# Ageing & Development

News and analysis of issues affecting the lives of older people Issue 30 / September 2011



## violence and abuse against older people. UN debates older people's rights

More needs to be done to protect older people's rights, but whether this means a convention or better use of existing mechanisms remains a topic of keen debate.

This was the outcome of the second session of the UN Open-ended Working Group on Ageing in New York on 1-4 August. Government representatives, civil society organisations and UN agencies discussed violence and abuse against older people, social exclusion and the rights to health, social security and freedom from discrimination.

The group was set up following the adoption of a landmark resolution on older people's rights at the UN General Assembly in New York in October 2010. Its main purpose is to identify gaps in the existing international framework in relation to older people's human rights and recommend how to strengthen the protection of older people's human rights.

A growing consensus emerged from the second session that older people's rights have been neglected, age discrimination

has remained unchallenged and older people's rights are not adequately protected.

However, there is still disagreement about exactly what needs to be done to better protect older people's rights. Some governments, mainly from Latin America, strongly support the creation of both a special rapporteur and a convention on older people's rights.

Others, including many in the European Union, believe that existing international human rights mechanisms can be used more effectively. They feel more evidence - including the outcome of the ten-year review of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (see page 3) - and more consensus across member states from all regions is needed.

Three older men and women -Teresa Minja from the Tanzania Social Protection Network, Salvacion Basiano from the Confederation of Older Persons' Association of the Philippines and Oldrich Stanek from Zivot 90 in the Czech Republic – were invited by the UN to speak on panels. They talked

vividly about violence, social protection and social exclusion in their countries, and urged governments to respond.

"It seems [governments] don't feel much urgency to do anything," says Salvacion Basiano. "Older people don't have the luxury of time. We can't wait that long!"

The working group has agreed to meet again in early 2012.

#### Find out more:

**Inside:** 

ageing; HIV summit outcome: Review of MIPAA; East Africa drought; Ageing and disability

must include older people

papers, books and reports

Open-ended Working Group on Ageing http://social.un.org/ageing-working-group

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## World Bank report on ageing

A new report from the World Bank focuses on demographic ageing in Latin America.

Population aging: is Latin America ready? explores three key issues: support of older people and alleviating poverty, the sustainability of social expenditures in an ageing world, and the impact of ageing on health status and healthcare.

The report notes that life expectancy in the region jumped by 22 years in the last half-century and advises Latin American countries to prepare for a "greying revolution". It recommends building stronger health systems, delaying retirement age, reforming pension systems and creating more jobs for women to expand the workforce.

It advises countries and communities to develop a number of policies that support long, productive lives for their workers and keep older people healthy and mobile for as long as possible. For example, primary health services will be essential, it says, and workers could wait until much later to leave the workforce.

The report reflects renewed interest by the World Bank in population ageing. Since the 1990s World Bank interest in this area has ebbed, with the exception of its 1994 report, *Averting the old age crisis*, and its 2007 publication, *From red to gray*, reviewing demographic ageing in Eastern Europe.

Population aging: is Latin America ready? Cotlear D (ed.), World Bank, 2011 www-wds.worldbank.org



Alleviating older people's poverty is a key issue for Latin America, says the World Bank.

## HIV outcomes fall short

New global commitments on HIV and AIDS fail to acknowledge the ageing of the epidemic and the role of older people as carers.

In June 2011, UN member states came together for a high-level meeting on HIV. The resulting political declaration includes bold commitments to redouble efforts to achieve universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2015, and for 15 million people living with HIV to be on antiretroviral treatment by 2015.

However, the declaration fails to recognise that people are living longer with HIV, leading to rising numbers of older people with HIV. By 2015, 50 per cent of people living with HIV in the United States will be aged 50 or older. In sub-Saharan Africa, 3 million people aged 50 and over are living with HIV, representing 13 per cent of all cases in the region.

Nor does the political declaration recognise the crucial role of older people in caring for family members affected by HIV and their particular need for support, despite intense lobbying.

References to long-term living with HIV and conditions associated with ageing, were included in the draft outcome

document, but were removed from the final version.

