

## **Press Release: IFA Support for the Decade of Healthy Ageing 2020–2030**

6 February 2020

Geneva, Switzerland - The 146<sup>th</sup> session of the World Health Organization Executive Board is currently taking place at WHO headquarters in Geneva, 3-8 February 2020. At this meeting, members will agree on the agenda and resolutions to be considered at this year's World Health Assembly.

Dr Jane Barratt, Secretary General of the International Federation on Ageing (IFA) is attending the meeting to input into the Board's considerations for [EB146/23](#), specific to the development of a proposal for a Decade of Healthy Ageing 2020–2030

In Dr Barratt's statement to the Executive Board she stated, "Member states around the world are to be congratulated for formally recognizing and requesting the now presented proposal for a Decade of Healthy Ageing. Consultation and engagement with member states, UN agencies, international bodies, people of all ages as well as some 300 members of civil society across sectors and disciplines is significant, unprecedented and a powerful demonstration of the need for collective action".

"The four action areas reflect the most challenging and urgent needs of not only our time but for future generations of older people. The way we think, feel and act – prejudice, stereotyping and discrimination based on age is a lens through which we can all view how to: develop communities that foster abilities; connect integrated care and health services; and provide systems of long term care across the spectrum of functional ability".

"The Decade of Healthy Ageing must be a unifying period of action that brings together the power and influence of not only Member States but those who work alongside and with current and future generations of older people. Connecting unlike voices across sectors and disciplines at local, national, regional and global levels will lead to sustained and committed action to positively change social norms and attitudes that benefit all ages".

"The International Federation on Ageing as a committed non-state actor that works with and alongside older people requests Member States to endorse the proposal for the Decade of Healthy Ageing".

"We humbly urge all levels of government (alongside civil society) to socially and economically invest in this potentially game-changing decade so that the young of every nation can grow older in an inclusive and valued environment".

### **Media Contact**

For more information regarding the forum or interview opportunities, please contact Dr Jane Barratt at [jbarratt@ifa.ngo](mailto:jbarratt@ifa.ngo) or by phone on +1 647-401-7771.

## **About the International Federation on Ageing**

The International Federation on Ageing (IFA) is an international, non-governmental organization (NGO) with a unique membership base comprising government, NGOs, academics, industry, and individuals in over 80 countries. Now over 45 years old, the IFA has become known as a leading and innovative organization that works across disciplines and sectors toward common goals that improve the lives of older people. Through IFA's formal relations with the World Health Organization (WHO) and general consultative status at the United Nations and its agencies, the IFA is in the position to advocate directly with member states and contribute to and inform intergovernmental dialogue.