



Preparations for the 2022 UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing

Information Notice

January 2022

1. Background

In 1982, the first World Assembly on Ageing took place in Vienna (Austria). Twenty years later, in April 2002, the Second World Assembly adopted the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA), a global normative framework for responding to the opportunities and challenges of population ageing. The same year in September, the UNECE member States took a step further and at the Berlin Conference endorsed the Regional Implementation Strategy (RIS) for MIPAA that included a set of measures and actions grouped under ten commitments.

At the onset of MIPAA, it was agreed to review and appraise its implementation every five years at both regional and global levels. In 2007, the UNECE Ministerial Conference in León (Spain) concluded the review of the first five-year cycle of MIPAA/RIS and in its Ministerial Declaration re-endorsed the ten commitments of RIS. Following the 2007 Ministerial Conference, the UNECE Working Group on Ageing was established in 2008. In 2012, the UNECE Ministerial Conference in Vienna completed the second review and appraisal exercise and with its Ministerial Declaration endorsed the concept of active ageing. The third review concluded with the 2017 Ministerial Conference in Lisbon, outlining in its Ministerial Declaration three goals in the quest of realizing the potential of living longer. The current, fourth review and appraisal exercise commenced in 2021 with countries preparing their national reports and will be completed with the UNECE Ministerial Conference in June 2022 in Rome, Italy. At UNECE, the Population Unit and the Standing Working Group on Ageing (SWGA) are leading the review process.

2. General format of the Conference

The UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing will be held in Rome, Italy from 16 to 17 June 2022. The title for the 2022 Ministerial Conference is “A sustainable world for all ages: joining forces for solidarity and equal opportunities throughout life”. On 15 June 2022, the day preceding the Conference, a Civil Society and Scientific Research Forum will take place. The Conference will also host an exhibition and several side events.

The first day of the Conference will be dedicated to the presentation of the synthesis report on the MIPAA/RIS implementation since 2017 and three panel discussions: (1) Promoting active and healthy ageing throughout life, (2) Ensuring access to long-term care, and support to families and caregivers, and (3) Mainstreaming ageing to advance a society for all ages. On the second day, Ministers of UNECE member States will gather for the high-level segment round-table discussions, at the end of which a Ministerial Declaration shall be adopted.

More information on the Conference and all related documents will be available in due time at: <https://unece.org/population/events/ministerial-conference-ageing>.

3. Participants / Official delegations

Around 400 participants are expected to attend the Conference. UNECE member States are invited to send delegations of up to four persons, including the head of delegation. Member States are encouraged to include a civil society representative in their official delegation. Representatives from different United Nations specialized and related agencies and delegates from other intergovernmental organizations, experts and representatives of NGOs and academia will take part as observers in the Conference.

4. Registration

To facilitate arrangements by the host Government, member States are kindly requested to communicate to the UNECE secretariat the composition of their delegations and complete the electronic registration forms by **30 May 2022**.

An electronic registration is available at:

<https://unece.org/population/events/ministerial-conference-ageing>.

5. Languages and interpretation services

English, French, Italian and Russian are the languages of the Conference. Statements made in any of those languages will be interpreted into the other three languages.

6. Conference venue and mode

The Ministerial Conference will take place in Rome, Italy. The exact venue will be communicated in due time. The Conference will be held in person with a live broadcast possibility. A hybrid mode may be considered in case of pandemic-related restrictions for public gathering and travel across the region.

7. Calendar of preparatory events

2020-2021

25 September 2020	National reporting guidelines issued by the Bureau of SWGA.
19-20 November 2020	13th meeting of SWGA: Italy proposed to host the 2022 UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing in Rome; SWGA starts acting as a Preparatory Committee and appoints the Declaration Drafting and Conference Content preparation groups consisting of the Bureau members.
23-24 March 2021	13th meeting of the Bureau of SWGA: discussion on the declaration draft outline and the Ministerial Conference concept.
April-June 2021	Drafting process of the Ministerial Declaration. Revised by Bureau at its summer meeting on 25 June 2021.
July-September 2021	Informal consultations with the SWGA members/national focal points on the draft text of the Ministerial Declaration and the content of the Conference.
30 September 2021	Deadline for delivering national reports to the UNECE secretariat.

25 October 2021	Briefing to UNECE member States on the preparations for the Ministerial Conference and progress with the 4th review and appraisal of MIPAA/RIS in the region.
22-23 November 2021	14th meeting of SWGA/Preparatory Committee: approval of the title and thematic content of the Conference; agreement on the amendments to the draft text of the Ministerial Declaration and on the submission of the draft for formal consultation with member States.

2022

Dec. 2021-Feb. 2022	Formal intergovernmental consultation on the draft text of the Ministerial Declaration.
January-March 2022	Drafting of the regional synthesis report on implementation of MIPAA/RIS since 2017.
February-April 2022	Preparation of the MIPAA+20 report.
3-4 March 2022	14th meeting of the Bureau of SWGA to review the consultation results and agree on amendments to the draft declaration; finalize the programme of the Conference.
March-April 2022	Second round of formal consultations and finalization of the draft text for the Ministerial Declaration.
May 2022	Distribution of the background paper(s) in English, French, and Russian.
15 June 2022	Civil Society and Scientific Research Forum.
16-17 June 2022	Ministerial Conference, Rome, Italy.

8. Contact details of the Conference organizers

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