paul Ladd**, Director, UN Research Institute for Social Development  
**Andrew Scott**, Professor of Economics at the London Business School
- Moderator **Jane Barratt**, International Federation on Ageing (IFA)
- Panelists **Vinicius Pinheiro**, Director, ILO New York Office  
**Elisabeth Isele**, Founder/ CEO- Global Institute for Experience Entrepreneurship  
**Alana Officer**, Senior Health Advisory, World Health Organization  
**Krishna Gautem**, Director, Ageing Nepal  
**Karoline Schmid**, Chief, Fertility and Population Ageing Section, Population Division, DES

Interactive dialogue

### Closing Session

- Remarks by **Amal Abou Rafeh**, Chief, Programme on Ageing Unit, UNDESA

## Biographies



### **Martín García Moritán**

#### **AMBASSADOR**

Ambassador Martín García Moritán is the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations. He is also the Chair of the General Assembly's Open-ended Working Group on Ageing. Prior to his appointment, Mr. García was the Director of Federal and Electoral Affairs in his country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2012 to 2013, having served as Director of the Special Representation on Terrorism Affairs in 2011. He was the General Commissioner for the Argentine Pavilion to the World Exposition in Shanghai, China, from 2009 to 2010. Mr. García previously served in Argentina's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York between 1995 and 1998 and again from 2003 to 2009. He was Consulate General in Recife, Brazil, from 1998 to 1999. A career diplomat since 1983, he was assigned as a Foreign Service Officer in Bolivia from 1993 to 1994, Brazil from 1987 to 1992, and the Holy See from 1984 to 1985. The holder of a graduate degree in international affairs from the Complutense University in Madrid, Spain, he earned a bachelor's degree in law from the University of Buenos Aires. Mr. García also studied at the Argentine Diplomatic Academy in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

### **Nasly Isabel Bernal Prado**

#### **(CHILE) CHAIR OF THE GROUP OF FRIENDS OF OLDER PERSONS**



### **Jane Barratt, PhD.**

#### **MODERATOR**

Ms. Jane Barratt is the Secretary General, International Federation on Ageing (IFA) an international non-government organisation with general consultative status with the United Nations and its agencies including formal relations with the World Health Organisation (WHO). During the 1980s and 90s Jane honed her technical and orating skills through an academic career in population ageing and disability at the Universities in the United Kingdom and Australia with attention to improved understanding of population-based planning models and service provision. Thereafter she developed a successful business in strategic planning and relationships alongside senior director and management positions in various international and national not-for-profit organisations. Jane is a Winston Churchill Fellow and recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in Canada in recognition of her commitment and passion to enhance the understanding of issues relating to ageing and engaging in dialogue with governments and the private sector to improve the quality of life of older people.



## **Paul Ladd**

### **KEY NOTE SPEAKER**

Paul Ladd has been Director of UNRISD since October 2015. Before taking up this position he had been at UNDP, where he had most recently been Director of the team supporting consultations and technical inputs for the 2030 Development Agenda. Previously he led UNDP's policy team on 'inclusive globalization' – including trade, development finance, and migration. From 2008-2009, he provided support to the Office of the UN Secretary-General on the financial and economic crisis, and engagement with the G20. Before moving to New York, Paul was a policy adviser on international development for the UK Treasury, including the period building up to and through the UK's Chair of the G8 and European Union in 2005. Previously he had been Chief Economist and acting Head of Policy with UK charity Christian

Aid, the UK Department for International Development's economic adviser for South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland, and a financial adviser in the Central Bank of Guyana. Paul received his BSc in Economics and his MSc in Quantitative Development Economics from the University of Warwick. In 2016 he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Law (LLD), also by the University of Warwick.



