**Intervention SNCHR, Session 2**

Slovak National Human Rights Centre exercises two different mandates - as a national human rights institution and as a national equality body within implementation of EU antidiscrimination framework. Based on our experience with human rights monitoring and preparation of the reports we can conclude the following:

* Although the interest and focus of treaty bodies and special rapporteurs on human rights of older people and intersectionality increases, we cannot confirm the same change on national level. There might have been an assumption that specific monitoring on older people would send a message to national governments that enjoyment of human rights by this group is equally a priority than by any other vulnerable group. However, this message didn´t come through and the reason might be that it wasn´t vocal enough.
* SNCHR confirms that older persons are, as a vulnerable group, mentioned in various strategic documents (e.g. related to climate adaptation and mitigation, health policy, social welfare policy). However, the level of incorporating the measures tackling real needs and challenges faced by this target group varies across sectors, there is no non-ageist approach or policy on the national level and there are scarcely any specific indicators, which would enable any authority to monitor the impact these policies have on the quality of life of older persons. Therefore, mentioning this group as one of vulnerable groups in strategic documents is only declarative.

In conclusion, SNCHR express an opinion that special binding document on human rights of older people would provide national governments and human rights bodies not only with extensive framework which would include all the aspects and human rights, definition of ageism and heterogeneity of the target group but also it would require national governments to collect reliable data, monitor, evaluate and implement data-based policies.

SNCHR believes that considering the mandate and experience, NHRIs are well equipped to contribute to the development of such binding document, uphold the mandate to monitor its´ implementation and promote and protect the rights of older persons.