"This is a big disappointment," says Rachel Albone, HelpAge International's HIV and AIDS policy adviser. "Given that the political declaration is supposed to guide the future response to HIV, the neglect of those aged 50 and over and the lack of references to older people in relation to care and support is a huge oversight and will likely result in programmes that fail to meet the particular needs of older people."

Kufekisa Laugery, chair of the Senior Citizens Association of Zambia and an older carer herself, who spoke at a side event, says: "As grandparents and community workers we are good at giving care. What we lack is financial and material support. This declaration could have committed to provide that support but again, older people have been forgotten."

Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS: intensifying our efforts to eliminate HIV/AIDS Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 10 June 2011

#### More information:

Rachel Albone, HIV and AIDS Policy Adviser, HelpAge International Email: ralbone@helpage.org



### Mind your language

Words matter, especially when government policies may depend on their inclusion or exclusion. Take the example of the two UN summits this year with major implications for older people. The June HIV summit was an opportunity to highlight the increasing risks of chronic illness for people living with HIV who are now surviving into old age.

The September summit on NCDs provides a similar opportunity to get ageing onto the global agenda as the need to combat the growth of NCDs becomes more urgent.

However, in both cases it has proved difficult to get the right language into the summit documents. Text in the outcome document for the HIV meeting, highlighting the need to address chronic illness linked to ageing, was removed at the last minute. The NCDs draft refers

to "premature mortality", implying that there is an age cut-off after which preventing death from NCDs becomes less important.

Do both cases indicate that ageing and older people are marginal issues in the debate? If so, we need to press even harder for changes, not just in language, but in the thinking behind the words used.

Mark Gorman, Strategic Development Adviser, HelpAge International

## MIPAA ten years on

Older people across the world are taking part in discussions on how far their governments have adopted policies and plans on ageing in the last ten years.

The discussions in more than twenty countries will feed into the review of the 2002 Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA), which calls for a bottom-up, participatory process involving older people.

Preliminary findings of reviews by national governments and regional bodies will be presented at the 50th session of the UN Commission for Social Development (CSD) in February 2012. During 2012, regional UN Economic and Social Commissions for Asia and Pacific, Africa, Europe and North America, Latin America and Caribbean, and Western Asia will consolidate national information, produce regional reports and hold regional review meetings.

The UN Secretary General will present a report on the second review and appraisal of MIPAA at the 51st session of the CSD in February 2013. A report on the state of the world's older people will also be presented by UNFPA and partners. It will include a major section on how MIPAA has been implemented from the point of view of older people, drawn from the group discussions in 2011.

#### Campaign action

Older people in more than fifty countries will take part in the fifth global Age Demands Action campaign on 1 October 2011, UN Day of Older Persons, to press policy-makers to put MIPAA's recommendations into practice.

A survey of older people who took part in the 2010 Age Demands Action campaign gave a glimpse of what life is like for older people around the world. Of 1,250 older men and women in 32 countries, 63 per cent said they found it hard to access healthcare and 72 per cent said they did not have enough income to access basic services.

However, 48 per cent said they thought the world was starting to get better for older people. Some 65 per cent said they were interested in campaigning for the implementation of MIPAA, and 94 per cent said they were interested in campaigning for an international convention on the rights of older people.

#### More information:

Review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan http://social.un.org/index/Ageing/ ActiononAgeing.aspx

Insights on ageing: a survey report www.helpage.org/download/4d514460b3cef

Ageways 77: The Madrid Plan and you www.helpage.org/resources/publications



Aurea Rayco from an older people's group in the COPAP federation talks about MIPAA in the Philippines.

## Slow recovery in Pakistan

One year after the devastating flooding in Pakistan, the country is still struggling to recover.

The floods affected 20 million people and killed more than 3,000. Relief efforts are ongoing but have still not reached many remote villages.

"After the floods, our lives were miserable. People were homeless and with such huge damage to our livelihoods, people became helpless," says Noor Ul Hadi, 55, from Nowshera, who is president of his local

older people's association. "The process of reconstruction is very slow. Many people's basic needs haven't been met."

