



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS

**PANDEMICS: DO THEY CHANGE HOW WE ADDRESS
AGE & AGEING?**

**OCTOBER 1, 2020
9AM-12PM EDT
(NEW YORK TIME)**

VIRTUAL - ZOOM



#UNIDOP2020

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30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION **UN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS**

MISSION STATEMENT

PANDEMICS: DO THEY CHANGE HOW WE ADDRESS AGE & AGEING?

The year 2020 marks the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations and the 30th Anniversary of the International Day of Older Persons (UNIDOP). This year has also seen an emergence of COVID-19, that has caused an upheaval across the world. Considering the higher risks confronted by older persons during the outbreak of pandemics such as COVID-19, policy and programmatic interventions must be targeted towards raising awareness of their special needs. Recognizing older persons contributions to their own health and the multiple roles they play in the preparedness and response phases of current and future pandemics is also important.

This year has also been recognised as the “Year of the Nurse and Midwife”. UNIDOP 2020 will highlight the role of the health care workforce in contributing to the health of older persons, with special recognition of the nursing profession, and a primary focus on the role of women- who are relatively undervalued and in most cases inadequately compensated.

The UNIDOP 2020 event will also promote the Decade of Healthy Ageing (2020-2030) and help bring together UN experts, civil society, government and the health professions to discuss the five strategic objectives of the Global Strategy and Action plan on Ageing and Health while noting the progress and challenges in their realization. The global strategy is well integrated into the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), while ageing issues cut across the 17 goals, especially Goal 3 which aims to “ensure healthy lives and promote well-being of all at all ages”. As stated by Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (Director-General, WHO) “acting on the strategy, is a means for countries to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and ensure that every human being regardless of age will have an opportunity to fulfill their potential in dignity and equality”.

The objectives of UNIDOP 2020 are to:

- Inform participants about the strategic objectives for the Decade of Healthy Ageing
- Raise awareness of the special health needs of older persons and of their contributions to their own health and to the functioning of the societies in which they live
- Increase awareness and appreciation of the role of the health care workforce in maintaining and improving the health of older persons, with special attention to the nursing profession
- Present proposals for reducing the health disparities between older persons in the developed and developing countries, so as to “Leave no one behind”
- Increase understanding of the impact of COVID-19 on older persons and its impact on health care policy, planning, and attitudes.

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OCTOBER 1, 2020
9AM-12PM EDT - (NEW YORK)

OPENING SESSION

9:00-9:12 AM

WELCOME: Martha Bial - Chair of UNIDOP 2020
Bette Levy - Co-Chair of UNIDOP 2020

Video: Secretary General of the United Nations - António Guterres

REMARKS: H.E. Ms. María del Carmen Squeff
Ambassador of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations, Chair of CSocD & OEWG

PART 1: 30TH ANNIVERSARY UNIDOP - 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF UN

9:12-9:40 AM

REMARKS: H.E. Mr. Volkan Bozkir - President of the General Assembly

Historical Reflection on 75 years of the United Nations and 30 years of IDOP

SPEAKER: Cynthia Stuen - Chair, NGO Committee on Ageing in New York

PART 2: CALL TO ACTION - DECADE OF HEALTHY AGING 2020-2030

9:40-10:10 AM

Healthy Ageing for the 2020s: Through A Pandemic & Beyond

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Elizabeth Iro - Chief Nursing Officer, WHO

BREAK: United Nations Symphony Orchestra of the United Nations Recreation Council
Edvard Grieg: "Morning Mood" from the suite "Peer Gynt", Op. 46. recorded at home by the
UNSRC Symphony Orchestra. **Predrag Vasić - Music Director**

PANEL DISCUSSION

10:10-11:30 AM

What action is needed to achieve healthy ageing?

