The Gray Panthers Movement Roars Ahead in the Global Fight Against Pervasive Ageism

Convincingly Delivered Action Plans at the United Nations 2018 High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development – Another Gray Panthers Milestone at the Global Scale

NEW YORK, New York, July 18, 2018 – In its relentless global fight against pervasive ageism and advocacy for the rights of older people, with a burst of youthful spirit, the Gray Panthers Movement (www.graypanthersnyc.org), has today convincingly delivered its action plans at the United Nations 2018 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development.

Addressing Ambassadors and Ministers from member states participating at the U.N. HLPF, the Gray Panthers’ representative, Ms. Rachella Ferst, on behalf of the Stakeholder Group on Ageing, presented clear steps that U.N. member states must take to address and remedy the growing global problem of ageism. The Gray Panthers recognised and applauded Singapore’s exemplary commitment and programmes successfully implemented in addressing the urgent concerns of older persons and persons with disabilities in cities.

“We welcome that Singapore puts response to ageing, to older persons and persons with disabilities, as central to Sustainable Development Goals implementation. This is an example to others, as inadequate visibility has been given to older persons and those with disabilities in most national implementation plans,” Rachella Ferst said, addressing the Singapore delegation.

The Voluntary National Review (VNR) presented by the Singapore delegation is forward-looking and speaks of collaborations for development. The VNR states that, “We ourselves have benefitted and continue to benefit from the generous sharing by others of their own development experiences. We are
thus committed to strengthening the global partnership for sustainable development, including through our technical assistance initiative.”

Prompted by questions posed by Rachella Ferst, the Gray Panthers’ representative, members of the Singapore delegation and staff approached Ms. Ferst to discuss and elaborate on Singapore’s current programmes and plans for practical implementation of SDG 11 on a long-term basis, its goals, and targets for addressing concerns of older persons, and persons with disabilities in cities.

Rachella Ferst, the Gray Panthers’ Representative at the 2018 U.N. High-Level Political Forum on Ageing, meets with members of the Singapore delegation

The Gray Panthers and other affiliated organisations intend to follow up on this collaborative opportunity to ensure that SDG 11 (Safe, Resilient and Sustainable Cities) is implemented meaningfully for older persons of today and tomorrow.

To watch the presentation Rachella gave at the U.N. HLPF, please click on the following link:

**Video of Rachella Ferst's Statement and Question to Singapore at the U.N.**

For further information, kindly contact

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