HelpAge International has established 20 older people's associations to distribute cash grants to 1,200 older people and their families and provide a platform for older people to speak out about the issues they face.

More information:

For news, blogs and photos visit: www.helpage.org

Pension
watch
by Charles KnoxVydmanov and
Andie McPherson

Ollanta Humala, the new president of **Peru**, used his inauguration on 28 July to launch a social (non-contributory) pension, the "Pension 65". The proposal for a pension formed a key part of Humala's election campaign. It was based on a parliamentary bill formulated by a range of stakeholders and led by partners of HelpAge, in particular the national association of older people, ANAMPER.

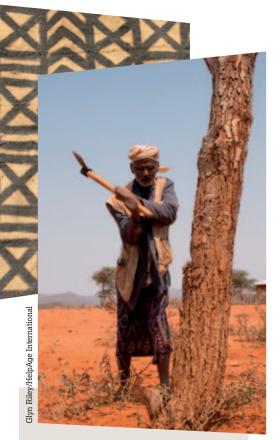
Humala pledged to introduce a pension of 250 soles (US\$90) a month for everyone over 65 without any other form of pension. The pension will start being distributed to poor older people in the 800 poorest districts. ANAMPER and partners will continue to lobby for universal coverage.

In **India**, the government has approved a lowering of the age for the meanstested social pension from 65 to 60 years, and an increase in the pension level for those over 80 years. For those aged 60-79, the level remains at 200Rs (US\$ 4.5) and for those over 80 it will increase to 500Rs (US\$11). Individual states can top up the pension with their own funds. For example, Tamil Nadu has just pledged to increase the level to 1,000Rs (US\$22).

Politicians in **Kenya** are showing increasing political and financial commitment to the social pension. In the June budget, the allocation for the Older Persons Cash Transfer – a poverty-targeted social pension launched in 2009 – was almost doubled in order to extend it to more parts of the country. The pension currently covers just 33,000 people over 65 in 44 districts.

In May, Kenyan MP John Mbad tabled a motion for a universal non-contributory pension of 2,000 Kenyan shillings (US\$22) a month for everyone over 60. The motion derived directly from Kenya's new constitution, adopted in 2010, which stipulates the right of Kenyans to security in old age. The motion was supported by parliament and Kenyans are now waiting for parliament to legislate on the pension.

Visit our Pension watch website at: **www.pension-watch.net** 



"When the market is good, I can sell firewood and get about 10 birr [US\$0.6]. With this I can buy a kilo of maize meal. This will last us for one day. My wife prepares raw wheat boiled with water for our lunch and we drink tea at night."

Galgollo Guyo, 85, Borana, Ethiopia, whose family is surviving on one meal a day

## Drought in east Africa

Many older people are being left behind as people move away from their homes because of the severe drought in east Africa.

More than 12 million people in Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya are affected by what the UN has described as the worst humanitarian crisis in the world.

In Somalia, people aged 60 and over make up 4.3 per cent of the population. However, UNHCR statistics for refugee camps in Kenya and Ethiopia show that the proportion of older people is significantly lower, at 3.4 per cent in Kenya and just 0.85 per cent in Ethiopia. This suggests that many older people

are being left behind without the support of their families and communities.

"People aged 60 and over constitute a relatively small proportion of the affected population but they are nevertheless a vulnerable group," says Frances Stevenson, head of emergencies at HelpAge International. "Their needs must be addressed in impartial, needsbased humanitarian responses."

HelpAge is responding to the crisis with funds raised by Age UK through the Disasters Emergency Committee.

#### More information:

For news, videos, blogs and how to donate, visit: www.helpage.org

## Designing social pensions

Universal social pensions are affordable in developing countries, a new study shows.

The price of income security in older age: cost of a universal pension in 50 low- and middle-income countries calculates that a pension for everyone over 65 could be put in place in these countries for less than 1.8 per cent of GDP.

The study is one of a new series of *Pension watch* briefings and reports on the design and implementation of social pensions, published by HelpAge International.

