Rosy Pereyra  
President ILC-DR  
Vice-President INPEA

1. To start, the name should reflect that we are talking about an action with a life course perspective. In our opinion, it should say “Global Plan of Action to strengthen the role of the health system to address interpersonal violence throughout the life course and very particularly against women and children”.

2. In 1.2 Overview of the global situation, a paragraph about older adults should be included because violence is very common in that part of the population including institutional violence that is extremely common and so, should not be ignored.

3. In Health consequences as well. Depression, physical injuries, ill health, sexually transmitted diseases, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorders are common in older women victims of violence.

4. In figure 1. Magnitude of interpersonal violence. I really do not know where you could have gotten the data related to older population and we think it is extremely low in comparison with any data we have.

5. In Figure 2. The graphic should include older adults

6. In 2.7 older adults organizations and INPEA, should be mentioned.

7. In 2.8. The role of WHO Secretariat. I think it is time for the Secretariat to be aware of the age-quake we are facing and realize that in a shorter time than we expect, there will be more people over 60 than those under 15. It is now when we should plan ahead and take the necessary steps to respond to the needs of that population that deserves to have its human rights recognized.

8. In section 3. Actions for Member States, national and international partners, and the WHO Secretariat. In paragraph 2, we should remember that older adult’s victims of violence become a burden to the health system more frequently than other population groups so we should take them into account.

9. We should have prepared a section on Violence against older adults the same as we did with women and children. It is necessary at this stage with the existing proportion of older adults and their vulnerability. Frequently, older adult’s victims of violence are not recognized as such by hospital personnel.

10. In Strategic Direction 4: Improve Information and evidence of Violence. We should as well strengthen routine reporting and collect regular data on violence against older adults especially because the victims of violence are generally women.

11. We should establish targets and indicators for the older population as well.

12. Finally, we think that the idea of violence throughout the life course is not sufficiently emphasized and the document fails to include older adults even when you vulnerable groups are mentioned in page 40.

Just a reminder that WHO should be an organization for all people around the globe and a growing population like the older one should not be left out in any action taken by that organization.