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## **Second Question – UN OEWOA International Longevity Centre - Canada**

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Good afternoon Mr. Chair and thank you for the opportunity to once again address this distinguished assembly.

I am going to be very short and concise.

It is with great enthusiasm and hope that I speak before you today – Under the leadership of the International Longevity Centre Canada and the International Longevity Centre Global Alliance... Throughout the last three days, we have heard from numerous nations, NGOs and NHRIs – we have heard about the many challenges that older persons face around the world.

More than ever, it is clear we need a legally-binding international convention to protect the rights of older persons...

We cannot afford to wait... no Member-State can afford the price of inaction.

That is why I encourage all of you in this honourable assembly to advocate for a Convention on the Rights of Older People, and to urge your respective governments to act now. ILC Canada has been putting words into action- Today ILC Canada / Life Research Institute sent a letter to the Canadian government. The letter has been co-signed by 46 NGOs/and experts on aging – national and international organizations, and we urge our government to step forward and lead the movement for a United Nations Convention on the Rights of Older Persons.

Rest assured that civil society in Canada will be working hard for this goal. We are very hopeful that our government, and all governments, will act decisively to support this important segment of society, a segment we all hoped to join, our older persons.

Thank you Chair.