A social pension in Zambia: perceptions of the cash transfer pilot in Katete finds that age-based criteria are regarded as fair and socially acceptable. Strengthening statecitizen relations in fragile contexts: the role of cash transfers draws on desk research and experience in Sierra Leone, northern Kenya and Sudan to argue that welldesigned social cash transfer schemes could play a significant role in strengthening state-citizen relations.

Financing social pensions in low- and middle-income countries reviews options for financing new social pension schemes or scaling up existing ones. Good practice in the development of management information systems for social protection recommends seeing management information systems as underpinning the operations of social protection schemes.

Challenges and opportunities for age verification in low- and middle-income countries illustrates why age-based transfers are easier to implement at national scale than basing eligibility on income or poverty level.

You can download *Pension watch* briefings from: www.pension-watch.net

## Global ageing linked to rising disability

A report by the World Health Organization and World Bank makes a clear link between rising levels of disability and population ageing, especially in developing countries.

The first-ever World report on disability notes that more than a billion people in the world are living with disability. People with disabilities have generally poorer health, lower education achievements, fewer economic

opportunities and higher rates of poverty than people without disabilities. This is largely due to the lack of services available to them and the many obstacles they face in their everyday lives.

The report predicts that, in the years ahead, disability will be an even greater concern because its prevalence is on the rise. It attributes this to ageing populations and the higher risk of disability in older people, as well as

the global increase in chronic health conditions such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer and mental health disorders.

The report makes a set of recommendions for governments and their partners, including disaggregating data by age.

World report on disability
World Health Organization, 2011
www.who.int/disabilities/world\_report

## Income security in Central Asia

Many of today's workers in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are faced with grossly insufficient income in their old age, says a new report.

Off the grid: exploring the expanding informal economy and threats to old-age social protection in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan looks at the rapid expansion of the informal labour market and simultaneous ageing in two of the poorest countries in the former Soviet Union, in terms of their implications for old-age social protection.

The report aims to persuade governments and donors to examine these challenges and coordinate efforts to meet them. It points out that while most developing countries struggle to expand narrow coverage of older people by relatively simple programmes, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan face the challenge of retaining the near universal coverage they inherited from their Soviet past, while upgrading it to meet existing and future needs.

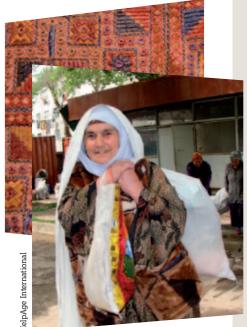
This will require developing a comparatively sophisticated and complex system that builds on the one in existence today, tailoring solutions to each country.

Complex systems of social protection for older people will be needed in Central Asia.

Other countries' social protection systems and attempts to reform them, particularly in Eastern Europe and Latin America, could offer useful lessons.

Off the grid: exploring the expanding informal economy and threats to old-age social protection in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan

HelpAge International, 2011 www.helpage.org/resources/publications



receive a pension, they are more likely to be the primary decision-makers on household expenditure.

This leads to positive effects, including

In brief

This leads to positive effects, including better nutrition of girls. So finds a study by Kate Ambler, University of Michigan, Bargaining with grandma: the impact of the South African pension on household decision making www.psc.isr.umich.edu/pubs/abs/7307

• When older women in South Africa

 2012 will be the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations.

Government bodies, businesses, trade unions, civil society organisations and others are encouraged to make commitments aimed at achieving a sustainable society for all ages – principles for all areas of EU policy, including EU development policy.

 The first international conference on age-friendly cities will take place in Dublin on 28-30 September 2011.

www.age-platform.org

Organised by the International Federation on Ageing, WHO and Ireland's Age Friendly Country Programme, it will discuss social and cultural connectivity, built environment, and building momentum for the WHO Global Age-friendly Cities Initiative.

http://afc-internationalconference.ie

• The Oxford Institute of Population Ageing celebrates its tenth anniversary this year.

The institute supports research in Asia, Europe, Africa and Latin America. For example, new studies include the modern role of grandfathers as carers in Denmark, and possible causes of wellbeing in old age in China and the UK.

www.ageing.ox.ac.uk

 The International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics will hold its first Africa region conference in Cape Town on 17-20 October 2012.

