Expert Group Meeting - Population Ageing and the Situation of Older Persons in Asia and the Pacific: Follow-up to the Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Fourth Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing

4-5 August 2022
4 August: 09:00 to 12:00, noon, Bangkok time (GMT+7)
5 August: 13:00 to 16:00 Bangkok time (GMT+7)
Online [by invitation only]

Concept Note
(as of 18 July 2022)

Objectives
The Social Development Division of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) is organizing an Expert Group Meeting on “Population Ageing and the Situation of Older Persons in Asia and the Pacific: Follow-up to the Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Fourth Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing”, from 4 to 5 August 2022. The Expert Group Meeting is held in follow up to the Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Fourth Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing which was held from 29 June to 1 July 2022.

The Expert Group Meeting will (a) discuss follow-up actions regarding the outcomes of the intergovernmental meeting and (b) review a first draft of the Asia-Pacific Report on Population Ageing 2022.

The first day of the Meeting will feature sessions on the key findings of the national voluntary survey responses by member States, the stakeholder consultations, and the deliberations during the intergovernmental meeting, including its outcome document. The purpose is to draw findings and recommendations together and formulate some concrete follow-up actions which can also be highlighted in the Asia-Pacific Report on Population Ageing 2022. At the end of the first day, the dashboard on policies on ageing, developed by ESCAP, will be demonstrated. It brings together information and good practices on policies on ageing from countries in the region. The information is based on the responses from the national voluntary surveys and research undertaken by ESCAP. The policy dashboard complements the interactive data portal which shows the latest data and information on the situation of older persons in the region and is already available online at https://www.population-trends-
asiapacific.org/data. Meeting participants are invited to comment on the dashboard before it will be finalized later this year.

The second day of the Meeting will feature sessions reviewing the main chapters of the Asia-Pacific Report on Population Ageing 2022 and its draft recommendations. To collect relevant feedback, experts on population ageing and participants from the intergovernmental meeting will be invited to comment on the draft chapters.

Organisation
The Expert Group Meeting will be organized virtually from 4 to 5 August 2022, through Zoom. The first day is scheduled from 9:00 to 12:00, noon (Bangkok time, GMT+7), and the second day is scheduled from 13:00 to 16:00 (Bangkok time, GMT+7).

Participants
The Expert Group Meeting, by invitation only, will bring together participants in an expert capacity who work on population ageing. There will also be participants who attended the intergovernmental meeting, including Government and civil society representatives. Members of the Asia-Pacific informal regional network of focal points on ageing will also be invited.

Format and language
The meeting will be held in English and will feature presentations and interactive discussions, leading to the identification of key outcomes from the intergovernmental meeting and feedback on the draft Asia-Pacific Report on Population Ageing 2022.

Expected outcome
It is expected that the discussions at the meeting will (a) help identify actionable follow-up to the intergovernmental meeting on the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action in Asia and the Pacific and (b) guide the final revision of the Asia-Pacific Report on Population Ageing 2022. The report provides an assessment of the situation of older persons in the Asia-Pacific region and related policies and programmes. It will inform the Global Review of the Madrid Plan of Action at the Commission for Social Development in 2023. After the Expert Group Meeting, a report will be drafted, and it will summarize the discussions, conclusions and recommendations of the meeting.

Background
Population ageing is a global and regional megatrend. In 2020, sixty per cent of the world’s older persons resided in the region, or some 670 million persons 60 years or over. By 2050, it is projected that one quarter of the population of Asia and the Pacific will be older and their
families, some 1.3 billion people. Population ageing presents challenges and opportunities to older persons and their families and affects all aspects of the societies. It is an important multidimensional reality of major relevance for sustainable development. The Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002 \(^1\) remains the most forward-looking and comprehensive framework for the development of policies and programmes concerning population ageing, focusing on the lives and well-being of older persons. Its implementation is an ongoing process which is complemented by regular reviews and appraisals at global and regional levels. The reviews generate knowledge for policymakers, support action, promote public awareness, build capacity and help identify future priorities\(^2\). According to ECOSOC resolution 2020/8 of 18 June 2020 on the modalities of the Fourth Review and Appraisal of the MIPAA, regional commissions were mandated to conduct regional reviews in 2022, followed by a global review in 2023. In accordance with the Council resolution, regional commissions of the United Nations are reviewing the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action in their respective regions for the fourth time in 2022. These regional reviews build on national reviews undertaken in 2021; together, the regional and national reviews will inform the global review to be carried out at the sixty-first session of the Commission for Social Development, to be held in 2023.

**Contact details for further information**

**Ms. Sabine Henning**  
Chief  
Sustainable Demographic Transition Section  
Social Development Division  
ESCAP  
E-mail: escap-sdd@un.org

*(For logistics)*

**Ms. Supatra Kaewchana**  
Research Assistant  
Sustainable Demographic Transition Section  
Social Development Division  
ESCAP  
E-mail: (kaewchana@un.org)
