

Organization report March-September 2023

WD 2023, Kigali, March 2023



Thanks to the incredible support from Helpage International, the groundbreaking work of the gendered ageism assessment and the development of the Gender and Ageing Advocacy Framework have paved the way for an inspiring opportunity. Three remarkable older women, (Rose Gahire, Joyce Murenzi, and Theophila Nyirahonora), were empowered to attend the prestigious Women Deliver Conference 2023 in Kigali, held in March. This momentous gathering brought together influential stakeholders in gender and ageing, allowing for the exchange of experiences, the sharing of best practices, and the discussion of both triumphs and challenges. Additionally, the Helpage International and Age International delegation took advantage of this occasion to visit NSINDAGIZA's impactful activities, including the Elderly Support Group in Masaka Sector, Kicukiro District.

UN OEWG, NYC, April 2023



NSINDAGIZA Organization, as an accredited member of the UN Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWGA), had the opportunity for Mr. Elie Mugabowishema, the President of the Organization, to participate in the 13th session of the UN OEWGA in New York City in April 2023. It was a historic moment as he was supported by the Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People. During the session, he had the chance to meet with the team from the Permanent Mission of Rwanda to the UN, who appointed a staff member to participate as well. We commend the initiative taken by the Government of Rwanda, National Commission for Human Rights, and NSINDAGIZA Organization for their written submission to the OEWGA 13. It's amazing to see such dedication and collaboration for the rights of older people.

The most important thing is that at the 13th session of the OEWGA on 3rd-6th April 2023, Member States adopted a decision by consensus that proposes the convening of informal consultations during the intersessional period between the OEWGA's 13th session in 2023 and 14th session in 2024 to comply with General Assembly resolution 65/182, which requested the

OEWGA to consider “the existing international framework of the human rights of older persons and identifying possible gaps and how best to address them, including by considering, as appropriate, the feasibility of further instruments and measures”.

Elie Mugabowishema, representing civil society, was nominated by the Stakeholder Group on Ageing to participate in the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) in New York City in July 2023. He had the incredible opportunity to make a short presentation on behalf of the Stakeholder Group on Ageing. And guess what? The Government of Rwanda was presenting its Voluntary National Review (VNR) at the same HLPF! It must have been an inspiring and impactful event, bringing together different stakeholders to discuss the progress of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Universal Health Coverage High Level Meeting, NYC, September 2023



In September, the UN General Assembly in New York hosted three significant high-level meetings (HLMs) focused on health. These included a HLM on Universal Health Coverage

(UHC), a HLM on Pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response (PPPR), and a HLM on Tuberculosis (TB).

These meetings brought together all 193 UN Member States, creating a platform for governments and stakeholders to reignite efforts towards achieving health for all. It was an invaluable opportunity to collaborate and accelerate progress in delivering accessible and comprehensive healthcare worldwide.

The political declarations adopted at the UN high-level meetings hold immense global significance, as they establish a comprehensive framework for action at the national level. These declarations serve as a powerful tool for citizens to hold their governments accountable. It's truly remarkable that Ms. Rose Gahire had the opportunity to participate in the HLM on Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Prior to the meeting, NSINDAGIZA dedicated months to advocacy efforts, aiming to shape the political declarations to effectively address the needs of older people worldwide. Additionally, it is a great honor that Rose Gahire, as the Vice President of NSINDAGIZA, was elected as a steering group member of GAROP, a coalition of over 400 organizations globally, passionately advocates for the UN Convention on the Rights of Older People. These achievements reflect the dedication and impact of NSINDAGIZA in promoting the rights and well-being of older people.

Global Ageing Conference, Glasgow, September 2023



The Global Ageing Network's bi-annual global conference (GAC) is a remarkable event that takes place in various locations worldwide. This year, in September 2023, the conference was held in the captivating city of Glasgow, Scotland. Elie Mugabowishema, the esteemed President of

NSINDAGIZA Organization, was generously supported by the Commonage Association and the Global Ageing Network to attend the GAC, as well as the Commonage Association's General Meeting and 10th Anniversary celebration. The GAC attracted an impressive gathering of approximately 500 participants from 48 different countries, all coming together to delve into discussions surrounding the rights and well-being of older people in diverse contexts. It served as an invaluable platform for sharing experiences and fostering global collaboration.

Following the Global Ageing Network's conference in Glasgow, Elie Mugabowishema continued his impactful journey by joining Age International in London. There, he actively participated in ageing campaigns, advocating for the UK government's support in ensuring the inclusion of older individuals in Universal Health Coverage. In line with this objective, Elie presented an open letter to the UK Ministry of Foreign Affairs on behalf of civil society organizations, both within and outside the UK. This experience also provided him with valuable opportunities to engage with various partners, including the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) in Scotland and London, the Commonwealth Foundation, the Age International Board

meeting, the Helapage International team, and notably, the newly appointed Helapge CEO, Mr. Charian Mathiews. These meetings were made possible through the dedicated efforts of the Age International team, and I would like to extend my gratitude to Alison Marchall, CEO of Age International, Ken Bluestone, and the entire team. The collaboration and networking displayed throughout this journey exemplify the unity and collective efforts of stakeholders in advocacy and raising awareness at all levels.

Elie Mugabowishema,

President of NSINDAGIZA Organization