

## 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

*in partnership with*  
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Programme on Ageing

*Sponsored by*  
The Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations

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#UNIDOP2019  
#AgeingEqual

Official WebSite [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 the 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 the greatest and often most overlooked and under-appreciated resources and empowering them is key to ensure their inclusiveness and reduce inequalities.

The 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals recognize that development will only be achieved if it is inclusive of all ages. This year’s theme aligns with Goal 10, which sets to reduce inequality within and among countries through efforts at narrowing disparities of opportunity by eliminating discrimination and promoting the inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.

Everyone should live with dignity and respect. Yet, there are stark contrasts in people’s experiences in later life, where inequalities are often the result of 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.

In a world marked by rapid population ageing, and where older persons now outnumber children under five years of age, 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:

- Draw attention to old age inequality and how it often results from a cumulation of disadvantages throughout life;
- Raise awareness on pathways of coping with existing and preventing future old age inequality;
- Explore societal and structural changes in view of life course policies, including: life-long learning, proactive and adaptive labour policies, social protection and universal health coverage; and
- Reflect on best practice, lessons and progress on the journey to ending older age inequality and changing negative narratives and stereotypes involving “older age”

# Today's Programme

## Opening Session

Welcome	<b>Cynthia Stuen</b> , Chair of the NGO Committee on Ageing in New York <b>Maud Bruce-About</b> , Chair, UNIDOP Programme Sub-committee, NGO Committee on Ageing in New York
Remarks by	<b>H.E. Martín García Moritán</b> , Permanent Representative of the Mission of Argentina to the United Nations <b>Nasly Isabel Bernal Prado</b> , Permanent Mission of Chile, Chair of the Group of Friends of Older Persons
Video Message	<b>António Guterres</b> , Secretary-General of the United Nations
Keynote Speakers	<b>Paul Ladd</b> , Director, UN Research Institute for Social Development <b>Andrew Scott</b> , Professor of Economics at the London Business School
Moderator	<b>Jane Barratt</b> , Secretary-General, International Federation on Ageing
DESA Report Launch	<b>Karoline Schmid</b> , World Population Ageing Highlights (2019)

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

Panelists	<b>Matthieu Cognac</b> , Senior Multilateral Cooperation Specialist, International Labour Organization (ILO) <b>Elizabeth Isele</b> , Founder/CEO, Global Institute for Experienced Entrepreneurship (GIEE) <b>Alana Officer</b> , Senior Health Adviser of the Ageing and Life Course Department, World Health Organization (WHO) <b>Krishna Gautem</b> , Director, Ageing Nepal <b>Karoline Schmid</b> , Chief, Fertility and Population Ageing Section, Population Division, DESA
	Interactive dialogue

## Closing Session

Remarks by	<b>H.E. Mr. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande</b> , President of the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly
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## Biographies

(in order of appearance on programme)



### **H.E. Martín García Moritán**

#### **AMBASSADOR (ARGENTINA)**

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 for the purpose of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons. Prior to his appointment, Ambassador Moritán 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. Ambassador Moritán 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. He holds a Graduate Degree in International Affairs from the Complutense University in Madrid, Spain, and a Bachelor's Degree in Law from the University of Buenos Aires. Ambassador Moritán 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**

Nasly Bernal Prado is currently a delegate and First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations in New York. During her extensive diplomatic career, she has held positions at the embassies of Chile in France, Greece and Trinidad and Tobago. Nasly was also appointed to the Division of Middle East and Africa, covering Human Resources and Protocol General Direction at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile. Nasly graduated from the Chilean Diplomatic Academy in 1998. Previously, she studied History and Geography at the Catholic University of Valparaíso and holds a Masters Degree in International Studies at the University of Chile.



## Paul Ladd

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Paul Ladd has held the position of Director of the UN Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) since October 2015. Before that, he was at UNDP, where he was the 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, Paul 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 also 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 was Chief Economist and acting Head of Policy with UK charity

Christian Aid, and 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 research focuses on business cycles, monetary and fiscal policy and longevity. He has published widely in leading academic journals and his book *The Hundred Year Life* is an international best seller, having been published in 14 languages. Andrew has advised a range of governments including serving as Executive Director for the UK's Financial Services Authority. He is currently on the advisory board of the UK's Office for Budget

Responsibility and the Cabinet Office Honours Committee (Science and Technology). Andrew is also a co-founder of the Longevity Forum. He graduated with a Masters Degree from Oxford University, London School of Economics and Doctor of Philosophy (DPhil.) from Oxford University.



## Jane Barratt

### MODERATOR

Jane Barratt is the Secretary General of the International Federation on Ageing (IFA), an international non-government organization with general consultative status with the United Nations and its agencies (including formal relations with the World Health Organization (WHO)). Representing over 75 million older persons through membership of the IFA, Jane has responsibility for the corporate's global performance, quality and business portfolio. Among her many current positions, Jane is a member of Vision Academy, Baycrest Health Sciences and Chair of the Education Advisory Committee, Associate Scientist and member of the Sinai Health System, Global Committee for the DR Barometer Program and the International Council for Adult Immunizations. Jane is also 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.



## **Matthieu Cognac**

### **PANEL MEMBER**

Matthieu Cognac is the Senior Multilateral Cooperation Specialist at the International Labour Organization (ILO) office in New York. Among his many roles, Matthieu liaises with the UN and collaborates with the organization's entities on decent work initiatives. In 2004, he worked on the Indian Ocean tsunami and began his career with ILO in Indonesia. Since then Matthieu has managed several youth employment projects; partnering with government officials and working with local communities to enhance economic growth and enhance skills needed to enter the global labour market. Matthieu has contributed to numerous employment related initiatives including job creation for farmers and traders amongst others. He is contributed to the expansion of financial cooperative networks and the launch of green jobs initiatives. Matthieu has over the years worked with many governments, employers and workers organizations on opportunities to create decent jobs. In January 2019, Matthieu joined the ILO office in New York where he holds his current position. Matthieu graduated with an MBA Degree from Nicholls State University in the United States.



