



NEWSLETTER 2012

Vol. 19 No.10

LET US ACT TO ENHANCE RESEARCH AND AWARENESS IN AGEING ISSUES FOR THE FUTURE

Toulouse, October 30th, 2012

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IAGG launches the bases for a Middle East region

The International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG) organized a conference in Doha, Qatar on 20th September 2012, to launch the bases of a future Middle East region. Professor Bruno VELLAS, IAGG President, presented the Organization and its networks to regional health authorities and major actors in the fields of Aging. All delegates were invited to exchange on the current status, challenges and perspectives of gerontology and geriatrics in each country. They included:

- Dr Fawzi AMIN from Bahrain,
- Dr Hala SWEED from Egypt,
- Dr Abeer AL BAHO from Kuwait,
- Dr Abdul ABYAD and Dr Elie STEPHAN from Lebanon,
- Dr Ebtisam ELGHBLAWI from Libya,
- Dr Nasir MAHMOOD from Pakistan,
- Mr Akram AMRO from Palestine,
- Dr Marwan RAMADAN and Dr Essa AL SULAITI from Qatar,
- Prof Tawfik KHOJA, Dr Basheer AL-SUFYANI and Dr Hashim BALUBAID from Saudi Arabia,
- Dr Issam KHAFAJA from Syria,
- Dr Salwa ALSUWAIDI from the United Arab Emirates,
- Dr Omar MUJALLI from Yemen.

IAGG is present throughout the world: Europe, North American, Latin America/Caribbean, Asia/Oceania, Africa. Today, IAGG has the project to promote Gerontology and Geriatrics also within the Middle East region, that has much experience and knowledge to bring to the international community dedicated to the sciences of Aging.

During this meeting, Professor VELLAS urged Middle Eastern countries to encourage research and training in the field of geriatrics and gerontology in this part of the world and to unite forces regionally. IAGG will develop regional cooperation to give added impulse to these efforts and actions. This will lay the foundation for the future establishment of a new IAGG region.

He also invited all those interested, to come to the next World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics (<http://www.iagg2013.org>) organized from June 23-27, 2013 in Seoul, Korea. Held every four years, it will be a unique occasion to study the last developments and trends in the major fields of gerontology and geriatrics: biology, clinical medicine, social/behavioral sciences and research/policy/practice.

On behalf of the IAGG, Professor VELLAS would like to extend his deepest gratitude to all the contributors of this meeting:

- the regional delegates mentioned above for their input and involvement,
- Prof Jean-Pierre MICHEL, IAGG Ambassador for the Middle East, for his time and energy,
- Dr Abdul ABYAD and Dr Marwan RAMADAN of Hamad Corporation, for the excellent organization.

IAGG greatly appreciated all the hard work undergone and hopes that this success will be a milestone for future development and promotion of Gerontology and Geriatric research in the Middle East.



Congress: success for IAGG's 1st Africa Region congress - a short report

Convened by the IAGG Africa Region and organized locally by the Institute of Ageing in Africa at the University of Cape Town (IAA), this historic meeting marked 10 years since African governments adopted the United Nations Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) and the African Union Policy Framework and Plan of Action on Ageing (AU Plan).

The 1st Africa Region congress took place on 17-20 October 2012 in Cape Town, South Africa and brought together scholars, civil society representatives, policy makers, practitioners and private sector role players. Two hundred delegates were expected but close to four hundred participants finally attended this regional event. A total of 22 African countries and 41 countries from around the world were represented. These figures reveal the importance of age-related issues for all parties present during this conference, where all deliberated on challenges and opportunities of ageing in the continent and reviewed progress in the implementation of the two plans in African countries.

The scientific programme provided a unique platform for knowledge transfer and cutting-edge debate on the realities of growing old in Africa, and for identifying directions for actions on ageing in the region in coming years. A symposium on Geriatric Care in Africa was organized on the last day of the congress and involved participation of academics from Australia, France, South Africa, and United Kingdom. With a final attendance of 100 persons (instead of the 30 expected), this event was particularly appreciated. May all the speakers be thanked for having accepted to share their knowledge with the public.

On behalf of the conference organizers, I would also like to extend my gratitude to those who, from near and far, contributed to make this a milestone in building, networking and setting agendas on Africa Ageing.

Dr Isabella ABODERIN
IAGG Africa Region Chair and Conference Convener

IAGG's Africa Region congress: themes of sessions and symposiums

- Aging in Africa 10 years after Madrid: voices and perspectives
- Africa Ageing: Opportunities for development? The case for health & social policy action on older persons
- What shapes quality of life and well-being in old age in Africa
- Ageing of the HIV/AIDS epidemic - trends, experiences, responses
- Recognising and addressing elder abuse in Africa
- Older persons as agents of stability and change in contexts of poverty and HIV/AIDS
- Older persons' access to health care: understanding patterns and overcoming barriers
- Institutional care in Africa: realities and advances
- African families caring for their elders
- Geriatric "giants" in Africa: epidemiology and responses
- Social protection for older persons: impacts and lessons learnt
- Understanding old age poverty in rural and urban contexts
- Health and functional status of older Africans: evidence from WHO's SAGE study
- Alternative approaches to care of older people in South Africa
- Human rights and older persons in Africa
- Implementation of the MIPAA and AU plan in Africa: government perspectives on progress
- Mental and physical health in old age: social impacts and determinants
- Care in the community: practice and perspectives
- Older persons caring for younger generations
- Adapting Africa's health system to manage non-communicable disease in older persons
- Malnutrition in old age in Africa: addressing risks and consequences
- Building longitudinal and representative evidence on ageing in Africa
- Prevalence of dementia in Africa



Invitation

Ageing and Technology at the 20th World Congress in Seoul

Since the theme of the IAGG 2013 World Congress was chosen to be "Digital Ageing: A New Horizon for Healthcare and Active Ageing," the integrated digital policies of advanced countries and the rapid development in IT convergence technologies have proved the importance and timeliness of the theme.

Since Seoul was nominated as the 2013 IAGG Congress venue, Korea has transformed from a developing country to a developed country. It has become a country facing the most rapid transition from an ageing society to an aged & ultra-aged society. Korea has also developed as an advanced IT country through digital innovations in daily lives. This means that Korea has matured enough to be an international venue for comprehensive and in depth debates on digital ageing with progressive issues.

