Commission for Social Development
Forty-ninth session
9-18 February 2011
Agenda item 3 (b) (iii)
Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:
review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:
Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Commission, Ms. Olisa Cifligu (Albania), on the basis of informal consultations

The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Modalities for the second review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that, in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,1 adopted by the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002, the systematic review of its implementation by Member States was requested as being essential for its success in improving the quality of life of older persons,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 2003/14 of 21 July 2003, it invited Governments, the United Nations system and civil society to participate in a bottom-up approach to the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action,

Bearing in mind that, in its resolution 42/1 of 13 February 2004, the Commission for Social Development decided to undertake the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action every five years,2

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Recalling that, in its resolution 2010/14 of 22 July 2010, it decided that the procedure for the second review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action would follow the set procedure of the first review and appraisal exercise, further decided to conduct the second global review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action in 2013 at the fifty-first session of the Commission for Social Development and endorsed the theme “Full implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing: social situation, well-being and dignity, development and the full realization of all human rights for older persons” for the second review and appraisal exercise,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 65/182 of 21 December 2010, on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing, by which the Assembly established an open-ended working group, open to all States Members of the United Nations, for the purpose of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons by considering the existing international framework of the human rights of older persons and identifying possible gaps and how best to address them, including by considering, as appropriate, the feasibility of further instruments and measures,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the modalities of the second review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,3

1. Endorses the timeline for carrying out the second review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General;3

2. Invites Member States to identify actions they have taken since the first review and appraisal exercise, with the aim of presenting this information to the regional commissions during 2012, and invites each Member State to decide for itself the actions or activities it intends to review, utilizing a bottom-up participatory approach;

3. Encourages Member States to establish or strengthen a national coordinating body or mechanism, as appropriate, to, inter alia, facilitate the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, including its review and appraisal;

4. Also encourages Member States to utilize more fully, within their specific national circumstances, a bottom-up participatory approach to review and appraisal, and invites Member States to consider utilizing in their national review and appraisal exercise, if they so desire, a combination of quantitative and participatory qualitative data-gathering and analysis, including, where appropriate, sharing of best practices in such data collection;

5. Encourages the regional commissions to continue to facilitate the review and appraisal exercise at the regional level including through consultation with relevant regional bodies, as appropriate, by:

(a) Promoting networking and the sharing of information and experiences;

(b) Assisting and providing advice to Governments in the gathering, synthesis and analysis of information, as well as in the presentation of the findings of national reviews and appraisals;

(c) Providing an analysis of the main findings, identifying key priority action areas and good practices and suggesting policy responses by 2012;

6. Requests the United Nations system to continue to support Member States in their national efforts for review and appraisal by providing, upon their request, technical assistance for capacity-building;

7. Encourages the international community, including international and bilateral donors, to enhance international cooperation, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, to support national efforts to eradicate poverty in order to ensure sustainable social and economic support for older persons, including by strengthening national capacity in the area of policy development and implementation with regard to older persons, while bearing in mind that countries have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development;

8. Encourages Member States and United Nations organizations, where appropriate, to provide support to regional commissions in facilitating the review and appraisal process and organizing regional conferences to review national review and appraisal results in 2012;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission for Social Development at its fiftieth session, in 2012, a report including the analysis of the preliminary findings of the second review and appraisal exercise, together with the identification of prevalent and emerging issues and related policy options;

10. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its fifty-first session, in 2013, a report including the conclusions of the second review and appraisal exercise, together with the identification of prevalent and emerging issues and related policy options.