MODERATOR: Jane Barratt - Secretary General, International Federation on Ageing

Change how we think, feel and act towards age and ageing

PANELIST: Peggy Hicks

Director of Thematic Engagement at Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Ensure that communities foster the abilities of older people

PANELIST: Sir Michael Marmot

Director of the Institute of Health Equity (UCL Department of Epidemiology & Public Health)

Deliver person-centered care & primary health services responsive

PANELIST: John K. Shakpeh

Director of Nursing, Redemption Hospital in Monrovia, Liberia

Provide access to long-term care for people who need it.

PANELIST: Jean Accius

Senior Vice-President for Global Thought Leadership, AARP International

Baseline report on the Decade of Healthy Ageing

PANELIST: Ritu Sadana

Head, Ageing and Health Unit, WHO

Comments from Floor Interveners: Mabel Bianco, Tara A. Cortes, Bei Wu

11:30-11:42 AM

Launch of the World Population Ageing Highlights 2020 Report - Living Arrangements of Older Persons, Including Those Affected by Covid-19

SPECIAL REPORT: Karoline Schmid - Chief, Fertility and Population Ageing, UN DESA

Video: First Lady of Chile - Cecilia Morél Montes

CLOSING SESSION

11:42-12:00 PM

REMARKS: Masumi Ono

Chief, Social Inclusion and Participation Branch, UN DESA



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BIOGRAPHIES



António Guterres
UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL

António Guterres, the ninth Secretary-General of the United Nations, took office on 1st January 2017. Having witnessed the suffering of the most vulnerable people on earth, in refugee camps and in war zones, the Secretary-General is determined to make human dignity the core of his work, and to serve as a peace broker, a bridge-builder and a promoter of reform and innovation.

<https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/biography>



María del Carmen Squeff
AMBASSADOR

Ambassador of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations, Chair of CSocD & OEWG

Master's Degree in International Politics (Faculté des Sciences Sociales, Politiques et Economiques. Université Libre de Bruxelles, 2000). Bachelor's Degree in Political Science (School in Political Science and International Relations. National University of Rosario, 1989). Career member of the Foreign Service since 1993, when she graduated from the Foreign Service Institute of Argentina and has worked since then in the Undersecretary of Economic Integration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She has served as Ambassador of Argentina in France (2013-2016), as Secondment to the Mission to Support the Peace Process in Colombia from the Organization of American States (MAPP/OAS) (2016 - 2017), as Ambassador of Argentina in the Federal Republic of Nigeria (2018 - 2019) and as Undersecretary For MERCOSUR and International Economic Negotiations (December 2019 to July 2020). She is currently the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations.



Volkan Bozkir

PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

On 17 June 2020, the General Assembly of the United Nations elected H.E. Mr. Volkan Bozkir of Turkey as President of its seventy-fifth session, which runs from September 2020 to September 2021.

<https://www.un.org/pga/75/about/biography/>



Cynthia Stuen

SPEAKER

Chair, NGO Committee on Ageing in New York

Cynthia Stuen is the Chairperson of the NGO Committee on Ageing in New York, and the United Nations Representative for the International Federation on Ageing. She was elected in June 2015 to be Vice-chair of the NGO Committee on Ageing/NY. In addition, she was recently elected as a vice-chair of the Board of Directors of VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired. She remains active in advocacy for inclusion of older persons in the implementation and monitoring of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. Her 40+ year professional career has been in field of gerontology. She has worked and conducted research in long term care, community based service delivery, and provided professional and consumer education in field of vision impairment.

Her numerous publications, presentations and research endeavors cover topics of age-related sensory loss, access to environments for older adults with impaired vision and contributions older adults and their family and friends can make to program planning and service delivery. Dr. Stuen received her Bachelor's Degree from Valparaiso University, her Master's Degree from the University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration and her doctorate from Columbia University. She is a fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine and The Gerontological Society of America.



**Elizabeth Iro****KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Chief Nursing Officer, WHO

Elizabeth Iro is the World Health Organization Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) who commenced in this role since January 2018. She is based in Geneva, Switzerland.

