



**Expert Group Meeting on “Care and Older Persons:
Links to Decent Work, Migration and Gender”**

Conference room S-2725, Secretariat Building, United Nations Headquarters, New York
5-7 December 2017

DRAFT AGENDA

Tuesday, 5 December 2017

9:00 – 9:30 **Registration**

9:30 – 10:00 **Opening Session**

- Welcoming remarks by **Daniela Bas, Director, Division for Social Policy and Development, UNDESA**
- Introduction of participants

10:00 – 12:30 **Session I: Care work and migration**

Presenters:

Ito Peng, University of Toronto
**Agnieszka Sowa-Kofta, Institute of Labour and Social Studies;
Center for Social and Economic Research**
Sawsan Abdulrahim, American University of Beirut

Moderator: **Shahra Razavi, UN Women**

Guiding questions:

- What are the differential implications of reliance on migrant workers in the care occupation on sending and receiving countries?
- What are factors behind migrant care workers’ vulnerabilities, and how can they be addressed?
- What are good practice examples of migrant care workers advocating for rights?

Presentations and discussions to address:

- Growing significance of migrant care workers – in origin (filling shortages) and destination (creating shortages) countries
- Gaps in migrant labour protections: lower earnings, less secure working arrangements, abuse by employers (particularly against women caregivers)
- Ensuring migrant care workers are covered by regulatory systems that protect care recipients
- Discrimination experienced by migrant workers

	Discussion
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 16:15	<p>Session II: Unpaid care work</p> <p><u>Presenters:</u> Shahra Razavi, UN Women Peter Lloyd Sherlock, University of East Anglia; Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research, Cornell University Mahmoud M. Meskoub, Erasmus University Rotterdam Claudia Vinay, United Nations Development Programme</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Thelma Kay, formerly Ministry of Social and Family Development, Singapore and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific</p> <p><u>Guiding questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How can sexist norms and views regarding care be addressed? ▪ How can unpaid care work be better distributed? ▪ Are budget cuts forcing more over-reliance on scarce unpaid care by family members? ▪ How can unpaid care work be better recognized and valued? In particular, are measurement and valuation efforts leading to changes in policy and practice? ▪ How can unpaid caregivers be better supported by social and health services? <p>Presentations and discussions to address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valuation and measurement • Support to unpaid caregivers • Opportunity costs of unpaid care work • Links to sexism • Links to austerity/budget cuts and its shifting of care burdens <p>Discussion</p>
16:15 – 16:30	Coffee break
16.30 – 17.00	Wrap-up: implications for social policy

Wednesday, 6 December 2017

9:30 – 12:00

Session III: Care and decent work¹

Presenters:

Ida Le Blanc, National Union of Domestic Employees, Trinidad and Tobago

Borja Arrue Astrain, AGE Platform Europe

Thelma Kay, formerly Ministry of Social and Family Development, Singapore and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Moderator: **Peter Lloyd Sherlock, University of East Anglia; Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research, Cornell University**

Guiding questions:

- Can paid care work be decent work? How?
- What are good practice examples of formalizing care workers?
- How can paid informal caregivers be better supported?
- How should Governments prepare for the projected expansion of paid care jobs?
- How has collective action fostered decent work for caregivers?
- Links between decent work and quality of care
- Where are the men in paid care work?

Presentations and discussions to address:

- Availability of care workers
- Qualifications and training
- Wages (“care penalty” experienced by women) and conditions of work
- Collective action
- Links to sexism and ageism (e.g. care for older persons vs children)

Discussion

12:00 – 14:00

Lunch break

¹ According to the International Labour Organization, decent work “involves opportunities for work that is productive and delivers a fair income, security in the workplace and social protection for families, better prospects for personal development and social integration, freedom for people to express their concerns, organize and participate in the decisions that affect their lives and equality of opportunity and treatment for all women and men.” (<http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/decent-work/lang--en/index.htm>)

14.00 – 16.15 **Session IV: Care for older persons: models, quality and trends**

Presenters:

Anne Margriet Pot, World Health Organization
Isabella Aboderin, African Population and Health Research Center, Inc.

Moderator: **Rosemary Lane, Focal Point on Ageing, UNDESA**

Guiding questions:

- What are the current and projected gaps in care systems for older persons?
- What are good elements of care systems that enable accessible and affordable care for older persons? Are there new care models/initiatives that are notable?
- How can a rights-based approach to care provision and regulatory systems enhance the quality of care received by older persons?
- How do ageist norms and views influence the quality and type of care received by older persons?

Presentations and discussions to address:

- Access to formal and informal care
- Financing gaps
- Regulation and quality of care
- Ageism and quality of care
- Trends in care provision, including new care models/initiatives and the role of employers
- How are older persons' voices being heard in the development of care policies

Discussion

16:15 – 16:30 Coffee break

16.30 – 17.00 Wrap-up: implications for social policy

Thursday, 7 December 2017

9:30 – 11.30 **Session V(a): Drafting of social policy recommendations** (in groups)

Policy recommendations should be as specific and action-oriented as possible and take account of the roles of various stakeholders (Governments at all levels; private sector; civil society)

11.30 – 11.45 Coffee break

11.45 – 12.45 **Session V(b): Presentations and endorsement of draft policy recommendations** (plenary)

12.45 – 13.00 Closing remarks