Researchers, policy makers, health workers, civil society organisations and others will assess progress in implementing the Madrid and African Union plans of action on ageing and forge directions for future policy. http://iagg.cmc-uct.co.za

## Older women recognised as a vulnerable group

Older women have been officially recognised as a vulnerable group by the UN Human Rights Council.

A resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council at its 17th session in June 2011, "Accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women", lists "elderly women" as one of 24 groups of women vulnerable to violence (paragraph 5(k)) and urges states and the UN to give greater attention to data disaggregation by age and sex (paragraph 6).

"While this is encouraging, more needs to be done to improve understanding of the impact of ageing on violence against women or particular types of violence and abuse that women might experience in old age," says Bridget Sleap, HelpAge International's Senior Rights Policy Adviser.

"More data needs to be collected on different forms of violence and abuse of women over 49, particularly in low- and middle-income countries."

More information:

Human Rights Council www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/ hrcouncil/17session/resolutions.htm

## Why NCD strategies must include older people

Mark Gorman discusses the rise of non-communicable diseases and argues for a lifecourse approach that includes older age.

On 19-20 September 2011, heads of state will meet at the first-ever UN High-level Meeting on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in New York. The aim is to adopt an outcome document setting out a strategy to address the health, socioeconomic and development implications of NCDs, focusing on those seen as the most prominent – cancers, cardiovascular diseases, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes.

This is only the second meeting of its kind to focus on a global health issue, following the UN General Assembly Special Session on AIDS in 2001, which led to the creation of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

#### The silent killers

NCDs are being called the "silent killers" and have been described by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon as representing a "public health emergency in slow motion". Their financial implications are enormous – according to the World Economic Forum's 2010 Global Risks Report, NCDs are a global risk equal in cost to the current global financial crisis.

More than 36 million people die every year from NCDs, or 63 per cent of all deaths worldwide.<sup>2</sup> NCDs hit developing countries hardest, with more than 80 per cent of deaths from NCDs occurring in low- and middle-income countries.<sup>3</sup>

Many of these deaths are preventable, for example, those caused by tobacco use, unhealthy diets, alcohol consumption and physical inactivity. Lack of access to affordable medicines and healthcare are also major causes of death.

The future looks far from encouraging. Globally, NCDs are predicted to increase by 17 per cent in the next ten years and by 27 per cent in Africa, with the highest actual number of deaths in the Western Pacific and South-East Asia. There is a clear link between NCDs and ageing and the World Health Organization recognises population ageing as one of the main reasons why NCDs dominate healthcare needs in most developing countries.

The rising scale of NCDs is not only a public health threat, but also a serious threat to social and economic development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

### Too bad if you're over 60

NCDs affect people at all stages of life, but particularly those in later life. Threequarters of the 36 million deaths from NCDs worldwide are of people over 60.6

Many older people have more than NCD, such as high blood pressure, diabetes and heart disease<sup>7</sup> but these often remain undetected.<sup>8</sup> Consequently, millions of older women and men experience unnecessary discomfort and disability. In emergencies, older people's need for medication for easily treatable chronic conditions is often overlooked, putting lives at risk. At the same time, many older people are also caring for spouses or other relatives with NCDs.

Yet the disproportionate impact that NCDs has on older people has been strikingly absent from much of the dialogue around the summit. The original draft outcome document omitted older people altogether, with a focus on treatment, management and reduction of "premature death" of those under 60. Attention has been focused solely on the 9 million people under 60 who die from NCDs – without mentioning the 27 million over 60.



## Counting the cost

Abdul, 70, is a former farmer from Bangladesh. "I stopped working because of my physical condition.

I started to get a chest illness and my breathing became more difficult. I was also told that I might have diabetes. Even though my eldest son gets a good wage we have financial problems. He has to support all of us, including paying for the medication for my chest problems and diabetes.

