Allow me at the outset to thank the Office of the OHCHR organizing this meeting, pursuant to the Human Rights Council resolution 48/3, presented by Argentina, Brazil and Slovenia on this important right usually forgotten amid the mounting global challenges.

According to the Egyptian Constitution, the Egyptian Government guarantees the health, economic, social, cultural and entertainment rights of the older persons.

It also encourages civil society organizations to participate in the older persons care activities and has launched, in cooperation with a number of non-governmental organizations and international bodies, the Egyptian Paper on the Rights of Older Persons as the first national written document of the older persons' rights system.

The State takes into account the needs of the older persons while planning public utilities and provides social solidarity pension for the older persons who have no insurance pension or income. It developed social safety networks through “Karama” Program by providing pension for the older persons starting from 65 years or those who have impairment or chronic diseases.

As part of Egypt’s endeavors to promote Human Rights, including the rights of older persons, and pursuant to its undertakings made in the National Human Rights Strategy, Egypt is about to issue an integrated legislation to enhance the rights of the older persons.

The legislation stipulates for privileges and rights for older persons, given the political leadership's interest in providing them with the necessary care.

For instance, one of the important privileges stipulated in the new Law is providing the service for the delivery of their pension to their place of residence.

At the international level, Egypt led the African Group during the negotiation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing in 2002 and, during its previous chairmanship of the Group of 77 and China, put forward a draft General Assembly resolution on "Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing" to invite the United Nations to support the Open-ended Working Group on the Rights of Older Persons, which was then adopted by consensus.

Following the discussions yesterday and today, I would like to emphasis on one of the main issues raised which is the use of assistive and automated technology and its related challenges and opportunities for older persons' full enjoyment of their human rights and the full realization of their needs and living requirements.

The accelerated technological development in today's world draws our attention, to the need to close the widen gap between developed and developing countries through technical cooperation, exchange of expertise and provision of funding that aims to providing older persons everywhere with assistive technology in a simplified manner at low prices that enable them to access and benefit from their full participation in all aspects of life.