

IRAN

Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Third Review and Appraisal of the Madrid  
International Plan of Action on Ageing  
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Name of speaker: (Mr.) (Ms.) Mr. Mohsen Salmanzadeh

Country/Organization: wellness organization

Please indicate the agenda item on which you wish to speak:

Agenda Item No: Item 3: Dr. Salmanzadeh  
Item 2: open discussion with member states

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DEAR COLLEAGEUS,

Today all countries are experiencing a change in the fertility and mortality rate, due to population transition, population ageing is a growing trend in several countries, and an approaching trend for many others,. the ageing rate is more rapid and significant in developing countries. In light of the fact that these are the areas with limited resources, the growing economic burden of healthcare, pension and social support, there is a need for improving elderly dignity, active ageing healthy life style and participation in all aspects of development.

Governments of the Asia- pacific region are mostly experiencing population ageing , and they are agreed on approaching the challenges and opportunities provide by it, several countries have tried to device <sup>design</sup> national policies/ laws supporting older people.

Islamic Republic of Iran is one of the countries who has produced a “**National Document for older people**”. Which has outlined the main strategies in all domains related to older people. and clarify the role of public and private sectors, the major goals it focuses on are: respectable socio- economic stature, access to healthcare and nursing, age friendly housing and environments, lifelong education , standing against ageism, and reaching ctive and successful ageing.

Every country planning for older people requires a political framework in order to implement the related strategies. and plans, and evaluate the best use of it’s limited resources,

One of the prominent steps taken by our government was establishing “ The national council for the elderly “ which is the main government body in charge of policymaking ,coordinating and leading the scattered activities conducted by various public and private bodies.

Our aim is to tap into the extended resources of all related stakeholders related to elderly health, well being and social inclusion. Some of the major programs related to this council are mentioned:

-**Enabling programs** for supporting under privileged elderly, and older women supporting families, which was carried out in over 10 provinces and will cover nearly 80 thousand within this year.

-Promoting and defining standard roles for non- **governmental organizations** related to oldr people:

Our main belief in this regard is to acknowledge and enhance the role of older people in development, and so we have established a non- government structure managed by older people for addressing their socio- economic issues in order to enhance their quality of life.these NGOs are called “ **Farzanegan Foundation**”.and are now present in all 32 provinces in IRAN,

-Prevention and addressing all forms of **elder- abuse and ageism**,

-Collecting the necessary data and calculating the **Global Age Watch index** with assistance from Prof. Ziedi and help age international, for IRAN, in order to use it as an evaluation tool to assess the long term effects of elderly – related programs.with the help of UNFPA, Iran.

- Orientation and facilitating the implementation of 8 domains of **Age-Friendly cities** throughout the provinces of IRAN.

- Hosting the **2017 Age Watch International Regional Meeting** in IRAN in the city of Tabriz, in collaboration with UNFPA, Iran.

- In light of the necessity for proper resource management and evidence – based decision making, and to have a clear picture of the older persons' situation, needs and priorities, we planned to conduct the first "**National Older persons' Assessment study**", at this stage with collaborations with universities, the national statistics organization and international counselling provided by UNFPA, IRAN, we have

*prepared the questionnaire draft, to be piloted in Tehran in 2017. The main study will be conducted in 2018.*

- There are few areas of importance requiring special attention in our country : In the field of Geriatric Medicine, we still need to start investing more in prevention, community based health and nursing services, mental health and Alzheimer's dis.

- For enabling environments special attention should be taken for older people in rural areas, increase in older women, and the oldest old.

I thank the esteemed representatives here and hope to accomplish the basis of fruitful collaborations with many of you.our interactions and networking will shape the map towards a better future for all older people, regardless of age, gender and race.