

36th United Nations International Day of Older Persons The Age of Longevity: Rethinking Systems for Longer Lives

Thursday, 8 October 2026 | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
 ECOSOC Chamber (tbc), United Nations Headquarters, New York

[The Programme](#)

Opening Session	
Welcome	William Smith, Chair, NGO Committee on Ageing in New York Arjanita Elezaj, Chair of the UNIDOP 2026 Programme Sub-Committee, NGO Committee on Ageing in New York
Opening Remarks	H.E. Mr. Francisco Fabian Tropepi, Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations H.E. Mr. Roberto Ampuero Espinoza, Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations and Chair of the Group of Friends of Older Persons H.E. Mr. Abdulaziz M. AlWasil, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations and Chair of the Group of Friends on Ageing and Sustainable Development

Keynote Address	
Keynote	Haleh Nazeri , Lead, Longevity Economy, World Economic Forum

Fireside Chat: Ageing, Accessibility, and the Private Sector	
Speakers	Amal Abou Rafeh, Chief, Programme on Ageing, UN DESA Briana Gilmore, Head of Global Accessibility Policy, Uber Technologies Inc Jonathan Perry, Population Affairs Officer, UN DESA

Special Presentation: Defeating Dementia	
Speakers	Chris Durrance, Filmmaker, Founder of Seven One Eight Studios Linde Lee Jacobs, Registered Nurse, Co-Founder of Cure MAPT Frontotemporal Dementia, featured in <i>Defeating Dementia</i>

Panel Discussion: Rethinking Systems for Longer Lives	
Moderator	Gregor Sneddon , Secretary General, International Federation on Ageing
Panelists	Emilio Umeoka, Stanford Center on Longevity Ambassador, The New Map of Life Initiative Dr. Linda P. Fried, Dean Emerita, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, Director, Robert N. Butler Columbia Aging Center



	Dr. Olubusayo Akinola, Head of Social Welfare, Drug Control, and Crime Prevention Division, African Union Ronald D. Lee, PhD, Founding Director, National Transfer Accounts Network, Professor Emeritus of Demography and Economics, University of California, Berkeley
Interactive Dialogue	Open floor discussion with participants

Closing Session	
Closing Remarks	Masumi Ono , Chief of Service, Social Development Division, DESA