



THE 20TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS

**“OLDER PERSONS AND THE ACHIEVEMENT OF
THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS”**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2010
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

PRESENTED BY:

THE NGO COMMITTEE ON AGEING IN COLLABORATION WITH:

**THE GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA, THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON AGEING,
THE UN POPULATION FUND, AND PFIZER INC.**



MISSION STATEMENT

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS OCTOBER 7, 2010

“OLDER PERSONS AND THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS”

BACKGROUND

The 20th International Day of Older Persons (IDOP) will continue to build on significant United Nations (UN) milestones that acknowledge older persons as an increasingly major segment of society. In 2009, there were 737 million persons age 60 or older. This cohort is expected to grow to more than 2 billion by 2050. It is our task as the NGO Committee on Ageing, among others, to move forward the implementation of the action items found in the 2002 Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, adopted by Member States during the Second World Assembly on Ageing: a) older persons and development; b) advancing health and well-being in old age; and c) ensuring enabling and supportive environments.

In September 2000, Member States of the UN affirmed their collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality, and equity at the global level in the form of the UN Millennium Declaration. Member States considered certain fundamental values to be essential: freedom, equity, tolerance, respect for nature, and shared responsibility. In order to translate these shared values into action, eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were identified: eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; achieve universal primary education; promote gender equality and empower women; reduce child mortality; improve maternal health; combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases; ensure environmental sustainability; and develop a global partnership for development.

Although the MDGs are the outgrowth of and summary statement for the multiple World Conferences held in the 1990s, several of which specifically addressed global ageing, the UN Millennium documents fail to recognize this worldwide unprecedented phenomenon and the potential contributions of this major group in achieving the MDGs. Older persons remain essentially invisible in the MDGs; however, these individuals are vital to the achievement of the MDGs.

MISSION

The mission of this International Day of Older Persons celebration is to examine progress towards achieving the objectives set forth in the Millennium Development Goals from the perspective of the empowerment of older persons, giving attention to their inclusion in the MDGs, their participation in society and the promotion of a positive image of ageing.

OBJECTIVES

- ❖ To **raise awareness** of the objectives set forth in the Millennium Development Goals and of their relevance to older persons.
- ❖ To **identify the activities of older persons** to achieve these Goals and their associated objectives.
- ❖ To **exchange ideas** for further involvement of older persons in the progress towards the MDGs.
- ❖ To **develop action items** to recognize the human dignity and equality of older women and men.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS
October 7, 2010

9:00 am – 10:00 am

REGISTRATION

10:00 am – 10:30am

MORNING PROGRAM

Greetings and Messages

Welcome Message **Rosemary Lane**, Programme on Ageing, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

Message from **Ban Ki-moon**, Secretary-General of the United Nations *delivered by* **Jean-Pierre Gonnnot**, Officer-in-Charge, Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

Message from **Ambassador Armin Ritz**, Chef de Cabinet, Sixty-fifth session of the UN General Assembly

Welcome Message from **Jessica Frank López**, Chairperson, NGO Committee on Aging–New York

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Bethany Brooks, Singer - “No One Is Alone” from *Into the Woods*;

Accompanied by **Leigh Sioris**, Bassist

10:30am – 1:00 pm

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES & PANEL

Moderator:

Rosemary Lane, Programme on Ageing, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

Opening Keynote Address:

Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations *delivered by* **Rachel Mayanja**, Secretary-General’s Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

Human Rights and the MDGs:

Juana Sotomayor Davila, Human Rights Officer, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Older Women: Accelerating Progress Towards the MDGs:

Bridget Sleep, Rights Policy Adviser, HelpAge International

Health and Poverty Reduction Strategies for Older Persons and the MDGs:

Dr. Denise Eldemire-Shearer, Head of the Department of Community Health & Psychiatry and Professor of Public Health and Ageing, University of the West Indies

Question and Answer Period (20 minutes)

Closing Keynote Address:

H.E. Mr. Jorge Martín Arturo Argüello, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations

