



Care Work and Caregivers: Global Challenges and Regional Perspectives for Inclusive Social Development

Concept Note – CSocD64 (11th of February 2026)

Conference Room 4 , United Nations HQ.

I. Context and Background

Care work—both paid and unpaid—sustains life, wellbeing, and the social and economic functioning of all societies. Yet across regions it remains largely invisible, feminized, and undervalued. In Chile, for example, unpaid care work represents a significant share of the extended GDP, reflecting broader structural patterns observed in Latin America, Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean.

The responsibility for caring for dependent persons—children, older persons, persons with disabilities, autistic persons, and persons living with chronic illnesses—continues to fall predominantly on women, often without adequate legal recognition, social protection, or coordinated public support systems. This structural inequality contributes to persistent poverty, social exclusion, and heightened human rights vulnerabilities, while simultaneously sustaining economies and social cohesion.

In this context, the 64th Session of the United Nations Commission for Social Development (CSocD64) provides a critical platform to advance care work as a central pillar of social development and social justice, in line with the main UN theme “Promoting Social Development and Social Justice through Coordinated, Equitable



and Inclusive Policies” and the emerging issue “Eradicating Poverty and Ensuring Dignity through Resilient Care and Support Systems.”

II. Purpose of the Forum

The forum aims to advance global dialogue on care work and caregiving as a human rights issue and a cornerstone of social development and social justice, while also recognizing the role of culture, arts, and inclusive forms of expression as complementary tools for dignity, participation, and social inclusion.

By integrating policy dialogue, legal perspectives, and cultural expression, the forum seeks to promote resilient care and support systems that contribute to poverty eradication, uphold human dignity, and strengthen social cohesion, particularly for caregivers, persons with disabilities, autistic persons, and older persons.

III. Rationale for the Seminar

Despite its essential contribution to societies and economies, care work remains insufficiently recognized in public policy, legal frameworks, and social protection systems. This gap undermines the rights, wellbeing, and economic security of caregivers and those who receive care.

In response, the African Bar Association Human Rights and Constitutional Law Committee proposes an inter-regional forum aligned with CSocD64 to examine care work from a human rights-based, legal, and policy perspective, while also acknowledging the importance of accessible cultural and artistic expression as a means to reduce isolation, foster participation, and amplify marginalized voices.



This integrated approach reinforces care work not only as a social and economic necessity, but also as a human-centered practice grounded in dignity, expression, inclusion, and justice.

IV. General and Specific Objectives

- **General Objective**

To advance global understanding of care work as a human rights issue and to support inter-regional strategies that strengthen the protection, resilience, and recognition of caregivers through coordinated, equitable, and inclusive policies.

- **Specific Objectives**

- To present selected regional experiences on care work, including Chile as a Latin American case, with a focus on legal frameworks, public policy advocacy, and community-based approaches.
- To highlight perspectives from Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean on care-related public policies, legal protections, and community support systems.
- To examine the impact of digital violence, online harassment, and misinformation on women caregivers and leaders engaged in care advocacy.
- To foster international and inter-regional alliances grounded in human rights that contribute to the development of resilient care and support systems.
- To recognize culture, arts, and music as complementary tools for social inclusion, dignity, and accessible expression.



V. Methodology

The forum will be conducted as a half-day session in alignment with the CSocD64 agenda. It will include:

- A keynote address establishing the human rights and policy framework of care work.
- Regional presentations reflecting experiences from Latin America, Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean.
- An inter-regional dialogue and exchange among policymakers, legal experts, civil society organizations, and community representatives.

The forum may also include a complementary cultural and expressive segment, highlighting the role of arts and music as tools for social integration, emotional wellbeing, and accessible expression for caregivers and persons receiving care, including persons with disabilities and autistic persons. This segment will be framed within a human rights–based approach and will complement—rather than replace—the policy and legal dialogue.

VI. Expected Outcomes

- Strengthened global recognition of care work as a human rights issue and a foundation for social justice, poverty reduction, and sustainable development.
- Enhanced inter-regional cooperation on care policies, legal protections, and resilient support systems.
- Increased visibility of the lived experiences and leadership of caregivers, persons with disabilities, autistic persons, and older persons.



- Recognition of culture, arts, and music as complementary tools for social inclusion, dignity, emotional wellbeing, and accessible expression within care and support systems.
- Substantive contributions to the deliberations of CSocD64, integrating policy, legal, and cultural dimensions of care.

VII. Outcome Document

At the conclusion of the forum, an Outcome Document / Draft Initiative will be released, reflecting key discussions and recommendations.

The document will include:

- Policy recommendations to strengthen care and support systems for caregivers and care recipients.
- Commitments to advance coordinated, equitable, and inclusive care policies grounded in human rights.
- Recognition of culture, arts, and music as tools for social inclusion and dignity.



AFRICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION DU BARREAU AFRICAIN
رابطة المحامين الأفارقة
www.afribar.org "The barless voice of the Legal Profession"



- Encouragement of inter-regional cooperation, data sharing, and innovative approaches to improve accessibility and equity in care systems.

VIII. Launch of the UN Global Music Concert

The forum may serve as the symbolic launch of a proposed UN Global Music Concert, envisioned as a biennial cultural initiative promoting inclusion, dignity, and the right to expression for persons with disabilities, autistic persons, and other marginalized groups.

Framed within a human rights–based approach, this initiative highlights music and cultural expression as bridges for social connection, awareness, and solidarity, complementing policy and legal efforts to strengthen care and support systems worldwide.

IX. Suggested Slogans

English

- One World, One Dignity.
- Inclusive Care, Justice Within Reach.
- Diverse Voices, Shared Humanity.

Español

- Un solo mundo, una sola dignidad.
- Cuidados inclusivos, justicia al alcance.
- Voces diversas, humanidad compartida.

Chinese



- 同一个世界，同一个尊严。
- 包容性关怀，触手可及的正义。
- 多元声音，共享人性。

X. Establishment of the “Star of Inclusion” Award

The forum may propose the establishment of the “**Star of Inclusion**” Award, recognizing outstanding contributions to inclusive care, disability rights, cultural participation, and social inclusion.

The award would honor individuals, organizations, or initiatives demonstrating innovative and impactful approaches to advancing dignity, accessibility, and participation within care and support systems.

XI. Coordination and Partners

This event is coordinated by the African Bar Association Human Rights and Constitutional Law Committee, under the leadership of its Chair.

MUDECU Foundation (Chile) will serve as a co-coordinating organization, playing a prominent role in the conceptual development of the event, regional articulation, inter-regional dialogue, and delivery of the keynote address.

The initiative is carried out in collaboration with:



AFRICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION DU BARREAU AFRICAIN
رابطة المحامين الأفارقة
www.afribar.org "The barbers voice of the Legal Profession"



USA
HTTV



- The City Bar Association United Nations Committee
- Renew Our Earth
- U. A. Eze Consulting Inc.
- T.Y.Consulting , LLC

@2026 Dr. Ugoji Adanma Eze, Esq . All rights Reserved Unless Otherwise Agreed .