People in the world need to realize that digital information spreads all over the world in the modern age like oxygen in the air. This means that we have to admit that digital is a new "resource" that we have to utilize wisely to solve social problems and to improve the quality of life beyond just adapting ourselves to digitalization.

Generally speaking, the world is confronting a serious crisis regarding the quality of life index, 3E (Ecology, Economy & Social Equity). This crisis will seriously affect older people and countries with a large aging population. Particularly, holistic imbalance in health due to aging and financial constraints are shaking dreams of older people who need living conditions which are healthy, affordable and secure. Fortunately, however, the converged development of IT (Information Technology), NT (Nano Technology), BT (Biological Technology), CT (Computer Technology), ET (Environmental Technology) and ST (Symbiotic Technology) is expected to bring forth innovations in health and medical systems, social structures and living environments and will make age-related disabilities disappear from society. Digital living, which once was an idealistic dream, has been realized in practical life one after another and consumers are adopting to these changes very rapidly. What is still more, because digital living is showing the possibility of its contribution as a tool to promote communication and equity, to manage health, to enhance economic conditions, to alleviate the shortage of human resources, to improve safety and convenience and to facilitate care

systems, there is no doubt that digitalization will contribute greatly to overcome such crises in future.

In the congress of IAGG 2013 which will be held at COEX in Seoul during June 23-27, 2013, debates will be held on the results of modern scientific research and future possibilities that will enrich the four aspects of life, anti-ageing, healthy ageing, active aging and happy aging, under the vision of "well ageing" on the basis of comprehending, not only conventional analogue fields, but also the digital fields mentioned above.

This international congress will provide an opportunity to think about and exchange ideas about innovations in older people's lifestyles that are changing due to the silent revolution by digitalization under the vision stated above. Participants will feel the changes in viewpoints and conditions about how people can deal with disease during the long aged years that take half of their life span, what they should intake for their nourishment & health, how they can manage their physical appearance, with what activities they can manage their time, what they should use in their daily life, where they should live and how they can consolidate their economic security.

"Digital Ageing" will develop the leadership of IAGG in terms of three aspects. Firstly, it will lead the horizon of Gerontology and Geriatrics to the future and will show the possibility of spreading affordable and high quality services globally, extending the spatial range. Additionally, it will happen in Asia where older people comprise the highest proportion of the total world population. Secondly, if a human life ultimately pursues a symbiotic life in futur, digital ageing will bring forth a momentum that will stress the importance of symbiotic life with technology in addition to symbiotic life with natural ecology and one with humane social-ecology. Thirdly, though IT technology will develop naturally, by approaching it wisely with robust directions without making any trials and errors in the process of IT development, the conference will provide an opportunity to debate how to decrease the confusion and dilemmas in the process of development while preventing the sacrifice of human-beings and the overuse of both natural and artificial resources.

I sincerely hope all of you will be able to join us at the 20th IAGG World Congress in Seoul, to open the new horizon for future generation & geriatrics.

Yeun Sook LEE, PhD

Professor of Yonsei University (Korea), Member and Exhibition Chair of the Organizing Committee for the 20th IAGG World Congress of Gerontology & Geriatrics, Seoul, Korea 2013, E-mail: seoul@iagg2013.org

Congress: IAGG's 20th World Congress

The Organizing Committee of the Federation of Korean Gerontological Societies (FKGS) is happy to share a report on the last developments regarding the next IAGG's 20th World Congress scheduled on June 23-27, 2013 at the Seoul Convention and Exhibition Centre.



A report from the Organizing Committee

As the 20th IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics taking place in Seoul, Korea from June 23rd through 27th, 2013 is less than a year away, the Seoul Organizing Committee is gearing up for an exciting and informative congress with high quality programs at the moment and is expecting more than 6,000 participants from almost 100 countries.

For the Congress mainly themed with "Digital Ageing: A New Horizon for Health Care and Active Ageing", we, the Organizing Committee has already confirmed 38 presidential symposia of which topics and conveners were predetermined by our group. By July 31, 2012, we had received around 200 submitted symposia proposals and 90 abstracts of oral presentations (submission deadlines are respectively on the last days of August and October). The main venue, the Seoul Convention and Exhibition Center (COEX), is one of the world's top 10 convention centers as well as the best business and cultural hub in Asia. It can provide all participants with very convenient and comfortable spaces for all programs, meetings and exhibitions. The exhibition of a variety of items and events related to ageing with a enough space to make it one of the largest exhibitions running parallel with an IAGG world congress. We receive applications for participation in the exhibition, a more detailed plan concerning the exhibition is on the congress website (www.iagg2013.org).

Two speakers of the Opening Lectures are already confirmed: Ms. Kathy Greenlee (Assistant Secretary for Aging, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services) & Dr. O. Young Lee (Former Minister of the Korean government). Especially, Dr. Lee who is also a very famous writer promises to prepare his lecture on decent ageing in the light of the crane symbolizing good health and longevity in the oriental culture. Also eight other keynote speakers have confirmed their attendance, well-known in each of the four fields of gerontological research. It would be notable that the Korean government will sponsor a special roundtable discussion on The Population Ageing and Economic Growth, where

some hot debates on whether the population ageing tackles economic growth or not is expected. The Organizing Committee is also preparing some special programs to have participants enjoy unique and diversified Korean cultures with more than 5,000 years of history. They include Home-stay Program, Temple-stay, Site visits, and tours of various famous historical spots. Particularly, participants who not only want to reduce travelling costs, but also experience the Korean cultures more closely, can choose Home-stay rather than hotels accommodation.

To make this event more successful, it is most important that individual members of the IAGG gerontological society member countries should attend this unique congress. Those who are interested in attending the congress are encouraged to submit proposals of submitted symposia or abstracts of oral and poster presentations. In addition, the Organizing Committee is eagerly awaiting online registration at www.iagg2013.org that will open on October 1, 2012.

To make this event an important landmark, the Organizing Committee welcomes sponsors that provide financial and in-kind assistance from a variety of business organizations, pharmaceutical companies, social organizations, UN-related organizations, local governments, etc. So far we have confirmed with the Korean government and Samsung Life Insurance Company as the main sponsor, while many potential sponsors are being contacted.