## **Andrew Scott**

### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Andrew Scott is Professor of Economics and former Deputy Dean at London Business School. He is also a Fellow of All Souls, Oxford University and the Centre for Economic Policy Research. He previously held positions at Oxford University, London School of Economics and Harvard University. His MA is from Oxford, his MSc from the London School of Economics and his DPhil from Oxford University. His research focuses on business cycles, monetary and fiscal policy and longevity. He has published widely in leading journals and with David Miles and Francis Breedon is author of a textbook, *Macroeconomics: Understanding the Global Economy*, now in its Third Edition. His book, with Lynda Gratton, *The Hundred Year Life* has been published in 12 languages, is an Amazon best seller

and was runner up in the FT/McKinsey Business Book of the Year Award 2016 and Japanese Business Book of the Year Award 2017. Previously he was Managing Editor for the Royal Economic Society's *Economic Journal* and Scientific Chair of the Euro Area Business Cycle Network and Non-Executive Director for the UK's Financial Services Authority 2009-2013. He has been an advisor on Monetary Policy to the House of Commons Treasury Select Committee and to Chief Economists at both the Bank of England (on monetary policy) and HM Treasury (on fiscal policy and debt management) and Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister of Mauritius between 2007 and 2015. He is currently on the advisory board of the UK's Office for Budget Responsibility and the Cabinet Office Honours Committee (Science and Technology).



## **Vinicius Pinheiro**

### **PANEL MEMBER**

Vinicius Pinheiro is the Deputy Director of the International Labour Organization (ILO) Office for the UN (New York) and Executive Secretary of the Social Protection Interagency Coordination Board since October 2012. He is representing the ILO in the UN discussions related to the post-2015 development agenda, social protection, youth employment and migration. Before, Mr. Pinheiro served as senior social protection adviser to the ILO Director General in Geneva. From 2009-2013, he was part of the ILO Sherpa G20 Team and acted as Executive Secretary of the Social Protection Floor Advisory Group. He was also the focal point for the preparation of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20) and its follow up. Between 2002-2005, he worked in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), in Paris and provided consultancy services for the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and to the World Bank for projects in Africa and Latin America. From 1999-2002, he was the National Secretary for Social Security of Brazil. In 2001, he was elected Vice-President of the Inter-American Social Security Conference (CISS), based in Mexico City. Mr Pinheiro holds a Master's degree in Political Science from the University of Brasília and specializations in Public Administration and Public Policies (National School of Public Administration, Brasília); Evaluation of Social Programmes and Projects (ILPES-ECLAC, Santiago de Chile); Pensions Schemes (Harvard International Institute for Development, Cambridge) and Leadership in the Public Sector (Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge). He taught at the University of Brasilia (1994 – 1996) and authored various articles in the area of pensions and social protection.



## **Elisabeth Isele**

### **PANEL MEMBER**

Elisabeth Isele is the Founder and CEO of the Global Institute for Experienced Entrepreneurship (GIEE). The organisation dedicated to empowering cross-generational experience. We work with individuals, businesses and governments to ignite the wisdom, skills and entrepreneurial thinking of experienced employees to enhance the future of work and business startups for people of all ages. Since January 2012, she has been the go-to person for all things regarding senior and intergenerational entrepreneurship (programs, policy, capitalization and research), including the Obama White House, US Congress, Clinton Global Initiative (CGI-America), EU Commission on Entrepreneurship, OECD, the Federal Reserve, the UN, the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) and global firms such as EY, among many others. She is currently advising the W-20, G-7 and G-20 world summit committees on the social and economic impact of an "experienced economy." Creator and producer with Jeff Skoll's Participant Media of a top-level, 10-city, Global Summit Series to spearhead the 2015 social action campaign for their new movie, "The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel." London, Dublin, Washington, DC, New York City, Phoenix, St. Louis, Sydney, Auckland and Santiago hosted the successful, cross-sector summits. Elisabeth was Co-designer and key witness at the first ever US Senate Hearing on Senior Entrepreneurship in February 2014, which was broadcast on C-span. Elisabeth is also sought after digital trans-media storytelling expert author and speaker and is quoted often in major news outlets worldwide.





## **Alana Officer**

### **PANEL MEMBER**

Alana Officer is a native of New Zealand. She holds a diploma in Health Science (Podiatric Medicine) from the Institute of Technology in Sydney, Australia; a Master's degree in Applied Science – Exercise and Sports Science (research) from the University of Sydney, Australia; and a Master's degree in Public Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom. Alana started her career as a clinician in Australia and England before holding a number of technical and managerial positions working on disability, health and development in West and Central Africa, Europe, South Asia, the Middle East and the Western Pacific. Alana joined WHO in 2006 and was the Coordinator for the Disability and Rehabilitation Team (DAR) within the Department of Violence and Injury Prevention from 2007 – 2014 where she led the development of such landmark resources as the WHO global disability action plan 2014–2021: Better health for all

people with disability (2014), The International Perspectives on Spinal Cord injury (2013), the World report on disability (2011) and the Guidelines on community-based rehabilitation (2010) amongst many others. She has earned a number of awards for her contribution to disability and rehabilitation and is a member of several editorial boards for scientific journals. Alana joined the Department of Ageing and Life Course in July 2014 to lead the development of the World Report on Ageing and Health, which was published in October 2015 and to support the development of the Global Strategy and Action Plan on Ageing and Health (GSAP). She currently oversees the Organization's work on age-friendly environments, related to the Global strategy and action plan on ageing and health, including the Global Network on Age-friendly Cities and Communities and the development of a Global Campaign to Combat Ageism.



