



HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM, 2017

Question posed to Portugal, upon presentation of its voluntary national report

My name is Sylvia Beales, representative of Gray Panthers, member of the Stakeholder Group on Ageing.

We commend Portugal for undertaking extensive civil society consultations focused on women, youth and the wider NGO sector. Your report promises to undertake new initiatives to increase basic income, education for all, measures to reduce poverty and assure inclusion, and access to all basic goods and services. What are the specific measures you will take, including in your data work, to ensure persons with disabilities, older persons, migrants and the volunteer sector are reached? How will the progress of these initiatives be measured?

Portugal's constitution emphasizes the principle of non-discrimination. We hope this includes action on discrimination based on age - older and younger populations as well as disability. As the numbers of older persons increase in line with the global mega trend of population ageing, the issue of ageism from cradle to grave (along with other discriminations) must be addressed in Portugal.

Of particular concern is that of ensuring healthy lives for all at all ages. Yet, at this HLPF, we note that the health concerns of older persons were not addressed at any official forum. Successful implementation of the SDG's depends on it.

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