

Comments on the New Urban Agenda Revised Zero Draft by the Older Persons Partner Constituent Group, Habitat III General Assembly of Partners

The Older Persons Partner Constituent Group of the Habitat III General Assembly of Partners suggests the following amendments to the New Urban Agenda Revised Zero Draft to recognise rapidly ageing urban populations and ensure that our rights are protected and promoted throughout our lives including in our older age.

Further information can be requested by contacting the PCG co-chairs:
Sion Eryl Jones (sjones@helpage.org) and Kathy Kline (kklineco@aol.com) .

Headline comments

- **We welcome the inclusion of older persons alongside other urban residents and the need to respond appropriately to protect and promote their rights and address the challenges they face**
- **We also welcome the inclusion of a commitment to age disaggregated data collection**
- **We support the inclusion of older persons in capacity building commitments to ensure participation in decision making**

Key Asks

- **We request an additional sentence to be added to paragraph 14 that references the significance of ageing urban populations and the need for appropriate responses to protect rights in older age beyond simply and solely seeing ageing as an economic opportunity (as currently stated).**
- **We call for a clear commitment to reduce air pollution which is responsible for the deaths of over 7 million people each year globally**
- **The New Urban Agenda fails to reflect the active role of urban environments in determining our health and should respond to increasing rates of non communicable diseases in urban areas.**

Specific Comments - suggested additions in bold text

Paragraph	Text	Note
g. d.	gender and age responsive planning and investment for safe and sustainable urban mobility systems	Proposed addition
14	Particular attention should also be paid to addressing the specific challenges facing women and girls, children and youth, <u>older persons</u> , persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, grassroots organizations, informal inhabitants and workers, farmers, refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons, and migrants, regardless of migratory status.	We support the inclusion of older people in this sentence.
14	Urban populations are ageing rapidly and cities will need to respond with appropriate policies to ensure older persons rights are protected and promoted socially, economically and spatially.	Whilst the significance of ageing populations is reflected in the economic prosperity section of the NUA, we suggest that ageing populations are referred to as more than just an economic opportunity to be taken advantage of, but a significant demographic shift that requires an appropriate response, and as such suggest the following sentence be added here.

	Sustainable and inclusive urban prosperity and opportunities for all	
30	We commit to generate productive employment, decent work, and livelihood opportunities in cities and human settlements with special attention to the needs and potential of women, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, in particular the poorest and most vulnerable, and to ensure that all people have access to income-earning opportunities, respecting and leveraging culture and territorial specificity.	Older persons need to be reflected here.
32	We commit to recognize the working poor of all ages in the informal economy as contributors and legitimate actors of the urban economies, including the unpaid, caregivers and domestic workers.	This sentence should reflect the reality that older people including as care givers are over represented in the informal sector yet often ignored.
34	We also commit to address the social, economic and spatial implications of ageing populations, where applicable, and harness the population ageing factor as an opportunity for new jobs and growth, while improving the quality of life of a significant share of the urban population.	We support the addition of this significant reference to ageing populations in a paragraph that was previously only about youth. We would remove the word factor as ageing is a reality for a significant part of the population.
	Sustainable urban development for social inclusion and poverty eradication	
	Protecting and promoting health through creation of urban environments which, among other qualities, foster physical activity, reduced indoor and outdoor air pollution, access to water and sanitation, and access to healthy nutritious and affordable foods.	The NUA is largely silent on the reality of increasing rates of non communicable diseases in urban areas. We suggest the following paragraph is added in this section to increase awareness of this key issue.
	Commitment to reducing air pollution responsible for the deaths of millions each year through reductions in private vehicle use, investment in clean public transportation, promoting non motorised mobility including walking and cycling and reducing emissions from industrial activities.	The NUA is largely silent on the reality of 7 million deaths per year globally due to air pollution. We suggest the following paragraph is added in this section to increase awareness of this key issue.
36	We commit to people-centered urban development and to the realization of	We support this statement.