## **Elizabeth Isele**

### **PANEL MEMBER**

Elizabeth Isele is the Founder and CEO of the Global Institute for Experienced Entrepreneurship (GIEE). The organization is dedicated to empowering cross-generational entrepreneurial experience by working with individuals of all ages in close relation with private businesses, NGOs and governments. The aim of the organization is to ignite wisdom, skills and entrepreneurial thinking and enhance the future of work. The Global Institute for Experienced Entrepreneurship (GIEE) mainly uses a comprehensive, cross-sector approach to catalyze and support intergenerational experience in the areas of future of work, entrepreneurship and artificial intelligence. Elizabeth has been a trusted advisor for various entities 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." Including many other world forums and summits involving governments, universities, private sector and NGOs. Elizabeth is also a sought after digital trans-media storytelling expert author and international speaker.



## **Alana Officer**

### **PANEL MEMBER**

Alana Officer has held the position of Senior Health Advisor in the Department of Ageing and Life Course of the World Health Organization (WHO) since 2014. She oversees the organization's work on age-friendly environments, related to 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. Alana also oversees the development of the Decade of Healthy Ageing 2020-2030. Prior to that, Alana was the coordinator for the Disability and Rehabilitation Team within the Department of Violence and Injury Prevention where she led the development of landmark resources such as the *WHO global disability action plan 2014-2021: Better health for all people with disability (2014)*, the *World Report on Disability (2011)* and the guidelines on community-based rehabilitation amongst many others. Alana is a native of New Zealand and holds a

diploma in Health Science (Podiatric Medicine) from the Institute of Technology in Sydney, Australia; a Masters Degree in Applied Science – Exercise and Sports Science (research) from the University of Sydney, Australia; and a Masters Degree in Public Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom. She has earned several awards for her contribution to disability and rehabilitation and is a member of several editorial boards for numerous scientific journals.



## **Krishna Gautem**

### **PANEL MEMBER**

Krishna Gautem is the Director of a local NGO "Ageing Nepal". His first job was at the Institute of Agriculture and Animal Sciences as Assistant Lecturer and later joined the Agriculture Projects Services Center as an Agriculture Specialist, and Senior Agri-Economist in Nepal. Later, Krishna worked as an independent consultant as a rural development planning and training expert. Krishna has worked in India, Nepal and PR China focusing in rural development programmes/projects supported by development agencies such as USAID, World Bank and UNDP. He also trained in 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 Degree in Economics from Australia.



## **Karoline Schmid**

### **PANEL MEMBER**

Karoline is the Chief of Fertility and Population Ageing Section in the Population Division of UNDESA. Karoline started her career in the United Nations system in 1995 and has held in various positions, serving in different duties stations (Albania, New York, and Trinidad & Tobago). Karoline also 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 a member of the Steering Committee of the Titchfield City Group on Ageing and Age-disaggregated data (TCGA), which aims to contribute to the establishment of 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).



## **H.E. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande**

### **PRESIDENT (GA 74<sup>TH</sup> SESSION)**

Tijjani Muhammad-Bande has had an outstanding career as a scholar and diplomat. He received a BSc (Political Science) from Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria (1979); an MA (Political Science) from Boston University, United States of America (1981); and a PhD (Political Science) from University of Toronto, Canada (1987).

He started his academic career at Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Nigeria, Between 2000 and 2004, Professor Muhammad-Bande served as Director-General of Le Centre Africain de Formation et de Recherche Administratives pour le Développement (CAFRAD), in Tangiers, Morocco.

From 2010 to 2016, he held the position of Director-General of the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, Nigeria's most reputable policy institution for training leaders from the public and private sectors, including high echelon officials of Nigeria's Armed Forces.

As Nigeria's Permanent Representative to the United Nations (2018-2019), Professor Mohammad-Bande worked with colleagues from all regions of the world to achieve common objectives. He served as Vice-President of the 71st session of the General Assembly and was active in several forums, including as Chair of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34), Member of the Advisory Board of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, and Chair of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Group.

Professor Muhammad-Bande was an assessor for the National Merit Award (Nigeria) and for professorial positions in universities. He has won merit awards and honours from institutions and governments, including the Government of the United States of America and the Government of China. Most notably, he was named Officer of the Order of the Federal Republic (OFR), one of Nigeria's highest national honours.

## Biographies

(NGO Committee on Ageing – New York)



### **Cynthia Stuen**

#### **CHAIRPERSON, NGO COMMITTEE ON AGEING (NY)**

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/New York. 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 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 programme planning and service delivery. Dr. Stuen received her Bachelor's Degree from Valparaiso University, her Masters 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**

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 Masters Degree in Communication for Development with a focus on representation and social change from Malmö University, an MBA with a focus on strategy and organizational change from London Business School & a Masters Degree 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> , International Council of Psychologists
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 Committees, 2019 for NGO Committee on Ageing/New York

**Maud Bruce-About**, Chair, International Federation of Associations of the Elderly  
**Erica Dhar**, AARP  
**Gregory Johnson**, Emblem Health  
**Kathy Kline**, International Network of Prevention of Elder Abuse  
**Valerie Levy**, International Federation on Ageing  
**James O'Neal**, International Federation on Ageing  
**Nelida Quintero**, American Psychological Association  
**Janet Sigal**, International Council of Psychologists  
**Cynthia Stuen**, International Federation on Ageing  
**Sandra Timmermann**, International Federation on Ageing  
**Frances Zainoeddin**, Soroptimist International

## 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 frères 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