The second announcement of the congress is already on the website of the organizing committee (www.iagg2013.org) and can be easily downloaded. Other language versions of the second announcement (Chinese and Japanese) will soon be available. For those who may need hard copies of the announcement, kindly make your request directly to the secretariat (seoul@iagg2013.org) of the Organizing Committee, who will be happy to forward them by e-mail and/or fax.

Heung Bong CHA, PhD
President Elect of IAGG
Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the 20th World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics, Seoul, Korea



A call for oral or poster abstracts: deadline October 31, 2012 The Scientific Program Committee cordially invites you to submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations. Abstracts should be submitted online. All abstracts will be reviewed by the Scientific Program Committee and assigned to the appropriate session for oral and poster presentations.

Abstract Topics

Topics for Oral & Poster presentations are open to all fields related to ageing. The details of the different categories listed on the website at http://www.people-x.com/homepage/IAGG/data/IAGG2013_Abstract_Category.pdf



Biological Sciences

- Ageing Models & Other Systems
- Anti-ageing
- Cellular Senescence
- Immune and Ageing
- Longevity and Centenarians
- Mechanisms of Ageing
- Metabolic Ageing
- Oxidative Stress, Exercise & Hormesis
- Systems Biology of Ageing & Other New Technologies



Social & Behavioral Science

- Health (and Function)
- Social Policies
- Social Participation
- Social Relationships
- Social Rights
- Living Environment (Age-friendly)
- Personal Development
- Theory and Methods
- Others



Clinical Medicine

- Principles of Geriatrics
- Geriatric Syndromes
- Organ Systems and Diseases

Visit the website at <http://www.iagg2013.org/> and read more details about your abstract submission.



Accommodation The Local Organizing Committee will reserve selected hotels in different categories for congress participants. Also, home-stay programs will be provided as an option not only for participants from developing countries and students, but also for those who want to experience Korean culture and make Korean friends.

Bookings for accommodation and home-stay: October 2012 to May 2013

Of course, should you have other specific needs, please contact the IAGG 2013 Secretariat (seoul@iagg2013.org) who will be happy to assist.

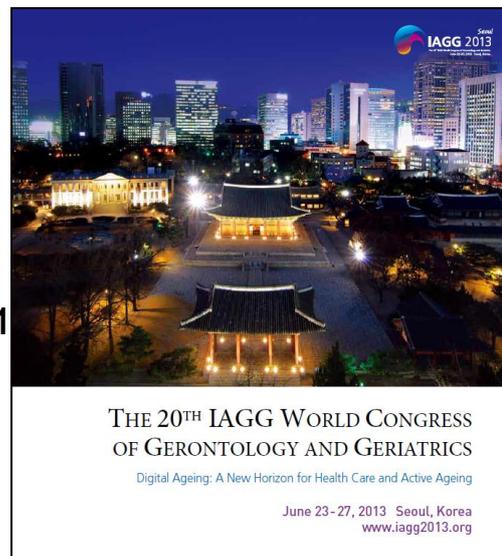
Further details on the website at <http://www.iagg2013.org/>

**REGISTRATION
IS NOW OPEN !!!**

Early bird: October 2012 to December 2012

Regular: January 2013 to April 2013

Late: April 2013 to June 2013





Some other events scheduled during the Seoul congress

The Longevity Prize 2013

Fondation IPSEN is a French scientific foundation, created in 1983, developing mainly three types of activities: international meetings tracking progress in biomedical research, publications (proceedings, newsletter and brochures), prizes awarded in recognition of outstanding works in various domains.

One of them is the Longevity Prize, awarded annually to biologists, geneticists, gerontologists, psychologists, demographers, statisticians, etc. The 2013 Prize is awarded to Dr Gary RUVKIN (Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, USA) for his work on "Molecular Genetics of Longevity". Read the related abstract, the author's biography and other information in the Research section of this Newsletter.

⇒ **Meet the 2013 Award winner and discover his oral communication at 03:00pm on Monday June 24, 2013 at the Seoul World Congress.**

The Diabetes Mellitus symposium

Diabetes Mellitus is a major global metabolic disorder of the 21st century and affects almost every cell in the body and essential biochemical processes that cause severe effects on health. The rapid growth of diabetes has become a major burden upon healthcare facilities in all affected countries and IAGG has accepted to promote the Global Initiative in Diabetes Mellitus. The main components of this first phase of the initiative will be centred around providing high quality educational material in relation to diabetes via an online resource. Read more about the symposium in the Education section of this Newsletter.

⇒ **See the material presented during the symposium chaired by Prof Alan SINCLAIR (Luton, UK) at 01:00pm on Monday June 24, 2013 at the Seoul World Congress.**

The Busse Research Awards

To promote international research in gerontology, two awards will be granted during the World Congress in Seoul. In recognition of significant contributions to aging research one award will recognize a scientist from the social/behavioral sciences; the other, a scientist from the biomedical sciences. These awards are supported from an endowment made by Gerontology International in honor of Ewald W. Busse, M.D., Past President of the International Association of Gerontology and founding director of the Duke Aging Center. This endowment is administered by the Duke University Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development. Read more details in the Research section of this Newsletter.

⇒ **Meet the 2013 award winners and discover their oral communications at 05:00pm on July 25, 2013 at the Seoul World congress.**



Congress: Candidacy for IAGG's 22nd World Congress

2021

As you know IAGG's 20th World Congress will take place in Seoul from July 23-27, 2013 and

2021

San Francisco will host the next meeting in 2017. Time has come to prepare the XXIInd INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GERONTOLOGY AND GERIATRICS World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics in **2021**.

IAGG National Society members are invited to present a bid for this event. IAGG Headquarters would be pleased to receive a proposal, that should include information on the following components:

1. A description of the general approach and possible theme for the IAGG World Congress
2. An indication of the capacity of the host society to stage it
3. A venue where the IAGG World Congress would be held
4. An indication of likely or actual sources of financial support necessary for holding a Congress
5. Letter/s of support from relevant professional bodies (e.g.: Host society, IAGG's Regional Secretariat or Member Societies) or government instrumentalities
6. Peripheral, satellite or other special events that might be held in conjunction with the 22nd IAGG World Congress

The proposal to host a World Congress of the IAGG should place emphasis on the scientific aspects of the Congress, as well as the infrastructure and capacity to support the Congress. Information regarding likely appeal stemming from local tourist attractions is secondary to the information that should be submitted with your bid. All relevant materials should be provided to the IAGG Secretariat no later than **December 31, 2012**.

