**[Draft text to support your own personalised letter writing, as an individual citizen, to Australian parliamentarians/Ministers to advocate for a UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons]**

Dear ….

I am writing to voice my strong request that you and your government publicly state support for the creation of a UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons, within the current Parliament, and take the necessary steps in Australia and in the United Nations to make this a reality.

It is clear to me that ageism severely limits the human rights of older people. Even though there is supposedly no age limit on rights, older people are pushed to the margins as their status as citizens decreases with age. I see this denial of rights across many parts of our society – for example in employment, healthcare and aged care – and if there was ever any doubt about this, the treatment of older people across the world (including in Australia) during the COVID-19 pandemic has put that to rest.

I am not asking for special treatment for older people, just a correction in our approach to human rights that guarantees and delivers the same rights to those in later life that people of other ages receive. I have now become convinced that this will require a UN Convention specifically for this group of people and the commitment and will of the Australian Government to fight for it and then to adopt and implement it in our own country.

Can I count on you to stand up for this – to stand up for current and future older Australians and the value of older lives? I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

…….