

## UNGA Virtual Side Event

77<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly

### *Having a roof over one's head is not enough: older persons' right to adequate housing*

Co-organized by the mandate of the UN Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, UNDESA, the German Institute for Human Rights, AARP, INPEA, NGO Committee on Ageing.

Tuesday 4 October 2022

9:00-10:00 EST / 15:00-16:00 CET

Register here: <https://bit.ly/3xJNGuw>

#### **Background**

Older persons are the most heterogeneous of all age groups, and their needs and preferences must be taken into account. As they are the fastest growing age group worldwide, older persons' demands for adequate housing must become a priority for Governments. In her 2022 thematic report to the General Assembly, the UN Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, Dr. Claudia Mahler examines the right of older persons to adequate housing and sets out recommendations to States and other stakeholders to ensure the realization of that right for all older persons. Through an analysis from an older-age perspective of the seven criteria established by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights that must be fulfilled to ensure the right to adequate housing, the Independent Expert identifies several barriers to the realization of this right for older persons in her 2022 thematic report to the General Assembly. For a type of shelter to be considered adequate housing for older persons, all seven criteria must be met.

This side event will focus on the right to adequate housing of older persons and how to further advance and implement this right.

#### **Objectives of the side event**

- Disseminate the findings and recommendations of the Independent Expert's thematic report to the General Assembly
- Identify and share promising and good practices regarding the right of adequate housing for older persons
- Give a voice to civil society and other actors working on housing solutions for older persons rights

## **Programme**

Moderator: **Stephanie Firestone**, Senior Strategic Policy Advisor, Health & Age-friendly Communities, AARP International

Opening remarks: **Member state** (tbc)

Presentation of the report and in particular the findings and recommendations: **Claudia Mahler**, the UN Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons

Remarks on findings of the report and way forward: **Balakrishnan Rajagopal**, Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context

Comments from NGO representative: **Michael Kimuhu**, Mangu Integrated Community Project Kenya

Q&A session with audience with respondent from INPEA

Concluding remarks: **Angela Mwai**, Unit Leader, Human Rights and Social Inclusion Unit, UN Habitat