Aging in the Arab Countries:
Research, Policy and Development

Expert Group Meeting

November 18-19 2009
Beirut- Lebanon
Dear friends and colleagues,

Ahlan Wa Sahlan!

On behalf of the Center for Studies on Aging (CSA) and UNFPA Arab States Regional Office and with the collaboration of UNFPA Lebanon office, it gives us immense pleasure to welcome you to Beirut, Lebanon and to the Conference "Aging in the Arab Countries: Research, Policy and Development". The Organizing Committee is pleased that your schedule has permitted you to join us. This Conference brings together national, regional and international renowned speakers and participants, many of whom have been advocates of older adults, promoting the cause of the older population and moving it forward in their own country and internationally.

The Conference Program, here within, shows the array of issues that will be discussed. We hope that you will find these sessions useful and that you will partake actively in the discussions and proceedings. The venue of the Conference is the Gefinor Rotana Hotel, "a home away from home". The Hotel Management will make every effort to make your stay comfortable and enjoyable.

This Conference would not have been possible without the generous support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), at both the Regional and the Country levels. Special gratitude is in order for Ms Asma Kurdahi and the country staff for their diligence and support.

We would like to seize this opportunity to express the CSA gratitude to HE the Minister of Public Health, Dr Mohamad Jawad Khalifeh, and to HE the Minister of Social Affairs, Dr Mario Aoun, who have graced this Conference with their blessings and support - as well as in their participation in the opening session and in other deliberations. Special thanks are also due to HE the Minister of Culture, Mr Tamam Salam and his team, for arranging the cultural events.

We welcome you all and hope that you will also be able to enjoy the unique beauty of this country, the hospitality of its people and the cultural riches of its older generations.

Abla Mehio Sibai, PhD  
Director, Center for Studies on Aging  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
American University of Beirut-Lebanon  

Email: abla.mehio-sibai@aub.edu.lb

Nabil M Kronfol MD, DrPH  
Center for Studies on Aging  
President, Lebanese HealthCare Management Ass  
Beirut, Lebanon  

Email: dino@cyberia.net.lb
# Ageing in the Arab Countries:
Policy, Research and Development
Beirut, November 18, 19 2009

## PROGRAM

### WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2090

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session I - Opening ceremony</th>
<th>SPEAKERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>Session I - Opening ceremony</td>
<td>Master of ceremony: Mr Azzam Houri, CSA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:05</td>
<td>Reflections on the global situation of the older population</td>
<td>Dr Alexandre Kalache</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:20</td>
<td>The older population in the Arab region: an overview</td>
<td>Dr Abla Sibai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:35</td>
<td>The voice of the “seniors”</td>
<td>Ms Emily Nasrallah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:45</td>
<td>Welcome Note by UNFPA Regional Director</td>
<td>Mr Hafedh Chekir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:05</td>
<td>HE the Minister of Public Health</td>
<td>Dr Mohamad Jawad Khalifeh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
<td>Dr Mario Aoun</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 10:45 Session II - The rights of the older population

**Chair:** Director-General of the Ministry of Health, Dr Walid Ammar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session II - The rights of the older population</th>
<th>SPEAKERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:50</td>
<td>Rights of older persons: the UN perspective</td>
<td>Dr Robert Venne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:10</td>
<td>Who needs a UN Convention on the rights of the older population</td>
<td>Dr Alexandre Kalache</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>Empowering older people: the role of Civil Society</td>
<td>Dr Jane Barratt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 11:50 Panel discussion

**Moderator:**

**Participants:** Dr Adnan Mroueh (Lebanon), Dr Jamal Nasher (Yemen), Ms Soumaya Benchakroun (Morocco) and Dr Saeed Abdalla Saeed (Sudan)

### 12:10 Session III - Research and Information on the older population in the region

**Chair:** Dr Rafic Baddoura, CSA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session III - Research and Information on the older population in the region</th>
<th>SPEAKERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:15</td>
<td>The PAPFAM study: a landmark in the region</td>
<td>Dr Ahmad Abdel Monem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:55</td>
<td>Building the evidence: Mapping in the MENA Region</td>
<td>Mr Hassan Mousa Yousif</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:55</td>
<td>Seniors’ needs and policy formulation: Reference to environmental factors</td>
<td>Dr Gloria Gutman</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 13:15 Panel discussion

