

الأمم المتحدة
اللجنة الاقتصادية والاجتماعية لغربي آسيا

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**Regional Seminar on the Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of
Action on Ageing, Amman – Jordan, 20 – 21 November 2007**

Information Note

Background and justification

The Second World Assembly on Ageing, which took place in Madrid, Spain, in 2002, adopted the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA), “to respond to the opportunities and challenges of population ageing in the twenty-first century and to promote the development of a society for all ages”¹. As noted in MIPAA, its “systematic review of implementation... by Member States is essential for its success in improving the quality of life of older persons”².

The Commission for Social Development at its forty-first session in 2003 considered the modalities for the review and appraisal of MIPAA and endorsed the bottom-up and flexible approach proposed by the UN Secretariat in its note to the Commission³. At its forty-second session in 2004, the Commission decided to undertake the review and appraisal of the Plan of Action every five years, with each review and appraisal cycle to focus on one of the priorities identified in the Plan of Action. The Commission also requested the United Nations regional commissions, within their mandates, to promote and facilitate the implementation, review and appraisal of and dissemination of information about the Madrid Plan of Action at the regional level⁴.

The UN mandate of the present Seminar is governed by (1) **Resolution 45/1**, of the UN Commission on Social Development, particularly within its operative paragraphs 10-12 which request regional commissions to conduct the first cycle of the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action, including the identification of regional and global priorities for its implementation; and forward their findings of the first review and appraisal, along with identified priorities for future action regarding the implementation of MIPAA to the Commission of Social Development at its 46th session in 2008. (2) **GA Resolution 61/142**, which, in its operative paragraph 9 stipulates “...Invites Member States to undertake an initial identification of actions they have taken since the Second World Assembly on Ageing in 2002, as well as policy recommendations for the further implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and encourages regional commissions to identify modalities for conducting the regional review and appraisal, including best practices, with the aim of presenting this information to the Commission at its forty-sixth session in 2008”.

¹ Political Declaration of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, 2002, article 1.
<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ageing/waa/a-conf-197-9a.htm>

² MIPAA, paragraph 131. <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ageing/waa/a-conf-197-9b.htm>

³ Modalities for the review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002. Note by the Secretariat (E/CN.5/2003/7).

⁴ Modalities for the review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002. Resolution of the Commission for Social Development 42/1. <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ageing/csocd42res1.doc>

Objective

The overall objective of the Seminar is to monitor the progress made at the regional level and share experiences and best practices regarding the implementation of MIPAA, five years after the adoption of the declaration, and to assist counterpart entities in the Arab countries to monitor the progress at country level. The outcome of the meeting will serve as submission to UN DESA in November 2007, and to the 46th session of the Commission for Social Development, March 2008. The Seminar also seeks to consider: (a) Governments, civil society, and stakeholders priority issues and existing gaps and needs in implementation, advancement, and monitoring; (b) proposed set of policy recommendations for further implementation. In this connection, the meeting will:

1. Review the findings of country situations through the presentation of country reports.
2. Take stock of regional experience and identify good practices of implementation activities aimed at improving the quality of life of ageing population.
3. Identify priorities for further actions in implementation of MIPAA.
4. Elaborate and adopt relevant recommendations.

Organization of the Seminar

A. Date and venue

The Seminar is planned for 20 – 21 November 2007 in Amman, Jordan. It will be organized by the Secretariat of the UN Economic Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) Social Development Division.

B. Participants

Government focal points of ESCWA member countries and other Non-ESCWA Arab countries will be invited to participate in the Seminar together with representatives from relevant UN offices, civil society, research and academia.

C. Provisional agenda

I. Opening Session

II. Technical Session I:

Review of key regional developments in the area of ageing since 2002.

- (a) Ageing issues world wide
- (b) Ageing issues in the Arab world: situation analysis of ageing representing the different ageing patterns in the Arab region
- (c) Overall progress made in the implementation of MIPAA at the regional level: analytical overview.

III. Technical Session II:

Review and appraisal of MIPAA implementation at the country and regional levels.

- (a) ESCWA modality in monitoring the progress made in the implementation of MIPAA
- (b) Progress made regarding MIPAA implementation:

- Country presentations of national reports

- (c) Priorities for future action.

IV. Closing Session:

Final report and adoption of the recommendations.

J. Methodology

The Seminar will be conducted over two days covering three working/thematic sessions. Government representatives will participate in their personal capacity. The first substantive session will examine the changing demographic dynamics, and the overall progress made in the implementation of MIPAA. The second thematic session will cover presentation of country reports, and in-depth situation analysis of ageing representing the different ageing patterns in the Arab region. The second session will also seek to identify regional priorities for further actions in the implementation of MIPAA. The deliberations of the Seminar will permit the participants to exchange experiences and share best practices regarding MIPAA implementation. During the Seminar, participants will be asked to identify regional priorities for further actions in the implementation of MIPAA. Participants will also be invited to contribute to the elaboration of recommendations related to the issues identified in the proposed agenda.

K. Documentation

The following documentation will be made available to the participants:

- Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing.
- Arab Plan of Action on Ageing to the Year 2012.
- Regional report on the implementation of MIPAA.
- Technical report on the situation analysis of ageing in five Arab sub-regions.

Participants are invited to bring to the meeting relevant information and background material.

L. Outcome

Report of the meeting, containing:

- Review and analysis of the progress made.
- Priorities for further actions in the implementation of MIPAA.
- Recommendations.

M. Language

The working language of the Seminar is Arabic, spontaneous interpretation into English will be available.