



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
23 June 2020

---

## 2020 session

Agenda item 19 (b)

**Social and human rights questions: social development**

## **Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 18 June 2020**

[on the recommendation of the Commission for Social Development ([E/2020/26](#))]

### **2020/8. Modalities for the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* that, in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, adopted by the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002,<sup>1</sup> the systematic review of its implementation by Member States was requested as being essential for its success in improving the quality of life of older persons,

*Recalling also* that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2003/14 of 21 July 2003, invited Governments, the United Nations system and civil society, including organizations of older persons, to participate in a bottom-up approach to the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action,

*Bearing in mind* that the Commission for Social Development, in its resolution 42/1 of 13 February 2004, decided to undertake the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action every five years,<sup>2</sup>

*Noting* that the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action will take place in 2023, and recognizing that, with the fourth review and appraisal exercise, the Second World Assembly on Ageing approaches its 20-year anniversary,

*Noting also* the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing and its contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the Madrid Plan of Action,

---

<sup>1</sup> *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 6 (E/2004/26)*, chap. I, sect. E.



*Recalling* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>3</sup> and stressing the need to ensure that older persons are taken into account in its implementation in order to ensure that no one is left behind, including older persons,

*Recalling also* the establishment by the Statistical Commission of the Titchfield Group on Ageing-related Statistics and Age-disaggregated Data,

*Recalling further* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>4</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>5</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>5</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>6</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities<sup>7</sup> and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>8</sup>

*Noting* the work of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, appointed by the Human Rights Council, on the assessment of the human rights implications of the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>9</sup>

1. *Endorses* the timeline for carrying out the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,<sup>1</sup> as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>9</sup> in which, inter alia, it is determined that the global review will take place in 2023;

2. *Decides* that the procedure for the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action will follow the set procedure of the third review and appraisal exercise;

3. *Invites* Member States to identify actions they have taken since the third review and appraisal exercise, with the aim of presenting this information to the regional commissions during 2022, and invites each Member State to decide for itself the actions or activities it intends to review, utilizing a bottom-up participatory approach;

4. *Encourages* Member States to establish or strengthen a national coordinating body or mechanism, as appropriate, in order to, inter alia, facilitate the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, including its review and appraisal;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to utilize more fully, within their specific national circumstances, a bottom-up participatory approach to the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action by inviting, inter alia, civil society, including organizations of older persons, to participate in the fourth review and appraisal cycle at the national and regional levels by submitting their views on the implementation of the Plan of Action and on regional plans of action, and further encourages Member States to consider providing adequate assistance for the participation of civil society in the review and appraisal;

6. *Invites* Member States to consider collecting and utilizing, in their national review and appraisal exercises, a combination of quantitative and participatory qualitative data gathering and analysis, disaggregated by age and also, when necessary, by other relevant factors, including sex and disability, and, where appropriate, sharing of best practices in such data collection;

---

<sup>3</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/1.

<sup>4</sup> General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>5</sup> See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>6</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>9</sup> E/CN.5/2020/4.

7. *Requests* the regional commissions to continue to facilitate the review and appraisal exercise at the regional level, including through consultation with relevant regional bodies, as appropriate, by, inter alia:

(a) Providing assistance to Member States, upon request, in the organization of their national review and appraisal exercises;

(b) Organizing regional review meetings;

(c) Assisting Member States, upon request, in following up on analysis resulting from the regional reviews;

(d) Using an inclusive and coordinated approach in relation to the participation of civil society in the planning and evaluation processes of the review and appraisal exercise;

(e) Promoting networking and the sharing of information and experiences;

(f) Providing an analysis of the main findings, identifying key priority action areas and good practices and suggesting policy responses by 2022;

(g) Assisting and providing advice to Governments, upon their request, within existing resources, in the gathering, synthesis and analysis of information, as well as in the presentation of the findings of national reviews and appraisals;

8. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to support Member States in their national review and appraisal efforts by providing, upon their request, technical assistance for capacity-building;

9. *Encourages* Member States and United Nations organizations, where appropriate, to provide support to the regional commissions in facilitating the review and appraisal process and in organizing regional meetings to review national review and appraisal results in 2022;

10. *Invites* Member States and the United Nations system, including the agencies, funds and programmes of the system, to take concrete measures to mainstream ageing issues, including the views of older persons, into their own programming and existing United Nations mandates;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission for Social Development at its sixtieth session, in 2022, a report, including an analysis of the preliminary findings of the fourth review and appraisal exercise, together with an identification of prevalent and emerging issues and related policy options;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its sixty-first session, in 2023, a report, including the conclusions of the fourth review and appraisal exercise, together with the identification of prevalent and emerging issues and related policy options.

18 June 2020