



People of *all* Ages have Rights!

Help promote the Human Rights of Older Persons, join the Global Call for a new

“UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons”

on

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY, DECEMBER 10, 2009

Ensure the *Voices of Older Persons* are heard around the World.

Why do we need a UN convention on the rights of older people?

- 1. Human rights change people’s lives.** Respecting older people alongside younger people will enable everyone to lead dignified, secure lives, as equal members of society.
- 2. Human rights and development go hand in hand.**
- 3. Human rights provide standards for service delivery.**
- 4. Ageism and age discrimination are unacceptable.** As the world experiences rapid population ageing, the pressures that result in age discrimination are likely to intensify; so does the imperative to address such discrimination.
- 5. Existing international and regional human rights law does not sufficiently protect older people’s rights.** The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the international rights conventions apply to everyone regardless of age. However, age is not listed explicitly.

“Soft laws” such as the UN Principles for Older Persons (1991) and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA, 2002), provide general guidelines which are not legally binding. A five year review of MIPAA in 2007 found inconsistent government commitment.

Your voice *can* make a difference!

For more information, please contact any of these international NGOs that are working together to promote awareness and understanding of the need for a new UN Convention on the rights of older persons:

NGO Committee on Ageing/NY jefrank@aarp.org

International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG)

International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, (INPEA) info@inpea.net

International Association of Homes and Services for the Aged, (IAHSA) iahsa@aahsa.org ,

International Federation on Ageing (IFA-FIV) info@ifa-fiv.org

International Longevity Center Global Alliance, (ILC Global Alliance) info@ilcusa.org

HelpAge International (HAI) bsleap@helpage.org

Global Action on Aging (GAA) globalaging@globalaging.org

Age Concern/Help the Aged (AG/HAE) international@ace.org.uk

AARP Office of International Affairs