Prior to the Seoul Congress

- you may wish to contact the Congress President, Prof Heung Bong CHA at the Executive Secretariat of the Organizing Committee (iagg@iagg2013.org) about distribution of any materials during that Congress.

At the time of the Congress in Seoul

- a representative of the host society should be prepared to present the bid during a Council meeting. This should entail a presentation of no more than ten (10) minutes (inclusive of any audio-visual material), highlighting the six (6) key components above;
- if desired, copies of the bid (or an abbreviated form of it) and promotional materials can be provided to all members of Council during the Council meeting

If this project interests your Society, and should you require any further indications to arrange its candidacy, kindly visit our website <http://www.iagg.info/organization/rules-logos> and upload IAGG By-Laws and Manual of Operating Procedures (MOP).

For further questions concerning your application file, you can also contact IAGG headquarters at seyne@cict.fr.



Administration: New Presidents for National Society members

Here are the last appointments reported in our member society organizations. We would like to extend our warm congratulations to the newly elected or re-elected Presidents for having accepted to develop actions in favour of old people and we look forward to continue our mutual cooperation. We take this opportunity to thank all the Past-Presidents for their repeated commitment over the last years and send them our best wishes for the future.

Kindly inform headquarters of changes undergone by your Organisation and contact Constance de SEYNES seynes@cict.fr

TAIWAN: Chinese Taipei Association of Gerontology & Geriatrics (TAGG)

President ⇒ Dr Cheng-Chieh LIN

Past President ⇒ Dr Ching-Yu CHEN

UNITED KINGDOM: British Geriatrics Society (BGS)

President ⇒ Prof Finbarr MARTIN (re-elected)

FRANCE: Société Française de Gériatrie et de Gérologie (SFGG)

President ⇒ Prof Olivier HANON

Past President ⇒ Prof Gilles BERRUT

SOUTH AFRICA : South African Gerontological Association

President ⇒ Ms Femada SHAMAM

Past President ⇒ Ms Ingrid OLMESDAHL



Administration: Membership dues 2012

Invoices for the 2012 membership dues will shortly be sent to each member society. May we remind that during the last Council meeting held on July 7th, 2009 in Paris, the IAGG Council approved by a majority vote the following:

- a minimum fee of \$100 per member society will be applied to societies with less than 182 members (ie: $182 \times \$0.55 = \100.10)

- beyond, societies will remain with their annual due (ie: \$0.55 per member)

Note: To participate or to vote in the affairs of the Association (Council), National Society members should be in good standing, in compliance with IAGG By-laws, Article 9. So, before the Seoul 2013 World Congress please make sure that your Organization has paid all its membership dues.

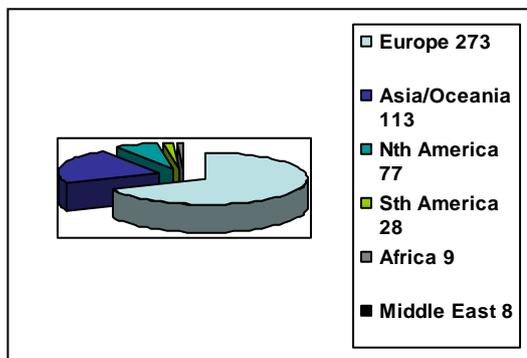
For any further enquiries, please feel free to contact Constance de SEYNES (seynes@cict.fr) at IAGG Executive Office.

Network : Global Aging Research Network (GARN)

Latest developments:

GARN membership is developing at a constant rate. In January 2012, 452 applicants were selected as members of the Network. Since then, we are happy to report that another 56 candidates were awarded membership and letters of confirmation are currently under process.

Origins of the 508 selected applicants
(dated September 2012)



For more information on GARN: <http://www.garn-network.org>

To apply for membership, fill out a questionnaire directly on <http://www.celsius-exhibition.com/iagg/>

Network: Global Social Initiative on Ageing (GSIA)

The GSIA is an international network of social gerontologists committed to addressing challenges arising from the impact of global trends on the quality of life of older persons.

The 1st Africa Region Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics in Cape Town, South Africa was an opportunity to showcase GSIA research activities and outcomes as well as to engage in planning for future research and capacity building activities.

A number of presentations at the conference were focussed on the results of GSIA research in Africa. Presenters addressed issues related to the three substantive priority areas for GSIA activities:

Families Identifying global trends in discourses and realities of family strengths and obligations, toward creating strategies for strengthening and supporting them.

Liveability Identifying trends in inclusion/exclusion of older adults from material resources (income, adequate food and shelter), and the impact of these trends on their survival and citizenship.

Care Documenting diverse regional challenges in managing care to frail older adults and to work towards an appropriate balance between formal and informal care systems.

Special thanks to the Africa Region Congress speakers for their generous contributions in preparing this work: Nomusa SHEMBE, Lucy MAINA, Elmarie van der WALT, Lelanie MALAN, Lizanle de JAGER, Suzan van der PAS, Dorly DEEG, Bilkish CASSIM, Vera ROOS, Jaco HOFFMAN.

A planning meeting also was held to move forward planning for an Intensive Course on Families to be held in 2013. Further announcements will be made as details of the course are available.

Many thanks to all the participants and organizations who have supported the GSIA vision and help to make it grow.

On behalf of Norah KEATING
Director of the Global Social Initiative on Ageing

Network: African Research on Ageing Network (AFRAN)

The African Research on Ageing Network (AFRAN) is launching the: AFRAN database of literature on Ageing in Africa

A major factor impeding research and knowledge utilisation in the field of ageing in Africa is the difficulty faced by African scholars and professionals in identifying and accessing relevant published material. To this end the African Research on Ageing Network (AFRAN) at the Oxford Institute of Population Ageing, University of Oxford, in collaboration with the North-West University, South Africa, and with generous support from the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG), has established a centralised database providing free access to electronic full-text copies of the relevant literature for AFRAN members. The following themes are broadly covered by the database, which will be continuously updated: Population dynamics; Poverty and Social Protection; Health issues, including HIV/AIDS; Family / Intergenerational Relationships; Human Rights.