Mrs Iro is from the Cook Islands, prior to taking up her role in WHO she served as her country's Secretary of Health since 2012- 2017. In this role, she has implemented legislative reforms to strengthen the country's health system and developed the National Health Strategic plans (2012-2016, 2017-2021) and a National Health Road Map 2017-2036, among other National policy and strategic documents. She was the first nurse/midwife and woman to be appointed in this role in the Cook Islands.

Mrs Iro was trained in New Zealand as a nurse and a midwife and holds a MHS in Nursing and a MBA. She held various nursing roles such as Chief Nursing Officer (2011-2012), Registrar of the Nursing Council (2000-2007) as well as the President of the Cook Islands Nurses Association (2002-2010).

**Jane Barratt****PANEL MODERATOR**

Secretary General, International Federation on Ageing

Dr. Jane Barratt is the Secretary General, International Federation on Ageing (IFA) an international NGO with general consultative status at the United Nations and its agencies and formal relations with the World Health Organization (WHO). During the 1980s and 90s Jane honed her technical and orating skills through an academic career in population ageing and disability at Universities in the United Kingdom and Australia with attention to improved understanding of population-based planning models and service provision. Thereafter she developed a successful business in strategic planning and relationships alongside senior director and management positions in various international and national not-for-profit organisations.

Jane is a Winston Churchill Fellow and recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in Canada in recognition of her commitment and passion to enhance the understanding of issues relating to ageing and engaging in dialogue with governments and the private sector to improve the quality of life of older people.

**Peggy Hicks****PANELIST**

Director of Thematic Engagement at Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Since January 2016, Peggy Hicks has served as director of the Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division at the UN's human rights office. From 2005 to 2015, she was global advocacy director at Human Rights Watch, where she was responsible for coordinating Human Rights Watch's advocacy team and providing direction to its advocacy worldwide. Ms. Hicks previously served as director of the Office of Returns and Communities in the UN mission in Kosovo and as Deputy High Representative for Human Rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina. She has also worked as the Director of Programs for the International Human Rights Law Group (now Global Rights), clinical professor of human rights and refugee law at the University of Minnesota Law School, and as an expert consultant for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Ms. Hicks is a graduate of Columbia Law School and the University of Michigan.

**Sir Michael Marmot****PANELIST**

Director of the Institute of Health Equity (UCL Department of Epidemiology & Public Health)

Sir Michael Marmot has been Professor of Epidemiology at University College London since 1985. He is the author of *The Health Gap: the challenge of an unequal world* (2015) and *Status Syndrome: how your place on the social gradient directly affects your health* (2004). Professor Marmot is the Advisor to the WHO Director-General in the new WHO Division of Healthier Populations. Marmot has led research groups on health inequalities for nearly 50 years. He set up and led a number of longitudinal cohort studies in the UCL Department of Epidemiology & Public Health: the Whitehall II Studies of British Civil Servants, the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA), and several international research efforts on the social determinants of health. He has served as President of the British Medical Association (BMA) and as President of the World Medical Association. He is President of the British Lung Foundation. He was a member of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution and in 2000 he was knighted by Her Majesty The Queen, for services to epidemiology and the understanding of health inequalities.



John K. Shakpeh

PANELIST

Director of Nursing, Redemption Hospital in Monrovia, Liberia

John Kuoh Shakpeh is Nursing Administrator with experience in managing nurses at the Seventh Day Adventist Cooper Hospital from 1992 – 1996. He served as operating theater supervisor, 2002 to 2006; Assistant Nursing Director, 2006 to 2015; and Nursing and Midwifery Director for the Redemption hospital. John worked with UNOPS to design the Integrated Severe Infection Treatment Unit at Redemption Hospital following the Ebola outbreak and also worked with MASS Design to design the new Redemption hospital John qualified as a professional Nurse from the Tubman National Institute of Medical Arts 1984; obtained Diploma in nurse anesthesia from the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital in Enugu; and Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Mother Patern College of Health science 2012. John enjoys clinical practices; patients care; and coaching of nursing students.