**Moderator:** Dr Anwar Batieha (Jordan)

**Participants:** Ms Lamis Abu Nahle (Palestine), Mr Abou Bakr Baqadar (Saudi Arabia), Mr Said Azammam (Morocco) and Dr Laurie Abi Habib (Lebanon)

### 13:45 Lunch

### 15:00 Session IV - Policies and services

**Chair:** Dr. Nabil Naja, CSA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session IV - Policies and services</th>
<th>SPEAKERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15:05</td>
<td>Promoting sustainable pension policies in the region</td>
<td>Mr Ibrahim Muhanna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:25</td>
<td>Integrated versus vertical health care- implications for care of the elderly in the region</td>
<td>Dr Kasturi Sen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:45</td>
<td>Effect of home care on the health of the older population</td>
<td>Professor Faisal Al Nasir</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 16:05 Panel discussion

**Moderator:** Dr Husam Ghusn (CSA)

**Participants:** Dr Waleed Al Faysal (Syria), Dr Shahinaz Mkheimar (Egypt), Ms Khadija Alawin (Jordan) and Dr Aiza Suleiman Ali (Sudan)

### 16:30 Closed meeting for selected participants to form International Advisory Group (By invitation)

### 18:00 Moderator: Dr Kasturi Sen

### 19:00 Chorale Al Faiha’: A cultural activity, sponsored by the Ministry of Culture, Lebanon Gefinor Rotana Hotel
### Session V: Caring for the older population

**Chair:** Mr Ramzi Na‘man

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:05</td>
<td>Dignity in Old Age</td>
<td>Dr Gloria Gutman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:25</td>
<td>Inter-generational transfers between older adults and their children</td>
<td>Dr Kathryn Yount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:55</td>
<td>Caregivers: a new professional?</td>
<td>Dr Jane Barratt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15</td>
<td>When aging meets migration - The need for research</td>
<td>Dr Alexandre Kalache</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Panel discussion**

**Moderator:** Dr John Beard (WHO)

**Participants:** Dr Ahlam Bint Break (Yemen), Dr Monique Cha’ya (Lebanon), Dr Mohamad Hassan El Nabaoui (Egypt) and Dr Lamri Larbi (Algeria)

### Session VI - Interventions for the older population

**Chair:** Dr Hala Naufal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:35</td>
<td>The Age-friendly cities Project: An opportunity</td>
<td>Dr John Beard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:55</td>
<td>The Neighborhood Initiative and University for Seniors</td>
<td>Dr Cynthia Myntii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15</td>
<td>Elderly project in Amarat, Oman</td>
<td>Dr Thamra bint Said binary Mohamad Al Ghafria</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**General Discussion:** Selected success stories from the region (eg mobile units, family welfare, etc)

**Moderator:** Dr Ghassan Hamadeh

### Session VII - Closing and recommendations

**Closing note by UNFPA**

**Word of thanks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:20</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Mr Hafedh Chekir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30</td>
<td>Special session - The development of a regional network for Research, Policy and Practice (By invitation)</td>
<td>Dr Salim Adib (Lebanon)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Jane Barratt
Email: JBarratt@ifafiv.org

Dr. Barratt is the Secretary General of the International Federation on Ageing and brings to this position over 30 years experience in the health, community and aged care, and disability sectors through various roles in government, business, church and charity and civil society. She has a strong commitment to strengthen the relationships between stakeholder groups through knowledge creation and exchange, and helping to shape good policy toward improving the quality of life of people as they age.

John Beard
Email: beardj@who.int

John Beard, MBBS PhD, is Director of the Department of Ageing and Life Course at the World Health Organization in Geneva. In this role he is responsible for increasing international awareness of ageing as a driving force in shaping 21st century public health, and for assisting and guiding the international community to meet the challenges, and to realize the potential benefits associated with the rapid ageing of their populations. Dr Beard is an Australian physician who started his career in primary health, including several years with an Aboriginal Medical Service. He then held a range of senior public health and academic roles in Australia and the United States before taking up his post with WHO in January 2009. Dr Beard has published widely in the international literature and has a particular interest in the influence of the physical, social and economic environments on health at all ages.

