

Open Ended Working Group on Ageing

Side Event

What happens in between?

*New developments discussed in intersessional meetings and
their importance for the OEWGA.*

Tuesday 16 April 01:15 – 02:30 pm
UN Headquarters Conference Room 7

Programme

Moderation	Amal Abou Rafeh, UNDESA
Keynote <i>Independent UN Expert</i>	Rosa Kornfeld Matte
Presentations	
<i>Christoph Angster</i>	Senior Policy Officer, Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection, <i>Austria</i>
<i>Octavio Vergara Andueza</i>	National Director of the National Agency for Older Persons, <i>Chile</i>
<i>Marko Rakovec</i>	Head of Human Rights Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, <i>Slovenia</i>
<i>Silvia Perel-Levin</i>	NGO Committee on Ageing
<i>Youngae Choi</i>	National Human Rights Commission of Korea, <i>South Korea</i>
Questions & Discussion	
Closing remarks	Rio Hada, OHCHR

“What happens in between?”

New developments discussed in intersessional meetings and their importance for the OEWSA.”

The United Nations Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWSA) according to its mandate considers the existing **international framework of the human rights of older persons** and aims to identify possible gaps and how best to address them. While the OEWSA is holding regular annual sessions to this purpose, an ongoing debate in-between these sessions is of great importance to **identify possible normative and implementation gaps** and **stimulate discussions** at the OEWSA.

What happened so far?

One of such intersessional meetings was held in Slovenia in 2016 on **“Ageing: Rights for Empowerment”**, where participants discussed ways of strengthening the empowerment of older persons, the substance of a potential international legally binding instrument and called for concrete actions.

Chile followed up a year later with a conference on **“Human Rights of Older Persons & Non-discrimination”** in 2017, where the discussions focused on challenges faced by older persons, such as health, autonomy, social inclusion, regional visions, ageing and well-being, social and economic security and support for human rights.

Eventually, in 2018 Austria hosted an **“International Expert-Conference on Human Rights of Older Persons”**, in which the participants dealt with the topics “Robotics and Automation” and “Digitalization and Education” in two panels. The conference was concluded with the adoption of the **Vienna Declaration**.

What to expect?

This side event hosted by the Permanent Missions of **Austria, Chile and Slovenia** and co-sponsored by **OHCHR** and **UNDESA** will summarize and discuss the results of these intersessional meetings as well as their influence on the work of the OEWSA. The event should also serve as a forum for other countries that intend to organize future intersessional meetings and conferences and to learn more about the perspective of civil society as regards the use of such intersessional meetings.