Closing Remarks: **James Collins**, Vice- Chairperson, NGO Committee on Ageing –New York

BIOGRAPHIES

Ban Ki-moon

Secretary-General, United Nations



Mr. Ban Ki-moon has longstanding ties with the United Nations, dating back to 1975, when he worked for the Foreign Ministry's United Nations division. In 2001-2002, as Chef-de-Cabinet during the Republic of Korea's Presidency of the General Assembly, he facilitated the prompt adoption of the first resolution of the session, condemning the terrorist attacks of 11 September, and undertook a number of initiatives aimed at strengthening the Assembly's functioning, thereby helping to turn a session that started out in crisis and confusion into one in which a number of important reforms were adopted. In 1999, Mr. Ban served as Chairman of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization.

Mr. Ban has also been actively involved in issues relating to inter-Korean relations. In September 2005, as Foreign Minister, he played a leading role in bringing about another landmark agreement aimed at promoting peace and stability on the Korean peninsula with the adoption at the Six Party Talks of the Joint Statement on resolving the North Korean nuclear issue.

Ban Ki-moon is a national of the Republic of Korea.

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H. E. Mr. Armin Ritz

Chef de Cabinet, Cabinet of the President of the 65th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations



1976 Joined the Swiss Diplomatic Service
1977 Trainee at UN-Observer Mission of Switzerland, New York
1978-1982 Desk Officer, UN Section, Foreign Ministry, Berne
1982-1986 Counsellor, Swiss Mission to EU, Brussels
1986-1991 Economic Counsellor, Swiss Embassy, Rome
1991-1995 Head of the Service of Disarmament, Foreign Ministry, Berne
1992-1994 Part-Time Adviser to Geneva Conference on Former Yugoslavia, Minority Rights Group
1995-1998 Ambassador, Head of UN and Multilateral Organizations, Foreign Ministry, Bern
1998-2000 Deputy to the State Secretary, Foreign Ministry, Bern
2000-2004 Ambassador to Argentina
2004-2007 Ambassador to Spain
2007-2010 Ambassador Venezuela

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Sha Zukang
United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs



A career diplomat, **Mr. Sha Zukang** became the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs on 1 July 2007. As such, he heads the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, which is responsible for the follow-up to the major United Nations Summits and Conferences, and services the Second and Third Committees of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council as well as the vast majority of its functional commissions and expert bodies. He also convenes the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs, the UN Secretariat's network for joint planning and initiatives on development.

Mr. Sha Zukang has varied experience with multilateral organizations and international conferences. He was Chairman of the Preparatory Committee and Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) 11th session from 2003 to 2004, President of the Trade and Development Board, 50th Session of UNCTAD, Chairperson of the Government group of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization from 2002 to 2003, and member of the UN Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament matters from 1994 to 1999. In addition, he has served as president, vice-president, chairperson, coordinator and expert in many international conferences in the field of arms control, trade, intellectual property, social affairs, and telecommunications, among others.

Mr. Sha Zukang established the Department of Arms Control of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China and became its first Director-General. He participated, as chief negotiator or representative of the Chinese government, in the negotiation and review of many important international treaties on arms control and disarmament such as Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, Chemical Weapons Convention, Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention, Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. He made great contributions to mine clearance in China and many parts of the world. He encouraged the development of Chinese non-governmental organizations, and facilitated the opening of offices in China by international organizations.

His postings in diplomatic missions abroad included London, Colombo, New Delhi, New York and Geneva. Prior to assuming his present position in the United Nations, he was Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Chinese Mission to the United Nations Office at Geneva.

Mr. Sha was born in September 1947. He is a native of Jiangsu Province and is married, with one son. He is a graduate of Nanjing University.

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Rachel Mayanja
Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women
Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations



Ms. Rachel Mayanja, the Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women since November 2004, is a long-serving career international civil servant with vast experience in normative, policy and operational work of the United Nations including peace-building, peace-keeping and inter-agency collaboration.