	<p>human rights of all, facilitating living together, <u>combating all forms of discrimination</u>, and empowering all individuals and communities, while enabling their full and meaningful participation.</p>	
42	<p>We commit to stimulate the supply of a variety of housing options that are affordable and accessible for members of different income groups of society, taking into consideration socio-economic and cultural integration of marginalized communities, older persons and homeless persons.</p>	<p>This sentence should refer to older persons who are particularly vulnerable in terms of housing.</p>
43	<p>We commit to ensure equitable and affordable access to basic physical and social infrastructure for all, including affordable serviced land, housing, energy, safe drinking water and sanitation, nutritious food, waste disposal, mobility, health, education, culture and information and communication technologies. We further commit to provide that these services are gender-sensitive and responsive to the rights and needs of children and youth, <u>older persons</u> and persons with disabilities, and other people in vulnerable situations</p>	<p>We support this statement and the inclusion of older persons.</p>
45	<p>We commit to develop universally safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces, including streets, sidewalks, squares, gardens and parks that are multi-functional areas for social interaction and inclusion, economic exchange and cultural expression among a wide diversity of people, and which are designed and managed to ensure human development, build peaceful and democratic societies, promote cultural diversity and reduce social exclusion.</p>	<p>We support this statement however request that a commitment to ensuring barriers to participation - spatial, economic, legal and social - in public spaces is reinstated in the revised draft.</p>
46	<p>We commit to embrace diversity in cities, to strengthen social cohesion, intercultural understanding, tolerance, mutual respect, gender and age equality, innovation, inclusion, identity and safety</p>	<p>We request the addition of age alongside gender in this sentence.</p>

48	We commit to ensure a safe and secure environment in cities for all to live, work, and participate in urban life without fear of violence and intimidation, taking into consideration that certain social groups particularly women and girls of all ages , are particularly affected by urban violence.	In line with language in the SDGs, we ask that women and girls of all ages are included in this sentence, reflecting the reality that many older women are subject to violence and elder abuse.
49	We commit to promote sustainable institutional, political, and financial mechanisms in cities and human settlements to broaden and inclusive democratic platforms that allow meaningful participation in decision-making and planning processes. We also commit to support local governments in fulfilling their key role in strengthening the interface among all stakeholders, offering opportunities for dialogue, including through gender-responsive approaches and with particular attention to the rights and needs of and potential contributions from all segments of society, including men and women, children and youth, <u>older persons</u> and persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and migrants, regardless of their migratory status, race, ethnicity, and socio-economic status.	We support the inclusion of older people in this paragraph.
Planning and managing urban spatial development		
84	We will support the implementation of urban planning strategies that facilitate a social and age appropriate mix through the provision of affordable housing options with access to quality public spaces, enhancing safety and security, favoring social and <u>intergenerational</u> interaction and the appreciation of diversity.	We support the reference to intergenerational interaction and suggest a reference to the need for a social and age appropriate mix of affordable housing options to respond to the housing insecurity many face in older age.
94	We will take measures to improve road safety and integrate it into mobility and transport infrastructure planning and design. We will promote the the 'safe system' approach called for in the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety and implementation of the United Nations vehicle safety regulations, accompanied by awareness raising initiatives, with special attention to the needs of all women and girls, as well as children and	We welcome our the addition of this paragraph and suggest a reference to the safe system approach.

	youth, <u>older persons</u> and persons with disabilities and those in vulnerable situations...	
	Means of implementation	
126	We will promote the strengthening of the capacity of national, sub-national and local governments, including local government associations, to work with women, children and youth, <u>older persons</u> and persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and those in vulnerable situations as well as with civil society, the academia and research institutions, in shaping organizational and institutional governance processes and promote inclusive public decision-making, in order to actively engage in and contribute to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.	We support the reference to older persons in terms of building their capacity to participate in decision making.
130	We will support capacity development initiatives to empower and strengthen skills and abilities of the women, children and youth, <u>older person</u> and persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and other people in vulnerable situations such as refugees, displaced persons and migrants to ensure their effective participation in urban development decision-making.	We support the reference to older persons in terms of building their capacity to participate in decision making.
133	We will support institutionalized mechanisms for sharing and exchanging information, knowledge and expertise, including the collection, analysis and dissemination of geographically-based, community-collected and disaggregated data by income, gender, <u>age</u> , race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national and local contexts, as well as ensuring a robust science-policy interface in urban policy formulation.	We support the reference to age to ensure fully disaggregated data collection.
134	We will support the role and enhanced capacity of sub-national and local authorities in data collection, analysis and dissemination, promoting evidence-based governance, building on a shared knowledge base using both, globally-comparable as well as locally-generated disaggregated data by	We support the reference to age to ensure fully disaggregated data collection.

	income, gender, <u>age</u> , race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national sub-national and local contexts.	
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