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Road Map for Mainstreaming Ageing Armenia



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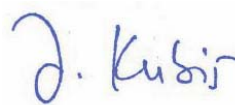
Foreword

The present volume is the first of UNECE's reports on country-level projects entitled Road Maps on Mainstreaming Ageing, undertaken in UNECE member States at the request of Governments. These projects aim to assist countries in translating the recommendations of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) and its Regional Implementation Strategy (RIS) into concrete actions relevant to the economic, social, cultural and political specificities of the given country, so that they can better implement these internationally-agreed commitments within the framework of their own national circumstances. The central tenet of the Road Maps is 'mainstreaming' ageing – that is, ensuring that matters related to population ageing and to the interests of older persons are considered in all policy areas.

The report represents the culmination of a wide-ranging project based on the principle of participatory policy development, involving interviews with a broad range of stakeholders, detailed reviews of existing policies and programmes, and close consultation with Government. In the case of Armenia, the development of the Road Map took place alongside the country's development of a National Strategy on Ageing. The Road Map therefore fed into this strategy, helping to ensure that it was in compliance with MIPAA/RIS.

Armenia, the first country to work with UNECE in developing a Road Map for Mainstreaming Ageing, faces a constellation of challenges: the demographic changes associated with longer lives and smaller families; the large-scale emigration of working-age people out of the country; and the continued process of transition to a market economy, especially keenly felt in the context of the economic crisis. Against this background, the Road Map provides recommendations relating to a variety of policy areas, including integration and participation of older persons, social protection, health, housing, lifelong learning and the labour market.

It is expected that this report will be useful in supporting policymakers and representatives of civil society – both within Armenia and in other countries of the region – in their efforts to take on the challenges posed by population ageing, and that it will encourage countries to review and develop their national strategies on ageing in line with the internationally agreed commitments.



Ján KUBIŠ

Executive Secretary

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Contents

Foreword	iii
List of abbreviations	vii
List of experts	vii
Executive summary.....	ix
Statement by Armenia.....	xi
Introduction.....	1
Method.....	1
Chapters	
I. Background information: Armenia	3-4
A. History	3
B. Economy.....	3
C. Labour market.....	4
D. Population and demographic trends.....	4
II. The policy framework: overview of existing laws and regulations	7-10
A. Introduction.....	7
B. Government action plan.....	7
C. Government anti-crisis action plan.....	7
D. Strategy on demographic policy	7
E. Pension reform programme and pension reform implementation schedule	8
F. Law on state allowances.....	8
G. Law on social assistance.....	8
H. National programme to improve home-based social services for single older persons and persons with disabilities	8
I. Procedures for providing care to older persons and persons with disabilities.....	9
J. Minimum standards of care and social services for older persons and persons with disabilities	9
K. Ensuring access to the social, transport and business infrastructure for persons with disabilities	9
L. Conclusion: ageing in the Armenian policy agenda	10
III. Observations of the field study and recommendations	13-28
A. Introduction.....	13
B. Ageing-related policies and their implementation	13
1. Integration and participation of older persons	13
(a) Economic integration	13
(b) Social integration	14
(c) Cultural integration.....	14
(d) Political integration.....	15
2. The image of older persons	15
3. Social protection.....	18
4. Health.....	19

5. Institutional care.....	20
6. Housing and independent living.....	21
7. Education	22
8. Labour market	22
9. Gender	23
10. Monitoring and evaluation of ageing-related policies	23
C. Institutional arrangements and allocation of responsibilities.....	24
D. Involvement of stakeholders	25
E. Research and data collection.....	26
F. Integration into international processes.....	26
G. Outlook: the road ahead	27

Annexes

I. List of documents reviewed.....	31
II. Questionnaire	33
III. List of interviewees	37
IV. Strategy on Ageing (2010)	39
V. Action Plan (2010).....	63

Sources	89-90
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List of abbreviations

CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
GDP	Gross domestic product
IMF	International Monetary Fund
MLSI	Ministry of Labour and Social Issues
MIPAA	Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing
NGO	Non-governmental organization
RIS	Regional Implementation Strategy
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WHO	World Health Organization

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