Tuesday 16th April

1. Focus area: Education, training, lifelong learning and capacity-building

A panel with four expert speakers in the morning and a second panel with five experts in the afternoon debated this topic. Each panel was followed by an interactive debate.

From Twitter

@ejmccarron: ‘Referring to the digital barriers many older people face in accessing education and training, Christoph Angster from the Ministry of Labour: ‘We need a human rights framework which is fit for the digital world’ #OEWG10 #digitalinclusion’

Highlights

- The second day started late and included a morning session with four speakers and an afternoon session with five speakers all discussing the topic of education. There were far fewer Member States present than on Day One. A number of them intervened in the discussion.
- Older activists and NGOs became frustrated that they did not have an opportunity to speak on the first day and that only two NGOs were called on to speak in the morning panel discussion today.
- Towards the end of the afternoon session, the Chair called on several NGOs to speak in the discussion that followed the panel. GAROP activist Bertha Kijo from Tanzania shared her experiences of financing herself to attend university in older age and the discrimination she and other older women she has talked to face in accessing education.
- A number of NGOs are still hoping to make the general discussion statements tomorrow that they wrote for the opening session.
- There were four interesting side events today, including one organised by HelpAge Deutschland on social rights in older age and another on the normative elements on palliative care by IAHPC.

Watch live online at: http://webtv.un.org (from 10:00 EST)
UN website: https://social.un.org/ageing-working-group

Comments from our members:

‘It was great to hear Bertha’s statement this afternoon. Her story was a personal one, which makes it particularly powerful and relevant.’

Rose Gahire, NSINDAGIZA Organisation, Rwanda

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