How to access the database:

1. The database is exclusively for the use of AFRAN members.
2. AFRAN membership is, however, open to all scholars, policy makers and practitioners working on any issue pertaining to ageing in Africa.
3. Please visit <http://www.ageing.ox.ac.uk/research/regions/africa/afnan/members> to access the appropriate AFRAN membership application forms.
4. AFRAN members are welcome to contact Jaco HOFFMAN (jacobus.hoffman@ageing.ox.ac.uk) and Lelanie MALAN (20362269@nwu.ac.za) to request a database package (including a consent form and log-in details).

Network: International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA)

The International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) announces the selection of the 2012 International Rosalie S. Wolf Award. This year's panel awarded the prize to Monica FERREIRA, DPhil, MA from South Africa.

Monica Ferreira trained in Sociology and has spent almost four decades working in African Gerontology. She was founding Director of the Institute of Ageing in Africa (IAA) at the University of Cape Town and is currently the President of International Longevity Centre-South Africa. She serves on the advisory boards of the International Institute on Ageing (United Nations-Malta) and the African Research on Ageing Network (AFRAN). Monica FERREIRA is a Fellow of the World Democratic and Ageing Forum, and was previously a member of the Advisory Board of the INPEA and later INPEA's Regional Representative for Africa.

Her research on elder abuse in South Africa dates from the late 1980s, and she has published numerous papers in scientific journals. She was one of the first scholars to draw attention to the problem of allegations of witchcraft against older persons and the consequences as a form of abuse in sub-Saharan African countries.



All our congratulations !!!

Research: IAGG / WHO / SFGG Workshop on Human Rights



IAGG proposed a program of four high-level workshops on worldwide issues concerning aging, under the auspices of the World Health Organization (WHO), with the partnership of the French Society for Geriatrics and Gerontology (SFGG). The four high-level workshops were based on major topics such as nursing homes (January 2010), late on-set dementia (January 2011), frailty (January 2012) and aging and human rights in October 2012.

Workshop n°4 debated on “Connecting African and global endeavours on human rights and older persons”. This event took place on Wednesday October 17th, 2012, in Cape Town, prior to the 1st Africa Region congress on Gerontology and Geriatrics.

The main purpose of the fourth workshop was to bring together key International and African civil society, policy and civil society role-players to reflect on the current status of regional and global agendas on human rights and older persons and to identify joint approaches and concrete avenues for advancing and engaging more African countries into the discussion on the way to the MIPAA review in New York next February 2013 and the 4th OEWG. Organizations such as the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI), African Union (AU), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC), World Health Organization (WHO), HelpAge International (HAI), International Longevity Center (ILC) have accepted to participate.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the 15 speakers and 15 observers for their high quality input and debate on the status and perspectives of the implementation of the MIPAA in African countries. Special thanks also to Ms Laura MACHADO, IAGG's International Coordinator at the United Nations, who brought her experience in Human Rights issues related to older persons, to Dr Isabella ABODERIN, IAGG's Africa Chair, who got together the major actors of the African continent implicated in Ageing.

IAGG Executives were there to support their regional team in launching activities and networking within the African region. Prof Alain FRANCO, IAGG Secretary General and Vice President, Dr. Renato GUIMARAES, IAGG Past President, Prof Heung Bong CHA, IAGG President Elect attended the meeting. In addition, Ms Laura MACHADO, IAGG's International Coordinator at the United Nations, assisted all along by bringing her expertise in Human Rights issues related to older persons.

IAGG will disseminate the outcomes of the workshop as soon as possible. In the meantime, you can read the program and list of participants on IAGG's website at: <http://www.iagg.info/news>



Workshop speakers and observers on October 17th, 2012

Research: 2nd International Conference on Sarcopenia



Under the auspices of IAGG's Global Aging Research Network (GARN), the Institute on Aging of the University of Florida will host the 2nd conference at the Hilton Grand Vacations Suites on International Drive in Orlando, Florida, USA on **December 6-7, 2012**.

Sarcopenia is the age-related phenomenon characterized by loss of muscle mass and strength which may consequently determine loss of function.

The Conference will focus on:

- Biological aspects
- Animal models
- Preclinical studies/ clinical trials
- Functional assessment
- Biomarkers & imaging
- New drug developments
- Physical exercises
- Nutrition intervention
- Epidemiology of sarcopenia

The preliminary program will include:

- Nutrition, anabolic agents & sarcopenia
- Modifiable risk factors for Sarcopenia & mobility disability,
- The role of sarcopenia on muscle performance
- Frailty & mobility decline
- Methodological issues of Sarcopenia trials
- Definition of sarcopenia in clinical trials
- Frailty & muscle metabolism dysregulation in the Elderly.

Register now !!!

More information on:

<http://www.icsr-sarcopenia.com>

Research: Longevity Prize 2013

Fondation Ipsen is a French scientific foundation created in 1983, developing mainly three types of activities: international meetings tracking progress in biomedical research, publications (proceedings, newsletters and brochures), prizes awarded in recognition of outstanding works in various domains. The Longevity Prize is awarded annually to biologists, geneticists, gerontologists, psychologists, demographers, statisticians, etc after selection by an international jury.



The 2013 Prize is awarded to Dr Gary RUVKIN (Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston) for his work on "Molecular Genetics of Longevity".

Abstract "Surveillance of conserved pathways in control of longevity, detoxification, and innate immunity in *C. elegans* and beyond". Many genetic and physiological treatments that extend lifespan also confer resistance to a variety of stressors, but the identity and contribution of underlying cytoprotective pathways to lifespan regulation are largely unknown. RNAi and toxin-mediated disruption of core cellular activities, including translation, respiration, and protein turnover, induces expression of detoxification and innate immune response genes in the absence of toxins or pathogens. These surveillance pathways also detect bacterial pathogens, many of which deploy toxins and virulence factors to disrupt these same host pathways. Variation in cellular surveillance and endocrine pathways controlling behavior, detoxification and immunity selected by past toxin or microbial interactions could underlie aberrant responses to foods, medicines, and microbes. Using a panel of GFP-fused stress response genes, we identified cytoprotective pathways upregulated by gene inactivations that increase *C. elegans* longevity. An RNAi screen for gene inactivations that disrupt the normal induction of these genes by xenobiotic or environmental stimuli, identified regulators of cytoprotection. Inactivation of a significant fraction of these genes shortens the extension of longevity normally induced by decreased insulin signaling, disruption of mitochondrial function or dietary restriction, but has little effect on normal longevity. These data demonstrate that induction of cytoprotective pathways is central to longevity extension.

