

**Invitation to the official SGA side event at the  
United Nations High Level Political Forum 2021:**

**COVID-19 Pandemic: A Stress Test of Global Ageing**

Tuesday 6 July 2021

1:00 – 2:30 PM (EDT – New York)

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Older Persons have been among the first and hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. In many respects the pandemic could be viewed as a test of how prepared/or not Member States are for the rapidly ageing society. Pandemics disrupt and have the potential to drive change. Only a whole-of-society, whole-of-government approach can respond effectively to the dynamic challenges of this time. In his report, the Secretary-General presented new research on how longevity has the power to transform labour markets, economies and societies. The recently released WHO Global Report on Ageism show that one of two people hold ageist attitudes towards older people. This side event will focus on: Health and Long Term Care, Economic Development and Work and Technology in ageist environment during the pandemic.



**Welcome Remarks**

Ms. Erica Dhar, Co-Chair,  
Stakeholder Group on Ageing



**Moderator**

Dr. Jane Barratt, Secretary General,  
International Federation on Ageing



**Keynote Address**

Prof. Andrew Scott, Professor of  
Economics, London Business School



**Remarks**

H.E. Ms. Barbro Westerholm,  
Member of Parliament, Sweden



**Panelist**

Dr. Ad van Berlo, Chief Executive  
Officer and R&D Manager, Smart  
Homes



**Panelist**

Ms. Aura Sevilla, Programme  
Consultant for South East Asia and  
Older Workers, Women in Informal  
Employment: Globalizing and  
Organizing (WIEGO)



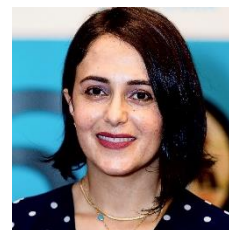
**Panelist**

Ms. Grace Chan, Business Director,  
Hong Kong Council of Social Service



**Special Respondent**

Mr. Steve S. J. Lee, Organizing  
Partner, Major Group for Children  
and Youth



**Closing Remarks**

Ms. Amal Abou Rafeh, Chief of the  
Programme on Ageing Unit, United  
Nations Department of Economic  
and Social Affairs (UN DESA)