Annual Activity Report 2014-2015

1. Mission ILC-DR

1.1 Advance in the concept of healthy ageing reviewing actual knowledge and identifying areas of research that could help diminish the adverse effects associated with ageing.

1.2 To promote productive ageing

1.3 To fight age discrimination

2. Vision

2.1 Dedicated to the development of policies, our vision is basically to help individuals, Government, politicians and businessmen and women to visualize ageing in a positive and constructive way pointing out the contributions older adults make to society.

3. Research

3.1 Incidence of Sarcopenia in the older Population in the Community of Villas Agricolas. This is a community in Santo Domingo which has a high incidence of social and economic problems and their nutrition is compromised. We want to link the incidence of sarcopenia to problems of mobility, high frequency of hospital admissions and general ill health and once we prove that, encourage the intervention of the Ministry of Health and Social Assistance to create a program to improve nutrition and promote health. We are at this moment identifying the population in order to do the necessary studies to make the diagnosis. This research is still on going.

4. Activities.

We have declared 2015 as the year of advocacy to support the rights of our older adults to receive a non-contributory contemplated in our Social Security.

4.1 On the 13th of December, 2014 Dr. Pereyra was invited by the Dominican College of Medicine to dictate a conference on the Physical and Social Repercussions of the Osteo-muscular Problems in Old Age.
4.2 In February 2015, Dr. Pereyra was invited to Washington by WHO and PAHO to collaborate in the elaboration of a Strategy and Plan of Action to Strengthen the Health System to confront Violence. We emphasized the need to take into consideration the older population due to its vulnerability.

4.3 On April the 2nd Dr. during the commemoration of WHO World Health Day, ILC-DR organized an activity to bring the attention of the older adults and the society as a whole on the risks of food borne illnesses.

4.4 On WEAAD day, ILC-DR with the collaboration of the Dominican Network for Dignity in Old Age and the participation of representatives from the Public Prosecutor’s Office organized 4 conferences on the incidence of abuse and the steps that have been taken to bring the offenders to justice and protect the abused older adult.

4.5 On July 11th, Dr. Pereyra was invited by the Dominican Society of Psychiatry to give a conference on the Pharmacological Management of Older adults in Crisis

4.6 On the 30th of September, Dr. Pereyra and 2 other members of the Dominican Network for Dignity in Old Age were invited to lunch by Corripio’s Communication Group to talk about the situation of the older adult in the Dominican Republic. This is the most important communication group in the country and have 3 TV stations and 3 newspapers. On October 1st, newspapers were inundated with the information we gave them.

4.7 On the 1st of October, ILC-DR with the collaboration of the Dominican Network for Dignity in Old Age and the monetary contribution of Help Age International we organized a peaceful demonstration with the participation of 200 older adults to demand their pensions. The media coverage was spectacular and the most important thing is that as many as 20 of the older persons attending were interviewed and they really felt empowered.