Second informal consultation of ESCAP member States on the Asia-Pacific Fourth Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing: MIPAA survey check-in

9 August 2021, Bangkok, Thailand
(Virtual meeting)

CONCEPT NOTE

Background

The Asia-Pacific region is ageing rapidly. The percentage of people aged 60 years or over will increase from 13.6 per cent in 2020 to 24.9 per cent in 2050.

These demographic shifts present challenges and opportunities that require forward-looking policies to ensure inclusive and active ageing. In 2002, United Nations Member States adopted the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA), the global action plan to “build societies for all ages”. The MIPAA complements the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by providing detailed policy actions to ensure that older persons are not left behind. Policies must address all three pillars of the MIPAA and emerging issues, such as technological advances and the impacts of climate change, environmental degradation, and COVID-19. Population ageing has a strong gender dimension. While men and women share certain common basic needs as they age, ageing related policies should give special attention to older women in vulnerable situations.

Several countries in the Asia-Pacific region have already designed policies on population ageing, but the policies differ in scope, effectiveness, and implementation.

Since adoption of the MIPAA in 2002, there have been three regional and global reviews and appraisals. In accordance with ECOSOC resolution 2020/8 and General Assembly resolution 75/152, United Nations Member States have mandated regional commissions to conduct the Fourth Regional Review and Appraisal of the MIPAA and to nominate focal points. ESCAP will organize the Fourth Review and Appraisal in Asia and the Pacific, with support from other United Nations entities in the region in 2022, with preparatory processes being undertaken through 2021. The review process will consist of a (a) member State survey; (b) stakeholder consultations; (c) drafting of research papers/expert group meetings; and (d) intergovernmental meeting.

Date of the meeting

The meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, 9 August 2021, 10:00 am to 13:00 pm, Bangkok time.
Purpose of the meeting

The purpose of the meeting is to:

a) Provide an overview of population ageing trends in Asia and the Pacific and review plans for the Asia-Pacific Fourth Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing;
b) Review the status of national reviews of MIPAA implementation, including the status of completing the MIPAA survey, launched in June 2021;
c) Review needs for capacity-building and technical support.

Expected outcomes

It is expected that after the meeting, country focal points, and partners will have:

a) Increased understanding of population ageing trends in Asia and the Pacific and the process of the Asia-Pacific Fourth Review and Appraisal of the MIPAA;
b) Increased understanding of how to conduct national reviews;
c) Increased understanding of how to complete the MIPAA survey; and
d) Identified further capacity-building needs to conduct national reviews.

Participants

Participants will mostly consist of ageing focal points nominated by ESCAP member States. Some representatives of civil society, academia/research institutions and United Nations entities will also attend and support the consultations.

Modality of the meeting

The one-day meeting will be conducted virtually with plenary and working group discussions. A technical information note on the modality of the meeting, including dial-in details, has been prepared and shared with participants. Guiding questions for the two moderated parallel breakout sessions have been prepared and shared with participants. Participants are invited to review them prior to the meeting. They are also invited to make ad-hoc interventions from the floor during the working group sessions, addressing some of the guiding questions. Given the informal nature of the meeting, no formal presentations by ageing focal points are required.

The meeting website can be accessed at: https://bit.ly/3yu4q7l

Documents prepared for the meeting (see also meeting website)

- MIPAA survey for Asia and the Pacific, including companion document
- Guide to the national implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing
- Guidelines for the review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing