Report on the International Forum on the Rights of Older Persons, Organized by the Government of Mexico City and the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Center (CELEADE)-Population Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC), United Nations held March 26-28, 2012.

More than 800 people examined a wide range of human rights issues facing older persons during this three day meeting. Here are the topics that experts laid out and the audience raised questions:

Equality and Non-Discrimination in Old Age
Integrity and Mistreatment of Older Persons
Access to Justice and Priority Care for Older Persons
Adequate Quality of Life, Social Services and Ageing
Women, Life-cycle and Human Rights
Participation of Older Persons in Political and Public Life
Progress and Challenges for the Protection of the Rights of Older Persons

After the meeting concluded, Delegates from the Member States of the Organization of American States met as the Working Group on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons to consider a preliminary draft for the Inter-American Convention on Protection of the Human Rights of Older Persons. NGO's were invited to sit in on this session and observe.

The very large Mexico City-based Institute for the Care of Older Persons in The Federal District revealed a number of imaginative services, such as a Debit Card for food purchases to assure sufficient food for elder Mexicans, a very large number of young people who are receiving onsite training and education to serve home-bound elders in the City, and more.

When you have a chance, visit and learn from these talented people; contact Rosa Icela Rodriguez Velazquez, Director General of the Institute for more information.

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