

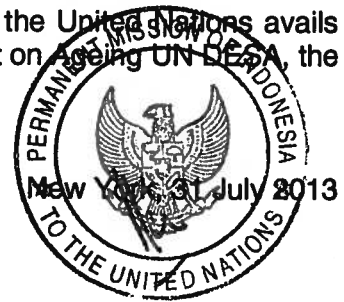


PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK

No. 465/EC-301/III/13

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations presents its compliment to the Secretariat of Focal Point on Ageing of Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), and in reference to the letter no: DESA-13/00400 from the Secretariat, has the honor to transmit herewith the response from the Government of the Republic of Indonesia on the follow up of the resolution of the General Assembly No. 67/139, entitled "Towards a Comprehensive and Integral International Legal Instrument to Promote and Protect the Rights and Dignity of Older Persons".

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of Focal Point on Ageing UN DESA, the assurances of its highest consideration.



Focal Point on Ageing
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INDONESIA's SUBMISSION

on the Follow-Up of Resolution 67/139

"Towards a Comprehensive and Integral International Legal Instrument to Promote and Protect the Rights and Dignity of Older Persons"

1. As we know, the discussion on the issue of Older Persons has led to the creation of international legal instruments regarding Older Persons. Indonesia fully supports the initiative and the progress achieved, but it is important at this stage the need to review the existing international human rights instruments that are now accommodating a variety of fulfillment of basic rights related to Older Persons. Also to assess how far the existing human rights mechanisms can be used to cover cross-cutting issues such as Women Older Persons, access to disability because of advanced age, and social security for Older Persons.

2. Through the process aforementioned above, hopefully the follow-up process towards the creation of human rights instruments on Older Persons will be more focused, and able to target issues that are "specific" on Older Persons, that so far have not been included or well-covered in various international human rights instruments.

3. In this regard, Indonesia wishes to highlight some important points for input towards the forthcoming 4th Session of the Open Ended Working Group on Ageing, as well for the proposal of the human rights instruments on Older Persons, as follows:

a. The purpose of establishment of international legal instruments related to Older Persons is to strengthen the legal basis for the promotion and protection of human rights and dignity of Older Persons;

b. The Basic principles that need to be included in the legal instrument are:

- i) The fundamental rights of Older Persons;
- ii) Duties and Responsibilities of the State in the fulfillment of certain rights of Older Persons;
- iii) Empowerment of Older Persons;

All of the above principles are intended to create self-sufficiency for Older Persons, to ensure the full involvement of Older Persons in the society and state, and to provide necessary services for Older Persons, and to meet the needs of disadvantaged Older Persons.

c. The principles of equality and non-discrimination that should be applied for Older Persons are: "Older Persons should be able to participate fully, without discrimination and on the basis of equality in family life, society and state. Older Persons also have the same rights and obligations with other age groups in all aspects of societal life, nation and state".

d. The specific types of human rights that need to be included, among others:

- i) The right to obtain suitable employment;
- ii) Appropriate education and training;
- iii) Treatment of poor and neglected Older Persons;
- iv) Health services;
- v) Protection and social security;

Some other important elements that need to be integrated in the instruments are:

- i) The implications of aging population for the community;
- ii) Preparation for population towards the achievement of productive and meaningful ageing;
- iii) Development of infrastructure and environmental services based on traditional and modern institutions;
- iv) Increase of specialized services for Older Persons;
- v) Encouragement for the establishment of human rights committees and national action plan for Older Persons at the national and regional levels.

4. The Indonesian government pays great attention to the issue of Older Persons. This is because the number of Older Persons in Indonesia tends to increase, while the problems faced also varied. Based on the data from the Central Bureau of Statistics in 2010, the number of Older Persons in Indonesia are 23,992,552 people or 9.77% of the Indonesian population. The number increased sharply compared to 1980, reaching only 5.45% of Indonesia's population, or about 7,998,543 inhabitants. By 2020, that number is expected to increase to 11.34% or approximately 28,822,879 people

5. According to National Law No. 13 Year 1998 on the Welfare of Older Persons, in particular Article 1 (1), Older Person is defined as someone who is in the age of 60 (sixty) years old or more.

6. The Government of Indonesia's care and attention towards Older Persons can be seen through the release of a number of Indonesia's laws and regulations related to Older Persons, and the establishment of the National Commission on Older Persons. The legislation referred to, among others:

- a. Law No.13 Year 1998 on Older Persons Welfare;
- b. Law No. 39 Year 1999 on Human Rights;
- c. Law No. 28 of 2002 on Building and Structure;
- d. Law No. 40 Year 2004 on National Social Security System;
- e. Law No. 11 of 2009 on Social Welfare
- f. Law No. 36 of 2009 on Health
- g. Presidential Decree No. 52 of 2004 on the National Commission on Ageing.

7. Meanwhile, the National Commission on Older Persons has been established in 2004 at the national level, which main task among others is to coordinate the implementation of efforts towards the improvement of the social welfare for Older Persons, and policy making related to Older Persons.