Gloria Gutman
Email: gutman@sfu.ca

Dr. Gutman is Professor Emerita of Gerontology at Simon Fraser University, Co-leader BC Network for Aging Research and Special Advisor International Network for Prevention of Elder Abuse. She is author/editor of 20 books and over 150 scholarly articles, book chapters and reports on such topics as seniors’ housing, long term care, seniors and emergency preparedness, technology and aging, and prevention of elder abuse and neglect. Dr. Gutman was President of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics from 2001-2005, and is currently a Director of the International Institute on Ageing-UN Malta, a member of the World Health Organization’s Expert Advisory Panel on Ageing and Health, and a member of the World Economic Forum’s Global Council on Ageing Societies.

Brief Biographies of the Speakers
(Sorted alphabetically by surname)
Alexandre Kalache  
AKalache@nyam.org

Dr Alexandre Kalache was Director of the World Health Organization’s Programme on Ageing and Health (Geneva) from 1995 to 2008. For the previous 20 years he held academic positions at the Universities of London and Oxford. He is current Senior Policy Advisor on Global Aging at the New York Academy of Medicine and is developing a series of global projects which includes "Aging in a Foreign Land", "Towards a UN Convention on Human Rights" and "Minimum Medical Curriculum on Ageing to train doctors for the 21st Century". He continues to be closely involved in the Global Network on Age Friendly Cities which he launched, in collaboration with partners from around the world, while at WHO. Dr Kalache is an MD originally from Brazil with a Master’s degree in Social Medicine (University of London) and a PhD in Epidemiology (University of Oxford). He is the author of numerous publications related to ageing and health with particular emphasis on Health Promotion, Cancer Epidemiology, the compression of morbidity and the determinants of Active Ageing. Reflecting his long-standing commitment to ageing as a development issue HelpAge International appointed Dr Kalache Global Ambassador on Ageing in 2008.

Nabil Kronfol  
Email: dino@cyberia.net.lb

Dr Nabil Kronfol is a Professor of Health Policy and Management, the President of the Lebanese HealthCare Management Association, and a co-founder of the recently established "Center for Studies on Aging". Dr Kronfol received the medical degree from the American University of Beirut (AUB) in 1969, became a diplomate of the American Board of Pediatrics in 1972 and then joined the Harvard School of Public Health pursuing a Doctorate in Health Services Administration (1979). Dr Kronfol joined AUB in 1974 and moved through the academic ladder to become full Professor, Chairman of the Department of Health Services Administration, Assistant Dean for Allied Health and finally Deputy Vice President for External Programs in Health. While on tenure, Dr Kronfol established the College of Health Sciences in the State of Bahrain, four schools of nursing in the United Arab Emirates and the Planning Unit at Lebanon’s Ministry of Health. Dr Kronfol has an extensive list of publications and books and continues to be a frequent consultant to the WHO, the World Bank, UNICEF, UNDP, ESCWA - in health systems design, human resource development, and the health of the older populations, among others. Dr Kronfol is a member and past president of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor medical society and the Sigma Phi science society. In 2007, he received the Shusha Award from the World Health Organization.

Ahmed Abdel Monem  
Email: ahmonem@papfam.org

Dr. AbdelMonem holds a PhD in Population Studies from Cairo University. He has experience in demographic and health studies and field surveys in several Arab countries, including the use of statistical software and the preparation of national statistical reports. He wrote several publications in the areas of population, development, biostatistics and information systems. Dr. AbdelMonem held several significant posts in the region, he was the Manager of the PAPCHILD data, and currently, he is the Manager of the PAPFAM project in the League of Arab States. He also works as a part-time Professor in Cairo Demographic Center, in the Institute of Statistical Studies and Research in Cairo University and in the Institute of Environmental Studies and Research in Ein Shams University. He is a member of several health, population and development associations.
Ibrahim Muhanna
Email: ibrahim@muhanna.com

Ibrahim Muhanna has a BS in Mathematics, BS in Electrical Engineering, and an MSc in Actuarial Mathematics from the University of Michigan (1976). He established the Muhanna & co. (Actuarial Services) in 1986, Omnilife insurance company in the UK in 1988, the Muhanna Foundation in 1994, and the Muhanna & co. (the 1st regional insurance rating agency) in 2000. Since 1986, he has advised several insurance companies, Governmental bodies and Private Organizations. Mr. Muhanna has published several scientific papers, delivered over 200 presentations on actuarial and insurance issues, and lectured widely at various universities. He is a member of several prestigious councils and associations: he is a member of the Institute of Directors (IoD) in the UK, a member of the World Futurist Society and a member of the Swiss Association of Actuaries, among others. He is the President of the Lebanese Association of Actuaries. In 2007, he was awarded “The National Order of the Cedar” by the Lebanese President.

