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PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Albania to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and with reference to the letters from the Chair of the OEWGA of 6 March and 19 May 2015 has the honour to enclose herewith the contribution of the Government of Albania to the work of the Open-ended working group on ageing, pursuant to the General Assembly resolution 69/146.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Albania to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration. 

New York, 18 June 2015

Focal Point on Ageing
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Division for Social Policy and Development
Secretariat of the United Nations
New York



Contribution of the Republic of Albania to the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, pursuant to the Resolution 69/146 of the General Assembly

The Republic of Albania remains fully committed to the human rights of older persons and acknowledges the serious challenges older persons face, including as regards enjoyment of their human rights.

The Republic of Albania recognizes the critical importance of addressing the implementation gaps, age-related discrimination, poverty, violence and abuse and lack of specific measures and services; and it is committed to address them through several policy measures.

The Republic of Albania recalls its view that the existing gaps related to the human rights of older persons are not normative in nature, but rather of an implementation and protection nature.

Core UN human rights treaties and other international instruments to which the Republic of Albania is a state party, adequately address many of the issues related to the human rights of older persons, in a comprehensive manner. Their effective application is the most effective and practical way to address the protection and implementation gaps.

Based on the above context the Republic of Albania is currently employing great efforts in implementing relevant provisions on ageing contained in the different international instruments and UN guidelines on ageing, among other towards:

- Improving the quality of life of older persons.
- Providing for policies to partly relieve economic costs of families caring for older persons.
- Meeting economic needs of older persons and establishing services in community centers.
- Gradually replacing forms of residential or hospital care for older persons.
- Addressing economic hardships and social deprivation for older persons.
- Create opportunities for a more dignifying life of older persons.
- Establishing an adequate system of social services towards better protection of the human rights of older persons.

The Republic of Albania is further of the view that we should fully explore the possibilities and make better use of the existing legal frameworks and mechanisms and should continue to focus our efforts on the effective implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action.

It finally believes that the forthcoming session of the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing should provide a useful forum for States to discuss and consider steps which are required to ensure the implementation and protection of the rights and dignity of older persons, including by exploring how the implementation of existing standards could be improved.