## **Krishna Gautem**

### **PANEL MEMBER**

Krishna Gautem is the Director of Ageing Nepal. He joined his first job at the Institute of Agriculture and Animal Sciences as Assistant Lecturer and moved on to the Agriculture Projects Services Center as an Agriculture Specialist, and Senior Agri-Economist in Nepal. Later on, Krishna worked as an independent consultant as a rural development planning and training expert. Krishna has worked in India, Nepal and PR China for rural development programs/projects supported by development agencies such as USAID, World Bank and UNDP. He also has undergone training on other subjects such as Solar Energy Technologies, Irrigation Management and Bio-energy. Since starting Ageing Nepal in 2011, he has authored over 7 books and booklets on ageing issues, all published in Nepali language. Additionally, Ageing Nepal has been conducting successful literacy classes for older adults for the past few years. Krishna holds a Masters in Economics from Australia.



## **Karoline Schmid**

### **PANEL MEMBER**

Karoline is the Chief of Fertility and Population Ageing Section in the Population Division, DESA Ms. Karoline Schmid United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs-Population Division (UN-DESA) Karoline Schmid has been working in the United Nations system since 1995 in various capacities serving at different duties stations (Albania, New York, and Trinidad & Tobago). Karoline is currently heading the Fertility and Population Ageing Section in the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations. Prior to that she supported the development of the MISA (Multi Indicator Survey on Ageing) in sub-Saharan Africa in collaboration with Malawi, Uganda and Kenya. She is currently also a member of the Steering Committee of the Titchfield City Group on Ageing and Age-disaggregated data (TCGA) that aims to contribute to establishing international standards and methods for the compilation of statistics and data on the major dimensions of ageing. Apart from

her experience within the United Nations system, she has worked in academia and in the private sector in various capacities. Karoline holds a diploma in Sociology from the University of Bamberg (Germany) and a Ph. D. in sociology from the University of Marburg (Germany).



## **Amal Abou Rafeh**

### **CHIEF, PROGRAMME OF AGEING**

Amal Abou Rafeh is Chief of Programme on Ageing Unit at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs in New York. She serves on the Secretariat of the General Assembly's Open-ended Working Group on Ageing and is a member of the Steering Committee of the Titchfield City Group on Ageing-related Statistics and Age-disaggregated Data. Amal joined the United Nations in 2001, working in the areas of social policy, sustainable development and demography, and served on the Secretariats of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (2002) and the High-level Meeting on Youth (2011). She held positions in Beirut and New York. Before joining the United Nations, Amal lectured on analysis of social and demographic data. Amal was born in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and holds a Master of Science

in Population Studies from the American University of Beirut.



## **Cynthia Stuen, PhD** **CHAIRPERSON, NGO COMMITTEE ON AGEING**

Cynthia Stuen is the Chairperson of the NGO Committee on Ageing in New York, and the United Nations Representative for the International Federation on Ageing. She was elected in June 2015 to be Vice-chair of the NGO Committee on Ageing/NY. In addition, she was recently elected as a vice-chair of the Board of Directors of VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired. She continues to serve on the Eger Health Care Center Board of Directors. She remains active in advocacy for inclusion of older persons in the implementation and monitoring of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. Her 40+ year professional career has been in field of gerontology. She has worked and conducted research in long term care, community based service delivery, and provided professional and consumer education in field of vision impairment. Her numerous publications, presentations and research endeavors cover topics of age-related sensory loss, access to environments for older adults with impaired vision and contributions older adults and their family and friends can make to program planning and service delivery. Dr. Stuen received her Bachelor's Degree from Valparaiso University, her Master's Degree from the University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration and her doctorate from Columbia University. She is a fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine and The Gerontological Society of America

