

### 3 Minute Statement

I speak on behalf of the Older Person's Partner Constituent Group of the General Assembly of Partners, representing 350 affiliated organisations working with, and on behalf of, over 500 million older people who live in cities across the world.

We welcome the commitments made in the Zero Draft to ensure, in line with the agreed Sustainable Development Goals, to leave no one behind. Older urban residents often face multiple forms of discrimination and marginalisation, restricted participation in decision making, inaccessible public transportation, barriers to the enjoyment of open and safe spaces, poor health due to pollution and sedentary lifestyles, low quality or inappropriate housing, and the absence of a secure and adequate income.

We therefore support acknowledgement in the Zero Draft of the need for adequate housing and accessible public spaces. We also support the clear role for stakeholders, including older persons, articulated in the Zero Draft.

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However we see a number of areas where the draft could be improved to better ensure our rights are promoted and protected throughout our lives including into older age.

The New Urban Agenda must recognise ageing as a key demographic trend that will shape cities dramatically over the next 20 years, requiring appropriate policies that ensure our rights are promoted and protected throughout our lives.

Therefore, the final paragraph in the preamble should be expanded to include a commitment to tackling discrimination based on older age.

With older urban residents most likely to suffer from non-communicable diseases, Paragraph 5 should also call for the creation of urban environments which foster physical activity, reduce indoor and outdoor air pollution responsible for over 7 million deaths a year, and provide access to healthy, nutritious and affordable foods to combat increasing rates of obesity, hypertension and diabetes.

Ageing should be mentioned alongside migration and displaced peoples in paragraph 24, and when discussing the value of diversity in cities in paragraph 40, we should also recognise that older people face discrimination on a daily basis.

At paragraph 113, we recommend a greater commitment to safe, affordable and accessible public transportation systems, and support calls for a significant transformation from the current pattern of car oriented to people oriented development that prioritises walking and improves mobility and public spaces for all.

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The Older Person's Partner Constituent Group and its members are committed to contributing to the New Urban Agenda with recommendations based on consultations with older people living in urban areas in high, middle and low income countries and continuing work to ensure inclusive and participatory implementation.

We are committed to ensuring that the unique perspectives and experiences of older age are reflected in the outcome document so that cities are more inclusive, promote and protect our rights throughout our lives, and crucially leave no one behind.