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Permanent Mission of Italy
UN - Geneva

54th session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive dialogue with the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons

15 September 2023

**Delivered by Ambassador Vincenzo Grassi,
Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in Geneva**

Interactive dialogue with the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons

Mister President, Madame Independent Expert,

Italy aligns itself with the EU statement.

As improved standards of living and decreased birth rates lead to a steady demographic change within the European region, Italy attaches increasing importance to the promotion of older persons' rights. Marking the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Aging, Rome hosted last year the fifth UNECE Ministerial Conference on Aging, aimed at fostering the conditions for longer and healthy working lives, combating ageism and discrimination, and recognizing older persons' contributions to our societies.

We particularly value your recommendation addressed to States to adopt comprehensive legislation tackling all forms of abuse against older persons. Last March, the Italian Parliament approved a new law for the adoption of policies in favour of the elderly, which aims at countering the risks of their isolation and marginalisation. The law also established a dedicated Interministerial Committee tasked with promoting an integrated planning of national policies on aging.

Italy remains committed to ensuring the dignity and the enjoyment of the human rights of older persons and to supporting this important mandate.

I thank you