Cynthia Myntti
Email: cmyntti@aub.edu.lb

Dr. Cynthia Myntti trained as a social anthropologist and architect, receiving degrees from AUB, the London School of Economics and Yale University. Her career has spanned philanthropy and academia; she worked as a program officer for the Ford Foundation for nearly a decade, and taught at AUB and London University, among others. She is the author of numerous scholarly articles and a book entitled Paris along the Nile: Architecture in Cairo from the Belle Epoque, published by the American University in Cairo press. Together with Abla Sibai, she is currently leading a new outreach project ‘the University for Seniors’ under the Neighborhood Initiative. The project addresses the prevalent desire of many older people in Beirut to remain socially engaged and intellectually active.

Faisal A Latif Al-Nasir

Faisal A Latif Al-Nasir is Professor of Family Medicine, President of Family & Community Medicine, Arab Board for Health Specialties and Ex-Vice President of the Arabian Gulf University, Bahrain. He obtained doctorate degree in 1987 from University of Glasgow and is Fellow of the Royal College of General Practitioner and Royal College of Physicians UK, a member of the Irish College of General Practitioner, a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians in USA and the World Congress for Family Physicians.

Being one of the first physicians in Bahrain to specialize in Family Medicine, he had an active role in promoting the discipline locally, regionally and in the Arab world. Chairing the examination committee for several years where he made much development in the examination around the Arab countries and promoting the discipline since being elected the president of the Family & Community Medicine council. Prof Alnasir has more than 40 publications in regional and international journals discussing issues related to elderly care, infant feeding, Family Medicine and medical education. He is editor of the book "You and Your Child" which discusses issues related to mother and child care. He is recognized by several societies locally and regionally and was elected by WONCA recently as a Global Doctor of the month.
Emily Abi Rashed Nasrallah

Mrs Emily Abi Rashed Nasrallah was born in Kfeir village, South Lebanon. Following her secondary education in Shoueifat National College, Emily went on to university at the Beirut University College (now the Lebanese American University) and on to the American University of Beirut where she received her B.A. Degree in Education in 1958.

Mrs Nasrallah is a well known novelist, journalist, freelance writer, teacher, lecturer and women’s rights activist. Her first novel, Birds of September, was published in 1962, and won her, three Arabic literary prizes. This novel is now in its tenth edition. It was followed by several other novels, children’s books, and short story collections which explore themes such as family roots, Lebanese village life, the war in Lebanon and the struggle of women for independence and self-expression. Mrs Nasrallah has participated as panelist and lecturer in several conferences in Germany, Denmark, Holland, Switzerland, Egypt and USA. Her works are quoted in Miriam Cooke’s “War’s Other Voices: Women Writers on the Lebanese Civil War” (Cambridge University Press).

Kasturi Sen

Email: ksen@itg.be

Dr Kasturi Sen is senior scientist in global health policy at the Department of Public Health of the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Belgium. Among her interests include the social, economic and cultural dimensions of ageing with a focus on social policies, social protection and family support. She has worked on ageing and networking issues in South Asia, South Africa China, UK and Brazil, Syria Lebanon and Palestine, for the past 18 years and has taught on the demographics of ageing at London, Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

Abla Mehio Sibai

Email: abla.mehio-sibai@aub.edu.lb

Abla Mehio Sibai is Professor at the Department of Epidemiology and Population Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut and the Director of the Center for Studies on Aging. During the past 15 years, Dr. Sibai has focused mainly on aging issues in Lebanon and the Arab countries. Much of her research was collaborative with researchers from the UK and the US. She is a member of the WHO-Geneva Expert Advisory Panel on Aging and Health since 1997, a member of the National Committee on Aging in Lebanon, and a consultant for the Ministry of Social Affairs, Policies and Strategies Sub-Program. Dr. Sibai is the author of several scholarly articles, book chapters and reports on aging issues and older adults.
Robert Venne
Email: venne@un.org

Robert Venne joined the United Nations Programme on Ageing in 2004. His work focuses mainly on implementation of and follow-up to the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. He liaises both with Government and civil society representatives on demographic ageing and older persons. Before his assignment with the Programme on Ageing, he worked on issues such as internal and international migration, the family, social integration, mainstreaming, indicators development, and capacity development.