Biography Gary Ruvkun is a professor of genetics at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Ruvkun is a graduate of UC Berkeley (AB, Biophysics, 1973) and Harvard (PhD Biophysics, 1982). Dr. Ruvkun's research has explored two major themes: the role of small RNAs, including microRNAs, in regulation of developmental and physiological processes, and control of longevity and metabolism by insulin and other endocrine pathways. These studies have revealed a neuroendocrine system that surveils and detoxifies antagonists to conserved elements of cells.

Education: IAGG symposium in Doha, Qatar

IAGG organized a symposium in Doha, Qatar on September 21st, 2012 on “Promoting healthy aging by fighting against sarcopenia and frailty”. The aim of the meeting was to raise awareness in the Middle East about sarcopenia and frailty, two major age-related disorders.

Speakers such as Dr. Abdul ABYAD (Lebanon), Dr. Hashim BALUBAID (Saudi Arabia), Prof Giovanni GAMBASSI (Italy), Prof Palmi JONSSON (Iceland), Prof Jean-Pierre MICHEL (Switzerland) and Prof Miel RIBBE (Netherlands) participated to the event. They presented updated definitions of frailty and sarcopenia, last findings on “Nutrition, ageing and longevity” and debated on “Is sarcopenia the equivalent of physical frailty?” Up to 60 healthcare professionals including geriatrics, family physicians, doctors, nurses and pharmacists from across the Middle East, as well as Iran and Lebanon, took part in the event hosted by the Hamad Medical Corporation’s Geriatric Department.

IAGG would like to thank all the contributors of this event, namely

- Prof Jean-Pierre MICHEL (Switzerland), EUGMS President and IAGG Ambassador to the Middle East, for his constant support and input
- Dr Abdul ABYAD (Lebanon), Prof Palmi JONSSON (Iceland), Prof Jean-Pierre MICHEL (Switzerland), Prof Miel RIBBE (Netherlands) Prof Giovanni GAMBASSI (Italy) for their high level scientific contribution
- Dr Abdul ABYAD and Dr Marwan RAMADAN (Qatar) of Hamad Medical Corporation in Doha for their excellent organization.



Education: 2nd Master Class on Ageing - a short report

The second IAGG Master Class on Ageing was held on August 29-31, 2012 in Hong Kong at the Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, of the University of Hong Kong. It was organized with the support of the Research Centre of Heart, Brain, Hormone & Healthy Aging, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong and Hong Kong Geriatrics Society.

The Master Class on Ageing (MCA) aims to foster the networking of geriatric medicine in Asia and provide intensive training for young geriatricians with research potentials in the fields of ageing and geriatric medicine. Designed for international young geriatricians with research potentials to develop their career and to establish their future research network, the 2nd Master Class in Asia brought together 8 international tutors who accepted to share their knowledge. The outstanding course was attended by 37 young geriatricians coming from 8 different Asian countries (among them, 4 came from Continental China). The scientific quality of the research posters was excellent, which made the identification of the 5 best projects very difficult.

So, on behalf of the IAGG, we would like to express our warmest thanks to the Organizers and invited speakers for their wonderful participation. Our Organization greatly appreciated all the hard work undergone to make this Course a high-level educational event. May this success be a milestone for future development and promotion Geriatric research in Asia. In view of the general enthusiasm, **IAGG’s 3rd Master Class on Ageing will take place in 2013**. More information will be available soon.



Master Class tutors



Master Class tutors & participants

IAGG & the United Nations



The Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWG on Ageing) Protecting the rights of older persons at the United Nations

The third substantive session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing took place in New York on 21-24 August, 2012. Prof. Alain FRANCO, IAGG Secretary General & Vice President in charge of UN affairs and Ms Laura MACHADO, IAGG Coordinator for UN affairs, represented our Organization during the conference with the assistance of IAGG's local UN team: Juanita CARRILLO, Martha BIAL, Hans STOHRER.

The Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWG) was established by the General Assembly by resolution 65/182 on December 21, 2010 with the aim to consider the existing international framework of the human rights of older persons and identify possible gaps and how best to address them, including by considering, as appropriate, the feasibility of further instruments and measures.

The 1st session was held in April 2011, the 2nd session in August 2011. The agenda of the 3rd session was designed in 4 panels: Age discrimination - Autonomy, independent living and healthcare - Life in dignity, social security and access to resources - Abuse and violence. All Members States and Civil Society discussed the existing international framework of the human rights of older persons and identify possible gaps and how best to address them according to these central issues.

A total of 44 Member States and 3 regions (European Union, ECLAC and Africa Union represented by Burkina Faso) expressed a number of statements. In general, two strong opposite positions were represented:

- Member States from Europe and European Union expressing clearly that the existing international framework was sufficient to protect the rights of older persons and there was no need for other instruments. An international convention would take a lot of time and it would be costly
- Latin America Member States declaring that there were existing gaps in the national and international instruments and that they were in favor of an International Convention for the Rights of Older Persons and/or a Special Rapporteur. They argue that older persons have their specificity and the existing mechanism do not protect older persons' rights and also that a convention would reinforce those already existing globally

A bigger participation of Member States from Africa and Asia was reported during the 3rd OEWG, despite the fact that most of them were not clear about their position. Civil Society attendance also increased during the meeting. Many NGOs expressed statements showing the violation on rights of older persons in their countries and regions.

The 3rd OEWG meeting points out that there is a will for
- the continuation of the process,
- the recommendation to Members States to actively participate on the review of Madrid International Plan of Action (MIPPA) in the Commission on Social Development in February 2013.

Civil Society organizations actively participated at the 3rd OEWG meeting, especially: IAGG, HelpAge International, INPEA, AARP, Age UK and Global Alliance. Global Alliance made a joint statement on the first day and IAGG representatives made four statements along the four days.