"When I last went to the doctor
I managed to get the money by
borrowing from neighbours but
I can't afford to go back to get more.
I had to go to RIC [Resource Integration
Centre] for help. They sent a
representative to the Union Council,
who sent the representative to a
nursing home with my prescription
and they gave me free treatment."

Photo and interview by Kate Holt/HelpAge International Tabic, a 79-year-old widow, lives on her own in Serbia. She has angina and difficulty walking, but receives no state support other than her pension. "My family aren't around, so I need to pay someone to do things for me, or I have to beg for help. My health isn't good, I get cold and I'm very lonely.

"I haven't been to the doctor for three years. I can't move or get into a car and doctors don't bother doing home visits when they hear how old I am. You have to rely on individuals. Seko [a volunteer with NGO Lastavica] gives me injections. She doesn't charge me any more. That's part of her commitment to the community."

Photo and interview by Judith Escribano/Age UK



#### **Fast facts**

- NCDs account for 63 per cent of deaths worldwide.
- Four-fifths of NCD deaths are in developing countries.
- Three-quarters of NCD deaths are in people over 60.
- NCDs will rise by 17 per cent in the next ten years.
- By 2050, 115 million people will have dementia.

Older people in Kyrgyzstan learn how to control

Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia are not regarded as priority NCDs. Yet the numbers of people living with dementia are set to increase in line with global population ageing. By 2050, more than one in five people worldwide will be over 60, and 115 million will have dementia. The cost of care will soar, with most of the care costs provided by unpaid carers, mainly family members, in low- and middle-income countries. 10

Due in part to intensive lobbying by age-focused organisations including Age UK, Alzheimer's Society, Alzheimer's Disease International, the Global Coalition on Aging and HelpAge International, some key issues affecting older people are now included in the draft outcome document. Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia are mentioned, as is access to care and support and "appropriate and timely" health interventions for older people.

However, at the time of going to press, there is still no reference to population ageing, taking a lifecourse approach or dementia. Also, the profoundly ageist references to "premature" death remain in the draft (though the much more acceptable term "preventable" death also appears now).

As experience of other summits shows (see page 2), there is no guarantee that references in the draft will make it through to the final version. Pressure needs to be maintained to make sure that any global strategy takes a lifecourse approach to tackling NCDs, inclusive of older people.

#### A lifecourse approach

The summit must recognise the implications of ageing as a key challenge to social and economic sustainability, not only in high-income countries, but particularly in the developing world.

A whole lifecourse approach that includes older age and recognises that people may have multiple NCDs is an essential element of successful NCD strategies. The summit outcome document should refer to "avoidable (or preventable) death", not "premature death".

It should contain commitments to ensuring access throughout life to the highest possible standards of healthcare through universal, age-friendly primary healthcare systems; implementing NCD programmes for people of all ages; ensuring access to services for people with one or more NCDs, including dementia; and recognising the importance of new technologies for improving care and developing cures.

Alzheimer's disease, and other dementias, should be included as priority NCDs.

The summit should result in commitments to support measures such as exercise and healthy diets that may delay the onset of dementia, and support carers of people with dementia.

Care and support is critical to preventing and controlling NCDs, but family carers often receive little or no support, and many older people cannot get palliative care or pain relief. The summit should commit to ensuring comprehensive care and support, promoting social protection programmes to make care affordable, and implementing the 2011 Sphere Standards for Humanitarian Response for response to NCDs in disasters.

#### What you can do

Civil society can play a key role. You can:

- request contact with your country's mission to the UN in New York to ensure that population ageing and a lifecourse approach are included and the term "avoidable" death is used
- ask your government to send a high-level representative, such as your head of state
- request that a civil society delegate is invited to join your country's delegation.

You could also leave a comment on the HelpAge website or a post on HelpAge's Facebook page, commenting on whether you think older people in your country face discrimination in getting treatment for cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, hypertension and dementia.