Mr. Venne received his degree in sociology, with minors in political science and psychology from the Free University Berlin in 1997. He spent one year on a DAAD exchange programme at the New School University in New York City.

Kathryn M. Yount
Email: kyount@emory.edu

Dr. Kathryn M. Yount is Associate Professor of Global Health and Sociology at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. She also has affiliations with Behavioral Sciences and Women’s Studies at Emory. She has conducted research in the Middle East since 1995 and research on aging in the Middle East for ten years. Dr. Yount’s research on aging has appeared in top journals and volumes in Demography, Sociology, Gerontology, and Public Health.
ABOUT US
Center for Studies on Aging

The Center for Studies on Aging (CSA) was born out of the recommendations of the Conference "Aging in Lebanon: Research and Policies" that was held in Beirut in September 2007. The Center has been duly registered in Lebanon in October 2008 as a non-governmental organization and is led by a group of professionals committed to the promotion of evidence-based policy and practice in support of the older population. The mission of the CSA is to create a hub for research, education, policy formulation, and training on aging in Lebanon and the Arab region. Its motto is 'Translating Research into Policy and Practice' (TRIPP).

The CSA achieves its mission through three strategic tools.

Strategic Tool 1: Research, database, networks, and conferences
Aim: To raise awareness of aging issues in Lebanon in particular and in the wider Arab world, targeting researchers, policymakers, the major donors and service providers in public, private and the nonprofit sectors

* To collect documentary evidence of the demographic, economic, social and cultural aspects of old age in the Lebanon and, for comparative purposes, in the Arab world
* To establish a sound data and documentary base on older adults as a virtual library with wide access to researchers and interested parties
* To engage in high level discussions and seminars and promote aging issues through local and regional conferences and the production of policy briefs among the wider teaching and research institutions, other stakeholders including policy makers, service providers, governmental and non-governmental agencies while actively involving the older adults themselves in the discussions
* To encourage, promote and fund the conduct of multidimensional translational research and studies undertaken in collaboration between academic and non-academic institutions and between public and the private agencies for evidence-base practice and policy
* To create and promote multidisciplinary regional and national networks within Lebanon and between Lebanon and the rest of the Arab world and to create strong links with strategic partners and collaborate with international agencies for advocacy, raising awareness and sharing a data knowledge base

Strategic Tool 2: Human resource development
Aim: To promote good practice in the care of older people in Lebanon and the region

* To develop manuals for health and social care in old age (ambulatory, in-patient, home and community care), for use in the training of health and social care workers within the cultural context of the setting
* To create guidelines for good practice in the care of older people with an emphasis on primary care and prevention, psycho-social support (including support and respite care for family members and informal carers where needed)
* To support and promote the incorporation of geriatrics and gerontology into universities and medical/nursing and paramedical school curricula, residency programs, fellowships, undergraduate programmes in sociology, psychology and social services across Lebanon and the region
* To promote and provide short courses and training in geriatrics and gerontology for allied health professionals
* To provide appropriate knowledge and skills needed for self-care and health protection and promotion for older persons

Strategic Tool 3: Optimizing opportunities in development plans and policies
Aim: To promote the mainstreaming of older people issues into all economic, social and health development processes and programs

* To advocate active aging and primary prevention as an integral part of all development processes, plans, policies, and activities across all sectors: health, behavioural, social, and to promote the incorporation of health care of the older persons into the primary health care systems
* To counter the negative perception of aging and empower volunteer services
* To encourage active partnership and coordination among all levels of government, civil society, the private sector and organizations and international cooperation
* To engage in high level debates and round tables in various channels of the media and among policy makers and service providers, utilizing the evidence base as a means of influencing social and health policy
Founding members

The founding members of the Center bring together well connected researchers and academicians from all major Universities in Lebanon, geriatricians, key officials from the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Social affairs, and the Ministry of Interior, members of the National Committee on Aging in Lebanon, directors of older adults institutes and elderly homes, and representatives of NGOs, social care professionals and of the (senior community). In so doing, the Center supports inter-sectoral collaboration and promotes exchange between researchers, policy makers, service providers and advocacy groups with the aim of strengthening evidence-to-policy and evidence-to-practice links.