Jean Accius

PANELIST

Senior Vice-President for Global Thought Leadership, AARP International

Dr. Jean Accius is a senior executive and nationally recognized thought leader on aging, longevity, health and long-term care policy. Dr. Accius is the Senior Vice President of Thought Leadership and International Affairs. In this role, he provides strategic direction, leadership and technical expertise championing new ideas, framing thought-provoking perspectives and driving bold solutions to change systems and improve the lives of all as they age both domestically and internationally.

In 2018, Dr. Accius was recognized as a Gerontological Society of America Fellow, one of Black Enterprise magazine’s 2018 Modern Man of Distinction, and a recipient of the Prince George’s County Social Innovation Fund 40 under 40 Award. The Maryland Daily Record recognized him as a 2019 Influential Marylander for sparking innovation and progress, shaping and enriching his community and knowing how to get results that better the state and serve the needs of residents of all ages.



Ritu Sadana

PANELIST

Head, Ageing and Health Unit, WHO

Dr Ritu Sadana leads the WHO Consortium on Metrics and Evidence for Healthy Ageing, made up of policy makers, researchers and civil society representatives. She coordinated the consultation and drafting of the WHO Global Strategy on Ageing and Health (2016-2030) and the preparation of the WHO Baseline Report for the Decade of Healthy Ageing, expected in October 2020. Ritu previously led the evidence stream of the WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health, coordinated the WHO Health Research Systems Analysis Initiative, and contributed to WHO's Global Burden of Disease estimates and Health Systems Performance framework. She previously worked in the WHO Regional Office for Europe, with UNFPA and WHO country offices in Cambodia, and in the private sector in the United States. Trained in epidemiology, economics and policy research, she holds a Doctor of Science from Harvard University, serves as an editorial advisor for The Bulletin of the World Health Organization and has over 100 scientific and policy publications, including linking healthy ageing and health equity.



Karoline Schmid

SPEAKER

Chief, Fertility and Population Ageing, UN DESA

Ms. Karoline Schmid, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs-Population Division. Karoline Schmid has been working in the United Nations system since 1995 in various capacities serving at different duties stations. She is currently heading the Fertility and Population Ageing Section in the Population Division and leads the work on the Population Ageing Highlights that is launched at the present event. Prior to that she supported the development of the MISA (Multi Indicator Survey on Ageing) in sub Saharan Africa and is also a member of the Titchfield City Group on Ageing and Age-disaggregated data (TCGA). Karoline holds a Ph. D. in sociology.



Cecilia Morél Montes
FIRST LADY OF CHILE

Cecilia Morél, First Lady of Chile, holds a long career in public and social service. In 1989, she founded the Mujer Emprende Foundation, with the mission to encourage employment and training for women in vulnerable areas. In her role as First Lady she chaired the seven non-profit foundations of the Presidency. The project that was closest to her heart was the program “Choose Healthy Living” (Elige Vivir Sano). This was a new policy that aimed to promote healthy living habits for Chileans and in 2013, this program was signed into Law.

She continues to work on social policies that improve the quality of life for those in vulnerable situations. Currently, she is working on a program to promote healthy aging and to improve the lifestyle of seniors with the Ministry of Social Development and the National Service of the Elderly.



Masumi Ono
SPEAKER

Chief, Social Inclusion and Participation Branch, UN DESA

As Chief of Social Inclusion and Participation Branch in the UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs, Masumi leads a dedicated team of specialists on issues related to older persons, youth, persons with disabilities and family. Her 25 years of UN experience include supporting the development of Sustainable Development Goals from the Secretary-General's office, mobilizing high-level advocacy work on education finance, preparing reports for the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on cross-sectoral themes such as gender, poverty eradication and UN system coherence, and managing trade facilitation programmes in the Asia Pacific region. Before joining the UN through the National Competitive Exam (YPP), she worked in Finance having obtained MBA and BA (Economics) both from Cornell University (USA).