Conclusion: We still have a long way to go till the approval of an international instrument such as a Convention on the Rights of Older Persons but Civil Society has a fundamental role to play. Press and advocacy for the continuity of the discussing process, the feasibility of an international instrument to protect the rights of older persons until the adoption of a Convention for the Rights of Older Persons. Read the final report on IAGG website at: <http://www.iagg.info>



Participants at the Open Ended Working Group on Aging during a morning briefing on August 22, 2012

Report from Laura MACHADO
IAGG International Coordinator for UN affairs

United Nations: 2nd review & appraisal of MIPAA

The review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action takes place every five years. Member States decided to use a unique process of review which involves a participatory “bottom-up” element involving civil society and older persons themselves. Following the review and appraisal at the national level, a regional level consolidation of information takes place, coordinated by the United Nations Regional Commissions: ECA, UNECE, ECLAC, ESCWA and UNESCAP. A global review will be presented during the 51st session of UN’s Commission for Social Development scheduled on February 6-15, 2013 at the UN Headquarters in New York.

The UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing was held on September 19-20 2012 in Vienna, Austria under the motto “Ensuring a society for all ages: promoting quality of life and active ageing”. The conference gathered 300 participants (representatives from 56 member states: ministers, experts, researchers, practitioners, NGO-representatives from UNECE-member states, international organisations and civil society) from across the region to discuss the following points:

- Overview of the ageing situation in the UNECE region and brief report on global progress in MIPAA implementation
- Participation, non-discrimination and social inclusion of older persons
- Creating an enabling environment for health, independence and ageing in dignity
- Stimulating intergenerational dialogue and solidarity between the generations: A shared responsibility
- Ensuring a society for all ages: Promoting quality of life & active ageing - discussion and adoption of Ministerial Declaration

The UNECE Regional Forum of Researchers and Practitioners on Ageing was organized prior to the UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing. This Forum discussed how to strengthen links between policy and research to promote international synergistic collaboration between policy makers, researchers and civil society practitioners. The forum concluded with declarations that were presented at the Ministerial Conference to feed into the discussions there.

Prof Thomas Fruehwald (IAGG representative at the UN in Vienna, Austria) kindly accepted to represent IAGG during these two events and we thank him for his collaboration.

✉ For updates on the second review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) on all the regional levels (ECA, UNECE, ECLAC, ESCWA and UNESCAP) including the new documents that emanated from the UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing, please go to:

<http://social.un.org/index/Ageing/MadridPlanofActionanditsImplementation/ReviewandAppraisaloftheMIPAA/SecondReviewandAppraisal/Regionalreviewandappraisal.aspx>

United Nations and Global Alliance



The **Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People** held an Executive meeting on August 28, 2012 in New York. On this occasion, the nine founding NGOs welcomed Age PLATFORM Europe as a new member. The 10th member is a well-known NGO in Europe, representing the older persons of the community. AGE Platform Europe is a network of around 167 organizations and a well-known NGO in Europe. It is made of and for people aged 50+ and aims to voice and promote the interests of the 30 million senior citizens in the European Union and to raise awareness on the issues that concern them most. AGE joined forces with Global Alliance to call on governments to strengthen legally-binding standards on the rights of older people and develop adequate protection regimes.

- AARP
- Age Platform Europe
- Age UK
- Global Action on Ageing (GAA)
- HelpAge International
- International Association of Gerontology & Geriatrics (IAGG)
- International Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing (IAHSA)
- International Federation on Ageing (IFA) Global Alliance
- International Longevity Centre (ILC)
- International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA)

For more information on:

Global Alliance, you can contact info@rightsalliance.org or visit <http://www.rightsalliance.org>

AGE Platform Europe, you can contact info@age-platform.eu or visit <http://www.age-platform.eu>

The International Day of Older Persons 2012



The International Day of Older Persons was observed on **October 1, 2012**. This landmark was designated on December 14, 1990 by the United Nations General Assembly. For its 22nd anniversary, the theme is "Longevity shapes the Future". The NGO Committee on Ageing celebrated the event on October 1, 2012 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the United Nations in New York.

For background information on celebrations of the International Day in New York and Geneva as well as to access the message of the Secretary-General in all official UN languages, please visit:

<http://social.un.org/index/Ageing/InternationalDayofOlderPersons.aspx>

✉ To celebrate this event **IAGG European Region (IAGG-ER)**, along with the Geneva International Network on Ageing (GINA), the NGO Committee on Ageing, the Association of Former International Civil Servants (AFICS), organized on the October 1st, 2012 a Panel discussion titled "A plea for the active participation of older persons in development and globalization". It was presented by Mr. Robert MOULIAS, President, Allô Maltraitance des personnes âgées et/ou des personnes handicapées (ALMA France) and Ms. Astrid STUCKELBERGER, Chair, NGO Committee on Ageing and Secretary General of IAGG-ER, at the United Nations, Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.

Publications: United Nations Population Fund launched a landmark report on "Ageing in the 21st century"



On October 1st, 2012, UNFPA and HelpAge International will launch a landmark report, "**Ageing in the Twenty-First Century: A Celebration and a Challenge**". Three years in the making, the report includes contributions from UN agencies, civil society and 1,300 older persons from 36 countries. It includes new data, success stories and robust recommendations to help countries unlock the potential, wisdom and energy of the rising numbers of people over age 60. To access the report starting October 1st, please direct your Internet browser to <http://www.unfpa.org/public/home/publications/pid/11584>

Publications: UN-ECLAC publication on homecare of elderly, disabled and palliative care

In March 2012, the United Nations' Economic Commission of Latin America and Caribbean (ECLAC) published a report on "Cuidado y Subjetividad: Una mirada a la Atención Domiciliaria (Care and Subjectivity: A Look at Homecare)" which is the result of a consultation conducted during 2011. The document draws on the recommendations of the UN to define policies that meet the needs of autonomy of women, the elderly and persons with disabilities. It arises from the observation that there have been disciplines that have dealt with the study of care, but in Latin America and the Caribbean has been little research on the elderly, disabled and seriously ill.

Abstract

This research deals with the elderly, the disabled and the terminally ill (all of them going through critical losses such as roles, functions, health or life and their emotional implications), and their care-givers, during the processes of ageing, disability, illness, or care. The paper is concerned with the process of de-subjectivation (that is, the loss of subjectivity, the loss of the ability as subjects), and its recovery through home care. The ageing situation in Latin America and the Caribbean, and its implications on physical and mental disability are discussed. A brief analysis on what was learned in the field work as psychologist for Mexico's City Home Care Program for Vulnerable Population is presented and it goes on to concepts of care from the economic, philosophical and psychoanalytical approaches, as well as to those from care givers and care receivers. Finally some recommendations on public policy are advanced.

