

**Statement by Malaysia**

**Multi-stakeholder meeting on the human rights of older persons**

**Session 1: Limitations and gaps of selected human rights norms and obligations**

Malaysia appreciates views shared by the Panellists. Today’s meeting is indeed important and timely to accelerate global efforts in the promotion and protection of the human rights for older persons.

1. Malaysia remains committed to the welfare and needs of older persons. As Malaysia prepares to become an ageing nation by 2030, we have formulated the National Policy for Older Persons. The National Policy aims to empower individuals, families and communities through the provisions of effective and efficient elderly-friendly services. It also aims to provide a conducive environment for the well-being of older persons, by optimising their self-potential.
2. To this end, Malaysia is moving towards an inclusive, sustainable and community-based support system for older persons. This whole-of-society approach will encourage shared responsibilities between all relevant stakeholders in promoting the rights and well-being of older persons.
3. During COVID-19 pandemic, Malaysia has initiated several programmes to mitigate its impacts on our older persons. This includes develop guidelines on COVID-19 for residential aged care facilities, regular sanitisation and COVID-19 screening in these centres. The Government also provides financial assistance for the volunteers and registered NGOs in order to encourage plans and programmes from the grass root level for the older persons.
4. Given the limited resources and economic pressure faced by States at the post-COVID-19 pandemic period, we would like to hear thoughts from the Panellists on how can States approach the issue of financial constraints in upholding the human rights obligations for older persons.

Thank you.

**GENEVA**

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