

## Paving the Way to Open Ending Working Group on Ageing 11<sup>th</sup> session

*In conversation with Experts featuring H.E.Ms Maria del Carmen Squeff, Ambassador of Argentina to the UN and H.E. Mr Francisco Duarte Lopes, Ambassador of Portugal to the UN.*

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The COVID-19 pandemic continues to ravage the world with disproportionate and severe impact on older persons. According to WHO, 8 out of 10 COVID-19 deaths reported have been in people aged 60 years or over.

In his policy brief on the impact of COVID-19 on older persons, the UN Secretary-General stated that the lack of adequate legislation at the national level, together with the absence of a dedicated internationally-agreed legal framework, contributed to the vulnerability experienced by older persons and may have contributed at times to inadequate responses to the pandemic. Realizing the need for immediate impactful action, the Secretary-General also called for accelerated efforts of the General Assembly's Working Group to develop proposals for an international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons.

#Disrupt Aging campaign by AARP: it is a place to have a new conversation about how we want to live and age

What is aging? It is loving, going for it, living. Let us change what it means to age, every life matters....we must redefine what it means to age.

Older people must have the right to work and access to the labor market, the right to seek justice and take their case to the court, to access the justice system, not to be discriminated by age or gender, especially older women, and the right to healthcare and life.

Source [aarp.org/](http://aarp.org/) [un.org/](http://un.org/) International Federation on Ageing

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