You can download the document in Spanish at: <http://www.eclac.org/cgi-bin/getProd.asp?xml=%20/publicaciones/xml/3/46313/P46313.xml&xsl=/mujer/tpl/p9f.xsl%20&base=/tpl/top-bottom.xslt>

OTHER IAGG NEWS (in chronological order)



November 14-18, 2012 - San Diego, UNITED STATES: The Gerontological Society of America (GSA) will organize their 65th annual scientific meeting in California. The last edition held in November 2011 in Boston, brought together more than 3500 scientists from both the United States and around the world, who participated in over 400 scientific sessions including symposia, paper, and poster presentations.

The theme for 2012 is “Charting New Frontiers in Aging.” Charting implies connections - within and across disciplines, professions, individuals, cohorts, generations, systems, environments, cultures and nations. The programme is organized around the four sections of the GSA: Biological Sciences, Behavioral & Social Sciences, Health Sciences, Social Research, Policy & Practice.

Website: <http://www.geron.org/annual-meeting>



September 11-13, 2013 - Oxford, UNITED KINGDOM : The British Society of Gerontology will organize its 42nd annual meeting and it will be hosted by the Oxford Institute of Population Ageing at the University of Oxford on the theme “Global Ageing: Implications for Individuals and Society”. The conference will include topics such as: Health and Care, Society and Economy, Research, Methods & Training, Cultural Ideas and Values.

Contact: angelika.kaiser@ageing.ox.ac.uk **Website:** will be launched on December 1st, 2012



2014, Chungli City, TAIWAN: The ISG2014 conference will be hosted by the Yuan Ze University's Gerontechnology Research Center in Chungli City, Taiwan. After the 2012 edition that took place in Eindhoven, Netherlands, this new event will be based on the theme: “Culture and Social Diversity in Gerontechnology”. The exact date and more information will be available soon

Contact: mehsu@saturn.yzu.edu.tw **Website:** <http://isg2014.org/>



April 23-26, 2015 - Dublin, IRELAND: IAGG's European Congress: The Irish Gerontological Society (IGS) will host IAGG's 8th European congress in Dublin on April 23-26, 2015. The Congress theme “Unlocking the Demographic Dividend”, aims to tap into the growing awareness that gerontological research can help us to understand the collective and personal benefits that we gain from population ageing, a better understanding of the barriers to realizing the full potential of the Demographic Dividend, and the advances in gerontological science which allow these barriers to be overcome in the most effective way possible.

Contact: secretary@irishgerontology.com **Website:** <http://irishgerontology.com/events/iagg-er-2015/>



July 2017 - San Francisco, UNITED STATES: As member of IAGG's North America Region, the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) presented a bid to host IAGG's 21st World Congress in San Francisco, USA. The Council voted unanimously in favour of this candidacy in view of GSA's long experience in organizing major events and of the city's important conference facilities. The theme of this future milestone will be “Global Aging and Health: Bridging Science, Policy, and Practice”. Best wishes to the organizing committee...

Website: <http://www.geron.org>

OTHER NEWS WORLDWIDE (in chronological order)



October 29-31, 2012 - Monte Carlo, MONACO: The 5th edition of the meeting on Clinical Trials on Alzheimer's Disease (CTAD), will take place in Monte Carlo. CTAD 2012 will once again bring the key leaders involved in clinical trials to appreciate the full spectrum of AD from an asymptomatic stage through dementia, discuss the development of the next generation of Alzheimer's disease treatments as well as learn to harmonize the various neuro-imaging techniques and their analyses.

Alzheimer's disease is one of the most important health challenges worldwide. This conference will also focus on new results, actual and future methodological issues, disease-modifying outcomes, biomarkers, fundamental research, new therapeutics, biomarkers and impact on healthcare economy. CTAD will again be an opportunity to hear about the clinical experiences of international teams, exchange with your peers on the difficulties and challenges of Alzheimer's disease and take home some hands-on therapeutic and methodological tools to improve and reinforce AD clinical trials teams.

Contact: ctad@ant-congres.com

Website: <http://www.ctad.fr>



December 5-7, 2012 - Osnabrück, GERMANY: A Europe-wide conference on the need for international human rights instruments for older people is organized with the support of the European Commission, HelpAge Deutschland and HelpAge International, and by Age UK. Entitled "Strengthening the Rights of Older People Worldwide: Building Greater European Support", the high-level conference aims to generate a better understanding of the human rights issues facing older people globally and the role of European Union member states in achieving a global standard that protects the rights of all older people.

Contact: konferenz@helpage.de

Website: <http://www.helpage.de/aktuell.php?akt=konfer>



WDA Forum
World Demographic & Ageing Forum

August 26-29, 2013 - St Gallen, SWITZERLAND: The 9th World Democratic and Ageing Forum 2013 will take place at the University of St Gallen and will address the theme: "The Power of Demography - Destiny, Crisis or Opportunity?" As the leading platform to address demographic and ageing issues in an interdisciplinary way, it is the aim of the WDA Forum to stimulate the dialogue and networking among experts, organisations and interest groups engaged in the discussion concerning "Demographic Change". More information will be given later.

Contact: info@wdaforum.org

Website: <http://www.wdaforum.org>



October 4-6, 2013 - Istanbul, TURKEY: The International Federation on Ageing (IFA) is launching the International Istanbul Initiative on Ageing. This initiative aims to explore opportunities and innovative ideas as population ageing progresses specifically in the regions of the Middle East, Northern Africa and Eastern Europe. The initiative creates a global platform to engage government leaders, prominent industry members, NGOs, academics, and innovative thinkers to prepare for global ageing, which will impact these identified regions greatly in the coming years. Over \$50,000 (USD) in financial awards will be presented to the Age-Friendly innovations and the best overall paper of the congress with additional awards for the best paper in each theme.

Contact: atam@ifa-fiv.org

Website: www.ifa-fiv.org



REMINDER FOR ALL IAGG NATIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERS

In order to keep contact with your organization and to communicate efficiently with you, please do not forget to update the information related to your membership (number of members, name of council member(s), name of contact, e-mail & postal addresses, phone number & fax)

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