Ms. Mayanja's career with the UN started in the Women's Division shortly after the first World Conference in Mexico in the midst of sensitization of the world to women's right to equality, development and peace. As Secretary to the drafting committee of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, she was actively

involved in the establishment of this landmark legal instrument.

Ms. Mayanja actively participated in peace-building and peacekeeping missions, first with the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) in Namibia from 1989 to 1990 and later in the United Nations Iraq/Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) from 1992 to 1994. This first-hand knowledge proved essential in her role as the Secretary-General's Special Adviser, especially in the area of women, peace and security.

Immediately before assuming the position of Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, Ms. Mayanja served as Director of Human Resources Management Division at the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). She was instrumental in the introduction of Human Resources Management reforms at FAO. The challenges faced by FAO were shared by other agencies as well as the Secretariat. Ms. Mayanja's leadership and management style, founded in consensus-building and teamwork, were critical to the smooth implementation of human resources management reforms not only in FAO but at the UN system-wide level.

Ms Mayanja, a national of Uganda, obtained law degree from Makerere University, as well as Master's Degree in Law from the Harvard University Law School. She has three children.

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H.E. Mr. Jorge Martín Arturo Argüello
Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations



Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina on April 20, 1956

EDUCATION

1974 High School Diploma, Rochester, Indiana, U.S.A.
1975 National High School Nr. 2. "Domingo F. Sarmiento"
1985 Lawyer, "Universidad Nacional de Buenos Aires"
2009 Master's Degree in Administration and Public Policies
"Universidad de San Andrés"

PUBLIC OFFICES

2007 – PRESENT Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Argentina to the U.N.
- 2010, Chairman, UN Committee for Parliamentarians for Global Action
- 2009 Co-Chair for the Committee on Revitalization of the General Assembly
- 2009, Co-Chair for the Commemorative Declaration of the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights
- 2008, Chairman of the 4th Committee of the 63rd General Assembly of the U.N.
2003 – 2007 National Congressman (President of the Foreign Relations Committee, President of the Parliamentary Observatory of the Malvinas Question)
2000 - 2003 Legislator of the City of Buenos Aires
1997 - 2000 Legislator of the City of Buenos Aires
1996 Member of the Constitutional Convention for the city of Buenos Aires
1991 - 1995 National Congressman
1987 - 1991 Member of the City Council of Buenos Aires

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

- First Vice President of the Permanent Commission on International Peace and Security of the Inter Parliamentary Union (2006 - 2007)

- Member of the negotiating committee on the Foreign Debt of the City of Buenos Aires (London, 2003)
- Organizer of the first visit by British Parliamentarians after the Malvinas conflict (1994)
- President representing Latin America at the "Parliamentarians for Global Action" (1994-95)
- President of the Brotherhood Committee Buenos Aires - Tel Aviv (1989)

ACADEMIC ACTIVITY

"Universidad de Belgrano", Member of the Academic Council of the Government School Professor, School of Public Leaders - Department on Parliamentary Procedures, School of Political Sciences, School of Law and Social Sciences, Department of Political Sciences, Negotiation Techniques Chair
 Author of numerous articles in the national media, Author and co-author of books on political and citizen participation
 Has received, among others honors, the Order of Merit of Chile, Grand Cross and the Order of Mohammed Wissam Al Alaoui of His Majesty the King of Morocco, 2004

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Bethany Brooks, Singer



Bethany Brooks is a member of the International Day of Older Persons Planning Committee, 2010 and is a representative for the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse. Bethany received her BA in Theatre from Abilene Christian University and her Masters in Social Work from Fordham University where her field placement was with New York City's Department for the Aging in the Elderly Crime Victims Resource Center. Bethany is quite proud and honored to be performing for the 20th Annual Celebration of the International Day of Older Persons.

