## Thanks, Otto! 125 years of pensions and new global perspectives

October 2014 Berlin Communiqué on pensions

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In the face of global demographic ageing, characterized by widespread poverty and rising inequality among the older population,

## The participants in the conference

- recognize the upcoming **Post-2015 Agenda** as an excellent opportunity to promote effective action and to raise awareness for the urgency of taking action to adapt to an ageing world and further strengthen the necessary social protection,
- acknowledge that old age poverty and income insecurity are global and complex realities which concern both developed and developing countries, and older and younger generations alike,
- confirm their shared commitment to ensure that all people can look forward to a secure and dignified old age,
- *support* the vision of **universal social protection for older populations** in all countries as a necessary means to combat poverty,
- *highlight* the need to develop **coherent and sustainable pension systems** that respond to the realities of the world today and in the future,
- *see* the progressive realization of a **social protection floor including reliable pensions** as a prerequisite for being able to lead a dignified life in old age,
- are aware that **poverty among older women** and their lack of access to pensions is a special concern,
- *acknowledge* that, given the diversity of national frameworks as well as regional and cultural contexts, there is **no one-size-fits-all solution**,
- *underline* that this diversity offers a **wide range of opportunities** to learn from the past and from each other,
- are confident that this **exchange in Berlin constitutes the basis for continued cooperation** in the field of sustainable pension systems in particular and on social protection in general,
- *emphasize* that it is only through **joint efforts** by academics, practitioners, governments, civil society and members of the private sector that we will be able to raise awareness for the issue of ageing,
- *call* therefore for **international cooperation among all stakeholders**, both from countries with long-established pension systems and from countries implementing new innovative approaches.

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