

**Invitation to the official SGA side event at the
United Nations High Level Political Forum 2021:**

COVID-19 Pandemic: A Stress Test of Global Ageing

Tuesday 6 July 2021

1:00 – 2:30 PM (EDT – New York)

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Older Persons have been among the first and hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. In many respects the pandemic could be viewed as a test of how prepared/or not Member States are for the rapidly ageing society. Pandemics disrupt and have the potential to drive change. Only a whole-of-society, whole-of-government approach can respond effectively to the dynamic challenges of this time. In his report, the Secretary-General presented new research on how longevity has the power to transform labour markets, economies and societies. The recently released WHO Global Report on Ageism show that one in two people hold ageist attitudes towards older people. This side event will focus on: Health and Long Term Care, Economic Development and Work and Technology in ageist environment during the pandemic.



Welcome Remarks

Ms. Erica Dhar, Co-Chair,
Stakeholder Group on Ageing



Moderator

Dr. Jane Barratt, Secretary General,
International Federation on Ageing



Keynote Address

Prof. Andrew Scott, Professor of
Economics, London Business School



Remarks

H.E. Ms. Barbro Westerholm,
Member of Parliament, Sweden



Panelist

Dr. Ad van Berlo, Chief Executive
Officer and R&D Manager, Smart
Homes



Panelist

Ms. Aura Sevilla, Programme
Consultant for South East Asia and
Older Workers, Women in Informal
Employment: Globalizing and
Organizing (WIEGO)



Panelist

Ms. Grace Chan, Business Director,
Hong Kong Council of Social Service



Special Respondent

Mr. Steve S. J. Lee, Organizing
Partner, Major Group for Children
and Youth



Closing Remarks

Ms. Amal Abou Rafeh, Chief of the
Programme on Ageing Unit, United
Nations Department of Economic
and Social Affairs (UN DESA)