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James Collins

**Vice-Chairperson, NGO Committee on Ageing/NY
 United Nations Representative, International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics**



James Collins is a Board member of New York Statewide Senior Action Council and active in many other advocacy groups in NY, including the SSI Coalition of NY, the NY Citizens' Committee on Aging, JPAC for Older Adults, Rekindling Reform and the NY Network for Action on Medicare and Social Security. He is a representative of the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics to the United Nations and the Vice-chair of the NGO Committee on Ageing/NY.

Before retiring in 2000, he worked for 25 years in the public assistance and Medicaid programs of the NYC Human Resources Administration and 10 years for Lutheran Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY. Mr. Collins has an MPA in Health Administration from the Wagner School of Public Service of New York University.

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Denise Eldemire-Shearer
Head of the Department of Community Health & Psychiatry; Professor of Public Health and Ageing,
University of the West Indies



Denise Eldemire-Shearer is Head of the Department of Community Health & Psychiatry and Professor of Public Health and Ageing at the University of the West Indies (UWI). Both a clinician and a career academic she has been involved with the University of the West Indies since 1982. She has worked, for the past 28 years in various capacities, developing and implementing policies and programmes for seniors in Jamaica to promote their continued participation in all aspects of family, community and national life and was instrumental in the development of the National Policy on Ageing in 1998.

Professor Eldemire-Shearer is Director of the Mona Ageing & Wellness Centre, Mona Campus, UWI. The Centre has been involved in teaching and research since inception in 2005. The Centre has been involved in several multi-country studies coordinated by the WHO Ageing and Life Course Programme to examine the state of readiness of developing country's health care systems for rapid ageing. The Centre is currently piloting the introduction of age-friendly guidelines for health centres across the Caribbean.

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Jessica Frank López
Chair, NGO Committee on Ageing/NY
Senior Advisor, AARP Office of International Affairs



Jessica Frank López joined AARP in 2000 and serves as Senior Advisor for the AARP Office of International Affairs in New York which is focused on informing domestic policy discussion with international best practices and policies. The Office of International Affairs also works to raise AARP's profile internationally by sponsoring and participating in international social and economic policy debates worldwide. Ms. Frank is the main representative to the United Nations and with the Latin American region for AARP, the largest non-profit organization in the United States which has 40 million members and representing people 50 years of age and older. Ms. Frank's portfolio of work includes overseeing AARP's international projects, research and conferences on issues related to global aging.

At the UN, Ms. Frank manages AARP advocacy with government delegates on issues pertinent to older populations – Global Health, Livable Communities, Labor and Economic Security. On behalf of AARP's International Office, Ms. Frank has organized and participated in several major international conferences including the United Nations Second World Assembly on Ageing and the United Nations International Day of Older Persons. Ms. Frank is a fellow of the Foreign Policy Association and serves as Chairperson of the United Nations NGO Committee on Aging.

Prior to joining AARP, Ms. Frank received a Master of Science in Gerontology from Hofstra University in New York. During this time she was also awarded the prestigious AARP Andrus Foundation Graduate Scholarship in Gerontology in 2000. Ms. Frank is of El Salvadorian-US background and a citizen of Chile by birth. Chile is where she began her career in the field of Gerontology working with the homeless elderly.

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Rosemary Lane
Programme on Ageing, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations



Rosemary Lane has worked at the United Nations since 1984 in a number of capacities in the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development, the United Nations Drug Control Programme in Vienna and most recently in the Department for Economic and Social Affairs, Division for Social Policy and Development as a Social Affairs Officer and now as a Senior Social Affairs Officer and Focal Point for Ageing. She has worked on issues of ageing since 1993 and was a member of the secretariat for the Second World Assembly on Ageing in 2002. She was a main contributor to the drafting of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing that was adopted at the World Assembly. Following the Madrid Assembly her work concentrated on

promoting the implementation of the Plan of Action at the national level, and in particular focusing on the provision of technical assistance to Member States.

Rosemary is from the United Kingdom and has an MA in Social Policy from the State University of New York.

