Austrian Initiative to Establish an UNECE Standing Working Group on Ageing

Erika Winkler

Ageing, Population and Volunteering Policies

MIPAA – UNECE Regional Implementation Strategy 2002

- 1982 Vienna International Plan of Action on Ageing,
- 2002 Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing
- 2002 Berlin Regional Implementation Strategy to MIPAA –
- 1st UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing 50 Member States took part
- Preparation by an Open Ended Working Group of the UNECE MS and NGOs

Task Force Monitoring RIS

- 2003 Austria established a Task Force "Monitoring RIS" promoting national and regional follow-up - joint venture of the UNECE - Secretariat, the UN affiliated European Centre of Social Welfare Policy and Research and the Gov. of Austria
- Independent recognized experts in different sub-fields of ageing, governmental and non-governmental experts, academics and Special Agencies of the UN System
- Serve in their personal capacity on a pro bono basis
- First meeting of the Task Force, 13-14 April 2004, was held in Madrid on invitation of Austria and with the support of Spain

Members of the Task Force

Lucy Aarnik (NL), Christina Behrendt (ILO), Sylvia Beales (HAI), Nikolai Botev (ECE), Gertraud Daye (EURAG), Rocio Fernandez-Ballesteros (ES), Helen Hamlin (NGOCoA NY), Eveline Hoenigsperger (A), Irene Hoskins (WHO), Dirk Jarre (EURAG), Franz Kolland (A), Valentina Leskaj (ALB), A. Fernandez Lopez (ES), Miroslav Macura/Andres Vikat (ECE), Bernd Marin (ECSW), Gerhard Naegele (DE), Dorika Seib (DE), Alexandre Sidorenko (UN), Roland Sigg (ISSA), Vappu Taipale (FIN), Joseph Troisi (MT), Roswitha Verhulsdonk (NL), Irina Zbarskaya (RU), Peter Harring (A), Anette Hexelschneider (ECSW), Barbara Lipszyc (ECSW), Erika Winkler (A), Robert Holzmann (WB), Ralf Jacob (EC), Jean-Marie Robine (FR), Irene Slama (A) and Alan C. Walker (UK)

European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna

- Memorandum of Understanding UNECE European Center Austrian Gov.
- New Web-site "Monitoring RIS" Mainstreaming Ageing. Indicators to Monitor Implementation
- exchange of experiences in the field of ageing-related policies
- data collection, research and analysis in collaboration with UN agencies, ISSA,
 ILO, the European Community, OECD
- network of organizations, national authorities, and other concerned bodies in the field of ageingshort annual report on implementation measures
- Short annual report on implementation measures

4 Task Force Meetings until 2017

 2004: Sascha Sidorenko - 59th session of the UN GA - Review and Appraisal should be carried out every 5 years in the 5 UN regions

Nikolai Botev, UNECE Secretariat, Economic Analysis Division:

- (a) the survey of national follow-up to MiCA, and
- (b) the efforts to establish a network of national focal points

UNECE's Executive Secretary asking governments to identifying focal points for the follow-up to the Ministerial Conference on Ageing

5th Meeting of the Task Force "Monitoring RIS" and 1st UNECE-Expert meeting in preparation of the high level meeting Berlin +5, 2007

- 2nd UNECE Ministerial Conference in León under the motto, as decided at 44th session of UN Commission on Social Development, February 2006:
- 1st Review and Appraisal of MIPAA/RIS
- "Addressing the Challenges and Opportunities of Population Ageing"

Working Group on Ageing 2008

- UNECE Executive Committee Twenty-fourth meeting Geneva, 1 July 2008
- Intergovernmental body of National Focal Points, subsidiary to the UNECE Executive Secretary
- Established for a period of two years full report on its accomplishments
- ExCom decide whether to renew its mandate
- Working Group meets annually, serviced by the UNECE Secretariat (without the need for additional resources)

Working Group on Ageing 2008 - 2018

- 2nd Review and Appraisal of Implementation of MIPAA/RIS 2012
- 3rd Ministerial Conference on Ageing 2012 in Vienna
- "Ensuring a society for all ages: Promoting quality of life and active ageing"
- 3rd Review and Appraisal 4th Ministerial Conference in Lisbon 2017
- <u>"A Sustainable Society for All Ages: Realizing the potential of living longer"</u>
- 4th Review and Appraisal 5th Ministerial Conference in Rome 2022

Consultation Group – WGA Upgrading

- § 38 of 2017 Lisbon Ministerial Declaration: "resource-neutral transformation of the WGA to a Standing Sectoral Committee"
- March 2018: Consultation Group: proposal to national ministries
- GA Resolution 2018 "consider expanding the role of regional commissions on ageing issues and to continue to provide resources for those efforts..."
- Population ageing as one of the important fields of action of UNECE during the last 10 years
- Equal footing with all other UNECE committees
- Demographic transformation is an economic as well as social concern

Standing Working Group on Ageing 2020

- SWGA Multi year programme of work periodic review and appraisal of implementation of MIPAA/RIS - 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other population related international frameworks - International Conference on Population and Development and the World Health Organization global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016 - 2020.
- granted, continuing and sustainable mandate
- Adopted by UNECE Executive Committee in April 2019 and ECOSOC in July 2020

Thank you for your attention!



We do not stop playing because we grow old We grow old because we stop playing.

(G. B. Shaw)