Mark Gorman is Strategic Development Adviser, HelpAge International, London Email: mgorman@helpage.org

#### Find out more:

HelpAge International www.helpage.org/what-we-do/health/ non-communicable-diseases

The NCD Alliance www.ncdalliance.org

UN High-level Meeting on NCDs www.who.int/nmh/events/ un\_ncd\_summit2011/en

Draft outcome document www.ncdalliance.org

- 1. NCD Alliance, <u>www.ncdalliance.org/thesilentkiller</u> (5 August 2011)
- 2. WHO, www.who.int/nmh/events/un\_ncd\_summit2011/qa/qa2/en/index.html (5 August 2011)
- **3.** NCD Alliance, <u>www.ncdalliance.org/globalepidemic</u> (5 August 2011)
- **4.** NCD Alliance, <u>www.ncdalliance.org/globalepidemic</u> (5 August 2011)
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- 7. Puri S et al, 'Profile of diabetes mellitus in elderly of Chandigarh, India', *The Internet Journal of Endocrinology*, 4:1, 2007
- 8. Prince M J, '10/66 Dementia Research Group. Invited presentation', British Geriatric Society Annual meeting, Edinburgh, April 2010
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- 10. World Alzheimer Report 2010: The global economic impact of dementia, Alzheimer's Disease International, 2010, p.6

### Journal articles

'We want a peaceful life here and hereafter': healthy aging perspectives of older Malays in Malaysia Tohit N et al, Ageing & Society, FirstView Article, May 2011

Meeting the needs of older people in East Asia: using housing equity Doling J and Ronald R, Ageing & Society, FirstView Article, May 2011

Family relations and life satisfaction of older people: a comparative study between two different hokous in China Yunong H, Ageing & Society, FirstView Article, February 2011

'I am living a peaceful life with my grandchildren. Nothing else.' Stories of adversity and 'resilience' of older women caring for children in the context of HIV/AIDS and other stressors

Casale M, Ageing & Society, FirstView Article, February 2011

Empowerment among older consumers in Malaysia
Ong F S et al, Hallym Int. J. Aging, 11:2, 2009, pp.135-154

Risk factors and family support for limitations in ADL among older people in urban China Liu Y and Yang K, Hallym Int J. Aging, 11:1, 2009, pp.13-32

A comparative analysis of pension reforms and challenges in Ghana and Nigeria

Kpessa M, International Social Security Review, 64:2, April 2011, pp.91-109

Social support and change in depression among older adults in Taiwan

Zimmer Z and Chen F, J. Applied Gerontology, Online First $^{TM}$ , March 2011

Quality of life and related factors in the older rural and urban Chinese populations in Zhejiang Province Zhou B et al, J. Applied Gerontology, 30:2, April 2011, pp.199-225

Differences between users and nonusers of day care centres among frail elderly persons in Israel *Iecovich E and Carmel S, J. Applied Gerontology, Online First™, June 2010* 

Decline in co-residence of parents and children among older Kuwaiti men and women: what are the significant correlates? Shah NM, J. Cross-Cultural Gerontology, 26:2, June 2011, pp.157-174

Relationship of strength of social support and frequency of social contact with hypertension and general health status among older adults in the mobile care unit in Kuwait

Al-Kandari Y Y, J. Cross-Cultural Gerontology, 26:2, June 2011, pp.175-187

Expectations of filial obligation and their impact on preferences for future living arrangements of middle-aged and older Asian Indian immigrants

Diwan S, J. Cross-Cultural Gerontology, 26:1, June 2011, pp.55-69

Differences in levels of social integration among older women and men in Egypt

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Gender differences in health and health expectancies of older adults in Singapore: an examination of diseases, impairments, and functional disabilities

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Gerontology, 26:2, June 2011, pp.189-203

Older Chinese adults' fear of intimacy with helping professionals Witt H et al, J. Cross-Cultural Gerontology, 26:1, March 2011, pp.71-83

Living arrangement concordance and its association with self-rated health among institutionalized and community-residing older adults in China

Sereny M D and Danan G U, J. Cross-Cultural Gerontology, Online First™, April 2011

Living arrangements of older adults in China: the interplay among preferences, realities, and health Sereny M, Research on Aging, 33:2, March 2011, pp.172-204

## Papers, reports and books

Changing trends of old age (India)\*

Agewell Foundation, September 2010

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