



ITALY

PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

DEPARTEMENT FOR FAMILY POLICIES

CSW 57 Session - 12 March 2013 3.00:6.00 p.m.
Conference room 2, North Lawn Building

Theme: Recognizing and valuing unpaid care work

- Mr. Francisco Guillén Martín (Mexico), Deputy Director, National Accounts, INEGI (National Statistics Office)
Satellite accounts of unpaid work in Mexico: Care and support at home
- Ms. Souad Triki (Tunisia), Economist, Gender and Development Expert and retired Senior Lecturer, University of Tunisia
Time Use Survey data from 2005 that has translated into concrete public policy in Tunisia
- Discussant: Ms. Paz Lopez, Technical Adviser, UN Women Mexico

Mr chairperson,

Distinguished panellists and delegates,

I will take the opportunity to take the floor in this segment just to mention the current debate, actions and proposals to approach the theme of caregiving, especially in the family context.

As confirmed by recent national data, Italy has one of the highest rate of population reporting to be informal carers. The percentage is around 26% and it concerns predominately women taking care of frail seniors.

The bulk of care responsibilities lies on the family and this can have strong implications in terms of equal opportunities and equal sharing of responsibilities.

Public policies at national and local level, have faced the issue, in particular, supporting long-term care services, assuring social protection benefits, home based care and offering vouchers to families to pay care services.

There is also an important debate to recognise, legally, the status of the family caregiver.

Furthermore, in line with 2009 agreed conclusions, the National Family Plan, adopted for the first time on June 2012, which sets general guidelines to all stakeholders in order to adopt efficient and comprehensive family policies, underlines the importance of unpaid care work, as social, cultural and economic value for the entire society that has to be recognised, valued and guaranteed.

In particular, the National Plan, recommends some interventions to be designed :

- Parental leave scheme for grand-parents;
- Family leave scheme
- Supporting the costs of children education
- Supporting paid caregivers others than family members
- Family vouchers

In this perspective, we have a road map which identifies some objectives to be developed in the future.