

# Progress and challenges in strengthening the protection of human rights of older persons: *Implications for the MIPAA implementation*

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## Human rights of older persons in MIPAA

*“The promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, is essential for the creation of an inclusive society for all ages in which older persons participate fully and without discrimination and on the basis of equality.” (para. 13)*

- Emphasis on equality and non-discrimination, participation and accountability
- Major step forward from welfare-oriented approach towards a rights-based approach
- However, MIPAA remains essentially a non-binding commitment



## Normative progress

- 2010: General Assembly established the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing for the purpose of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons
- 2013: Human Rights Council established the mandate of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons
- 2015: Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons
- 2016: Protocol to the African Charter of Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa



# Challenges

- Uneven attention to the human rights of older persons by UN HR mechanisms
- Disconnect between MIPAA reviews and the HR monitoring mechanisms
- Lack of a dedicated international legal instrument and agreed international standards
- Lack of national legal framework focused on OPs
- Uneven implementation on the ground
- Lack of disaggregated data
- Weak accountability system



# Opportunities and implications for MIPAA review

- Reaffirm the human rights of older persons
- Address key human rights principles of equality and non-discrimination, participation and accountability
- Ensure participation of older persons
- Improve data availability and disaggregation
- More robust monitoring and accountability – linking with UN HR mechanisms, SDGs review, roles of national human rights institutions
- Mainstream human rights of older persons in the UN system and across the region



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