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Bridget Sleep
Rights Policy Adviser, HelpAge International



Bridget Sleep is Rights Policy Adviser at HelpAge International where she has led HelpAge's work on strengthening the protection of older women and men's rights through international and other human rights accountability mechanisms, with a particular focus on discrimination against older women. Before working on ageing, development and rights, she worked with International Family Health and the Panos Institute on gender and HIV & AIDS. She has a Masters degree in Securing International Human Rights and has lived and worked in Mozambique, Egypt and Jordan.

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Juana Sotomayor
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights



Juana Sotomayor- (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights) Lawyer, Master of Arts in Education, Postgraduate Degree- Democratization and Human Rights. Carnegie Council Fellowship 2000-2001. From 2000 to 2006 worked at the Center for Economic and Social Rights (CDES) based in her home country Ecuador. Functions included general coordination; capacity building; advocacy and litigation. Juana was also a lecturer in various Master Programmes on Human Rights in Quito. In 2007 Juana joined the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Research and Right to Development Division in Geneva. Her main area of focus is the right to health, in the context of capacity building, monitoring

and legal protection of economic, social and cultural rights. In 2010 she has also started to focus on the human rights of older persons.

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CO-CHAIRS, INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS

Denise Gosselin Caldera Chair, International Day of Older Persons



Denise Gosselin Caldera is the Chair of the International Day of Older Persons, 2010. She represents the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) at the United Nations. She has worked for the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at the United Nations where she wrote the report of the Secretary General on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing. She has also worked for AARP Office of International Affairs and AARP NY where she organized national and international programs, authored articles on the global health care workforce, financial literacy, long term care and kincare policies. Ms. Gosselin Caldera has authored a study of the renovation needs of senior centers across New York City for the Council of Senior Centers and Services which is being used to seek federal stimulus infrastructure funding

for senior centers.

Ms. Gosselin Caldera is member of the Foreign Policy Association, board member of the Loaves and Fishes Interfaith Food Pantry and volunteer at Regent Care Center. She has a BA in American History and Secondary Education from Fairleigh Dickenson University and a M.A. in International Affairs from the New School University. She was a recipient of the 2009 AARP Diversity in Aging Fellowship. Throughout her career, Ms. Gosselin Caldera has advocated and focused her efforts on the social and economic needs of the poor and marginalized, especially older persons.

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Patricia Brownell, PhD, LMSW Co-Chair- International Day of Older Persons



Patricia Brownell, PhD, LMSW, is Associate Professor Emerita of Social Service at Fordham University, and is affiliated with its Ravazzin Center on Aging. She represents the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) on the CONGO Committee on Ageing of the United Nations, and chairs its Sub-Committee on Elder Abuse. She also serves on the Sub-Committee on Older Women (SCOW) of the CONGO Committee on the Status of Women (CSW).

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NGO Committee on Ageing, UN New York

Executive Committee

Chairperson: **Jessica Frank López**, AARP
Vice-Chairperson: **James Collins**, International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics
Recording Secretary: **Norma P. Simon**, International Association of Applied Psychologists
Corresponding Secretary: **Elizabeth Nolasco**, Instituto Qualivida
Treasurer: **Richard Velayo**, International Council of Psychologists
Immediate Past Chair: **Florence Denmark**, International Council of Psychologists
Members-at-Large: **Patricia Day**, League of Women Voters
Phyllis Gottdiener, International Council of Jewish Women
Edward J. Ryan, AARP
William Smith, International Association of Homes and Services for the Aging

