

## Paving the Way to OEWSGA11 in Conversation with Experts

featuring

**H.E. Ms. María del Carmen Squeff, Permanent Representative of Argentina to the UN**

and

**H.E. Mr. Francisco Duarte Lopes, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the UN**

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Time: 7:40 - 9:30 am EST (New York)

Speaker link: <https://bit.ly/3fDcBFL> (internal)

### CONTEXT

COVID–19 pandemic continues to ravage the world with disproportionate and severe impact on older persons. According to WHO, 8 out of 10 COVID-19 deaths reported have been in people aged 60 years or over. In his policy brief on the [impact of COVID-19 on older persons](#), the Secretary-General stated that the lack of adequate legislation at the national level, together with the absence of a dedicated internationally-agreed legal framework, contributes to the vulnerability experienced by older persons and may have contributed at times to inadequate responses to the pandemic. Realizing the need for immediate impactful action, the Secretary-General also called for accelerated efforts of the General Assembly’s Working Group to develop proposals for an international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons.

### OBJECTIVE

In the run-up to the [11<sup>th</sup> session](#) of the Working Group in 2021, the International Federation on Ageing, in partnership with the Permanent Missions of Argentina and Portugal, and in collaboration with DESA and OHCHR, is organising a virtual town hall with Chair-elect H.E. Ms. María del Carmen Squeff and H.E. Mr. Francisco Duarte Lopes, Ambassador of Portugal, serving as Vice-Chair of the Bureau of the Working Group, to place a spotlight on advancing the human rights of older persons.

### AUDIENCE

The event will host around 150 participants, including Government representatives, national human rights institutions, civil society, academia and UN entities.

### RUNNING SHEET

#### Preparation

- 7:40 Technology check and speaker preparation
- 7:55 Waiting room opens and participants enter
- 7:58 Brief housekeeping by **Andra Stancu**, Project Officer, IFA  
Begin recording and Facebook live stream  
All videos during moderated discussion to be played by **Andra Stancu**

## Welcome Remarks

8:00 - 8:05 **Jane Barratt**, Secretary-General, IFA (host) to provide welcome remarks and introduce H.E. Ms. **María del Carmen Squeff** (bio to be posted in chat)

## Opening Remarks

8:05 - 8:15 H.E. Ms. **María del Carmen Squeff**, Permanent Representative of Argentina to the UN

## A Conversation Starter: What is Old?

Moderated by H.E. Ms. **María del Carmen Squeff**, Permanent Representative of Argentina to the UN

8:15 - 8:25  **AARP video** *Change What it Means to Age (1:30mins)*  
Remarks by **Jane Barratt**, Secretary-General, IFA (bio to be posted in chat)

8:25 - 8:35  **AARP video** *Millennials show us what ageing looks like (4:10 min)*  
Remarks by **Gary Koenig**, Savings and Planning Enterprise Lead  
VP, Financial Security AARP Public Policy Institute (bio to be posted in chat)

## Right to Work

8:35 - 8:45  **AARP video** *Too Old for a Career (1:45 min)*  
Remarks by **Amal Abou Rafeh**, Chief Programme on Ageing Unit, DESA (bio to be posted in chat)

## Access to Justice

8:45 - 8:55  **AARP video** *No Donuts For You (2:14 min)*  
Remarks by **Rio Hada**, Team Leader, Human Rights and Economic and Social Issues Section, OHCHR (bio to be posted in chat)

## Standing-up for Older People's Rights in a Pandemic

8:55 - 9:05   **video** *Ageism During COVID19 (2:20 min)*  
Remarks by **Claudia Mahler**, Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons (bio to be posted in chat)

9:05 - 9:22 Q&A moderated by **Jane Barratt**, Secretary-General, IFA

**Jane Barratt**, Secretary-General, IFA (host) to introduce H.E. Mr. **Francisco Duarte Lopes**, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the UN (bio to be posted in chat)

## Closing Remarks

9:22 - 9:27 H.E. Mr. **Francisco Duarte Lopes**, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the UN

## Final thanks

H.E. Ms. **María del Carmen Squeff**, Permanent Representative of Argentina to the UN