FOUNDING MEMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Founding Member</th>
<th>Position/Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Abla Mehio Sibai</td>
<td>Professor, Dept of Epidemiology and Population Health, Faculty of Health Sciences - American University of Beirut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HE Dr. Adnan Mroueh</td>
<td>Professor and Chair, Dept of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Faculty of Medicine - American University of Beirut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Azzam Houri</td>
<td>Director, Dar Al Ajazza Al Islamia, Member: Long term hospital committee, Member: National Committee on Aging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Dia Saleh</td>
<td>Senior Ranking official, Ministry of Social Affairs, Member: National Committee on Aging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Fadi El Jardali</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Dept of Health Policy and Management, Faculty of Health Sciences - American University of Beirut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Husam Ghusn</td>
<td>Board Certified Geriatrician, Ain Wa Zein Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Laurie Abi Habib</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences - University of Balamand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Maha Abu Shawareb</td>
<td>Director, Saint Georges Home for the Old, Member: National Committee on Aging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Maha Shouman Jibai</td>
<td>Director, Sarafand Center for the Handicapped, Nursing - Gerontology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Monique Chaaya</td>
<td>Associate Professor and Chair, Dept of Epidemiology and Population Health, Faculty of Health Sciences - American University of Beirut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Nabil Kronfol</td>
<td>President, Lebanese HealthCare Management Association, Senior Consultant to International Organizations, Government and Academia, Health Systems and Human Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Nabil Naja</td>
<td>Geriatrician, Member: Lebanese Geriatric Society, Alzheimer Association and National Committee on Aging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Rafic Baddoura</td>
<td>Universite Saint Joseph, Lebanese Epidemiologic Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ramzi Na’man</td>
<td>Executive Director, Mentor Arabia, Council for Reconstruction and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Salim Adib</td>
<td>Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Public Health, Universite Saint Joseph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Walid Ammar</td>
<td>Director General, Ministry of Public Health</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Articles


**Reports and Monographs**


* Sibai AM, Gharem M Wall E. (2007). Assessment of the preparedness and responsiveness of Lebanese NGOs, social clubs and clinics in the provision of services to seniors in Lebanon during and after the July-2006 war. For the Population and Development Strategies (PDS) sub-program (project leb/02/p01), Ministry of Social Affairs and United Nations Population Fund Sibai AM, Chaaya M. (2006). The urban health study: background and design (Older Adult Component). Faculty of Health Sciences, CRPH.
American University of Beirut.

Books and Book Chapters


Unpublished PhD and MSc Thesis

* Boulghourjian CM. (1997). Psychosocial, health, and economic aspects of an elderly . Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut.
* Yount, K. M., & Agree, E. M. (2005). Differences in disability among older women and men in Egypt and...
The FAYHA CHOIR

The Fayha choir was established in the beginning of 2003 and conducted by the Maestro Barkev Taslakian. It is supported and sponsored by the Urban Community Al Fayha (Tripoli, Mina, Beddawi). The choir is composed of nearly 40 members between boys and girls, coming from Tripoli and other towns in north Lebanon. The choir’s songs belong to the Arabic as well as to the French, English, Latin and Armenian heritages. This diversity reflects the choir’s openness on the human patrimony. The Union provides all the support the choir needs on both the material and the moral level. It helps the choir to improve and to present the best whether locally or internationally. The rehearsals take place at the Municipality of Tripoli, where a mild atmosphere is provided with all the facilities needed. The choir members are also invited to assist in all of the cultural and musical events presented at Tripoli or other places.
The Organizing Committee wishes to express its gratitude to the following institutions and organizations that have supported this activity:

- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON AGEING
- Ministry of Social Affairs
- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON AGEING
- Ministère de la Culture
- Lebanese Healthcare Management Association