International Day of Older Persons Planning Committee, 2010

Chair: **Denise Gosselin-Caldera**, UN Representative, International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA)
Co-chair: **Patricia Brownell**, Fordham University
Members: **Bethany Brooks**, International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse
Mary Covington, International Federation of Home Economists
Alexandra Collier, JASA
James Collins, International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics
Florence L. Denmark, International Council of Psychologists
Erica Dhar, AARP
Vernie Ellis, Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.
Linda D. Misek-Falkoff, Respectful Interfaces
Ian Laidlaw, International Federation of Social Workers
Jessica Frank López, AARP
Helen R. Hamlin, International Federation on Aging
Jack Kupferman, Gray Panthers
Amine Lamrabat, DESA, United Nations
Rosemary Lane, Programme on Ageing, DESA, United Nations
Melissa Lattanzio, Fordham University
Judy Lear, Gray Panthers
Kaja Meade
María Luz Melon, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Argentina to the UN
Elizabeth Nolasco, Instituto Qualivida
Jesús Pérez, AARP
Edward J. Ryan, AARP
Rick Sanford
Janet Sigel, American Psychological Association
Norma P. Simon, American Psychological Association
Richard Velayo, International Council of Psychologists
Peter R. Walker, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Robert Venne, Programme on Ageing, DESA, United Nations

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATIONS
NGO COMMITTEE ON AGEING NEW YORK

(As of September, 2010)

AARP	International Association of Social Work Schools
Aging in America	International Council for Caring Communities
American Psychological Association	International Council of Jewish Women
Armenian International Women's Association,	International Council of Psychologists
Communications Coordination at the United Nations	International Council of Women/NOW/USA
Case Western Reserve University/Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences	International Federation on Ageing
CSARC	International Federation of Social Workers
Division of Aging and Adult Services	International Federation for Home Economics
European Federation of Older People (EURAG)	International Immigrants Foundation
Fordham University Graduate School of Social Services	International Longevity Center
Generations United	International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA)
Global Action on Aging	Jewish Assoc. for Services for the Aged
Global Awareness through Gerontological Engagement	John A. Hartford Foundation
Gray Panthers	League of Women Voters
HelpAge International	Loretto Community
Help Old People (HOPE) Africa	Middle East Academy for Medicine of Ageing
House Calls Medical Corp.	Mount St. Mary's College
Instituto Qualivida (Brazil)	South Beach Psychiatry Center
International Association of Gerontology & Geriatrics	University of Sydney, Australia
International Association of Applied Psychology	World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations
International Association of Housing and Services for the Aging	World Union for Progressive Judaism
	Yad Sarah

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On 14 December 1990, the United Nations General Assembly (by resolution 45/106) designated **1 October the International Day of Older Persons**, therefore the 2010 United Nations International Day of Older Persons marks the 20th Anniversary of commemorating this important global event.

The 2010 International Day of Older Persons will examine progress towards achieving the objectives set forth in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), an ambitious agenda world leaders set 10 years ago to tackle global poverty, as it relates to the contributions of older persons to society. The MDGs must recognize the worldwide unprecedented phenomenon of global aging and the potential contributions of older persons in achieving the MDGs. Older persons remain essentially invisible in the MDGs. When older people's rights are respected and their efforts supported, the contribution they make is even greater and significantly contributes to achieving the MDGs.

The NGO Committee on Ageing/NY thanks the **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)** and **Pfizer Inc.** for their generous support for the 2010 commemoration of the International Day of Older Persons. Additionally, we greatly appreciate the co-sponsorship of the **Permanent Mission of Argentina** to the United Nations and the **Programme on Ageing** of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

We encourage you and your organization to become engaged in the United Nations goal of achieving a society for all ages and we welcome your partnership and collaboration with the NGO Committee on Ageing.

Sincerely,
Jessica Frank López, Chairperson
NGO Committee on Ageing/NY
www.ngocoa-ny.org

TRIBUTE TO Dr. ROBERT BUTLER



Robert N. Butler, M.D.
President & CEO, ILC-USA

The NGO Committee on Aging pays tribute to Dr. Robert Butler, a colleague, member and friend of the Committee on Ageing. Dr. Butler was a great inspiration to the work of the Committee and endorsed its programs by being a frequent speaker at several events hosted by the Committee over the years. He was a true visionary, and an ardent global advocate, one who inspired a multi-generational community to work towards a society of all ages. The NGO Committee on Ageing is strongly committed to continuing his legacy to promote productive aging and to remove ageism in all areas of society. We owe our gratitude to the work of a historic individual whose dedication shall never be forgotten.