## **Maud Bruce-About**

### **CHAIR, UNIDOP 2019 PROGRAMME SUB-COMMITTEE**

Maud Bruce-About is a member of the Executive Board of the UN New York NGO Committee of Ageing. She also represents the International Federation of Associations for the Elderly (FIAPA), the International Federation of Associations for the Elderly, at UN Commissions including; Population, CSW, ECOSOC, HLPF and OEWGA, in working groups as well as in different coordination mechanisms. Maud has a background in Strategy and Change Management Consulting, with Gemini Consulting in London and Paris, and in development consulting, from the OECD Development Center in Paris. She holds a Master in Communication for Development with focus on representation and social change from Malmö University, an MBA with focus on strategy and organizational change from London Business School & a Master in European studies from the College of Europe in Brugge.

## NGO COMMITTEE ON AGEING, NEW YORK

Chairperson	<b>Cynthia Stuen</b> , International Federation on Ageing
Vice-Chairperson	<b>Frances Zainoeddin</b> , Soroptimist International
Treasurer	<b>Katharine Weiss</b> , International Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing
Corresponding Secretary	<b>Maud Bruce-About</b> , International Federation of Associations of the Elderly
Recording Secretary	<b>Sandra Timmermann</b> , International Federation on Ageing
Past Chairperson	<b>Janet Sigal</b> , American Psychological Association
Members-at Large	<b>Erica Dhar</b> , AARP
	<b>Ranjit Jayanti</b> , Guild of Service
	<b>Nélida Quintero</b> , American Psychological Association
	<b>William Smith</b> , Aging in America Inc.
	<b>Rebecca Tsurumi</b> , AARP

## United Nations International Day of Older Persons Planning Committee, 2019

**Maud Bruce-About** (International Federation of Associations of the Elderly)  
**Cynthia Stuen**, International Federation on Ageing Psychologists  
**Erica Dhar**, AARP  
**Cynthia Stuen**, International Federation on Ageing  
**Frances Zainoeddin**, Gray Panthers  
**Sandra Timmermann**, International Federation on Ageing  
**Nélida Quintero**, American Psychological Association  
**Valerie Levy**, International Federation on Aging  
**Kathy Kline**, S.E.R.R.

## NGO COMMITTEE ON AGEING, NEW YORK

### Organizational affiliations

- AARP International
- ACAMAGE - Association Camerounaise pour la prise en charge de la personne agee
- Agewell Foundation
- Aging Analytics Agency
- Alzheimer's Disease International
- American Psychological Association (APA)
- Armenian International Women's Association
- Association des Badinga du Congo
- Association of Former International Civil Servants
- ATOP Meaningful World - Association for Trauma Outreach and Prevention
- Brahma Kumaris World Spirituality University
- Close The Gap
- Columbia University - Mailman School of Public Health
- Communications Coordination Committee For The Un
- Concile Mondial De Congres Diplomatiques Des Aumoniers Pour La Paix Universelle Des Droits Humains Et
- Dobroe Delo Civic Foundation
- EURAG Europe
- Fantsuam Foundation
- FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
- Foundation for Human Horizon
- Generations United
- Global Action on Aging
- Global Alliance on Women's Health
- Gray Panthers
- Guild of Service
- HelpAge USA, an affiliate of HelpAge International
- IAHSA - Int'l Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing
- Instituto Qualivida
- International Alliance of Women
- International Association of Applied Psychology
- International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics
- International Association of Schools of Social Work
- International Council of Jewish Women
- International Council of Psychologists
- International Federation for Home Economics
- International Federation of Social Workers
- International Federation on Ageing
- International Longevity Center – Brazil
- International Longevity Centre Global Alliance
- International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse
- League Of Women Voters, USA
- National Old Folks of Liberia West Africa
- New Future Foundation, Inc.
- Nonviolence International
- PRAHAR
- PROSALIS – Health Project in Lisbon
- Rassemblement des freres unis pour le développement socio-culturel (RAFUDESC - BENIN)
- Society for Psychological Study of Social Issues

- Soroptimists International
- UGT - União Geral dos Trabalhadores
- UN and International Affairs (Assistant Sec. General)
- UNANIMA International
- World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations
- Yad Sarah - Organization Aiding Disabled, Elderly, and Housebound People
- Yale University - School of Public Health
- YOGAATHMA FOUNDATION