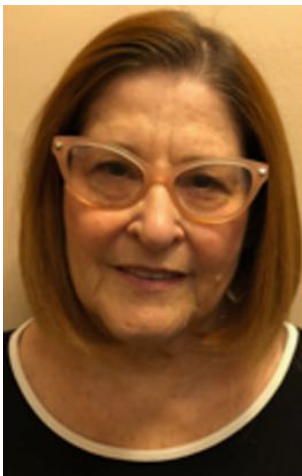




Martha Bial

CHAIR - UNIDOP 2020

Martha C. Bial, Chair of the 2020 UN International Day of Older Persons, is a Faculty Research Scholar at the Ravazzin Center on Aging at Fordham University's Graduate School of Social Service, where she teaches social policy and social work practice with older adults and their families. Dr. Bial has represented the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG) at the UN for 10 years and currently serves as its main representative. In this role, she has presented at conferences in the US, Latin America, Europe and Asia. She has also served on the executive committee of the NGO Committee on Ageing-NY. She was a practitioner, supervisor and consultant in the field of aging for 25 years and later served as Associate Director of Field Instruction at Fordham. Her research and teaching interests include social work in long-term care, use of oral history and reminiscence, and substance abuse in older adults. She holds a bachelor's degree from Harvard and masters and doctoral degrees from Columbia and Fordham Universities respectively.



Bette Levy

CO-CHAIR - UNIDOP 2020

Bette Levy has been representing Soroptimist International at the United Nations Headquarters since 2011 and currently serves as the Main Representative/NY as Special Advisor to the International President for Strategic Planning & Relationships. Soroptimist International (SI), a large Women's Rights organization working to transform the lives of women of all ages and girls, our is a network in 3000 communities in 121 countries. She is actively engaged in the NGO & civil society community at the UNHQ including the Women's Major Group, CoA, CSocD, WGG NGOCU, WGEH. She is Coordination Partner of the UN2020 Campaign and I am Co-Chair of the UNIDOP 2020. Prior to retiring, she worked in management for the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) with primary expertise in children/families and residential care. On 9/11, she was appointed as the lead for disaster risk reduction and for 10 years served as the liaison to the NYC Office of Emergency Management, NYS Emergency Management Office and to US Department of Homeland Security.



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**SPECIAL THANK YOU FOR THE GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS FROM
AARP, IFA AND M&T BANK - THIS EVENT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN
POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT**



**THANK YOU TO OUR CO-SPONSOR -
THE GROUP OF FRIENDS OF OLDER PERSONS**

H.E. Mr. Milenko Skoknic Tapia, Chair



**SPECIAL THANKS TO THE UN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AT THE UNITED
NATIONS STAFF RECREATION COUNCIL**

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE BEHIND THE SCENES & TECHNICAL TEAM -

**MAGDA KACZMARSKA
YASMIN AMINI
ANDRA STANCU
CHESLEY RYDER**

THANK YOU TO THE INTERPRETERS & THE ENTIRE INTERPRENET TEAM

THANK YOU!



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PLANNING & OPERATIONS

UN DESA - DISD SOCIAL INCLUSION AND PARTICIPATION BRANCH

Amal Abou Rafeh, Chief, Programme on Ageing
Shahto Nfila
Amine Lamrabet

Claudia Beatriz Altavas
Julia Ferre
Masumi Ono, Chief, Social Inclusion and Participation Branch

NGO COMMITTEE ON AGEING - NEW YORK NGO COA UNIDOP 2020 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Chair	Martha Bial
Co-Chair	Bette Levy
Chair NGO CoA/NY	Cynthia Stuen
	Erica Dhar
	Tara A Cortes
	Mabel Bianco
	Yasmin Amini

NGO COMMITTEE ON AGEING - NEW YORK COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair	Martha Bial
	Adriane Berg
	Sandra Timmermann
	Frances Zainoeddin
	Katharine Weiss
	Magda Kaczmarska
	Yasmin Amini



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UN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS

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Vice - Chairperson	Frances Zainoeddin , Soroptimist International
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	William Smith , Aging in America, Inc.
	Rebecca Tsurumi , AARP
	Adam Calderon , intern with APA NGO branch at the UN

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