

Statement by the Republic of Moldova
to EUR/RC70/8(M) Final report on implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan on
Healthy Ageing in Europe 2012–2020

Population aging is one of the most important social and economic challenges of the European countries today.

Over the last decades, statistical data have been showing an accelerated aging of the population, including in the Republic of Moldova emphasizing the consequences of this process.

In the recent years, the global pattern of morbidity has changed, from communicable diseases to non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Besides the high rates of NCBs in old age, there are also high rates of multi-morbidity. As they age, the elderly suffer from several chronic diseases at the same time.

Health problems, represented by the high rates of NCBs and multi-morbidity, that older people often face, entail the need for greater support in carrying out daily life tasks, in order to maintain independence and autonomy, making health and social care more and more difficult and interdependent.

The right to health care, like other human rights, is universal and inalienable, and is recognized without discrimination on grounds of age, ethnicity or any other status.

Being aligned to the global development processes, our country has undertaken a series of actions for the integration of aging issues in the national development agenda.

As a result, a number of important documents and policies have been approved, such as the Health System Development Strategy, the National Health Policy and the Programme for integration of aging issues into policies that promote the economic and social security of the elderly.

In the recent years, the Government jointly with interested authorities has carried out a series of activities aimed at:

- improving access to health services and increasing the quality of services for the elderly;
- development of an integrated system for the provision of social assistance, home care and palliative care services, which more efficiently correlate the medical and social services for the elderly;
- expanding and strengthening training programmes for medical and social staff working with the elderly.

According to the Global Strategy and the Action Plan on Aging and Health, the Government will continue to work to make healthy and active aging a priority of the national health policy, aimed at:

1. supporting healthy aging;
2. aligning health systems with the real needs of the elderly population;
3. development of long-term care systems;
4. creating friendly environments for the elderly;
5. improving indicators for measuring, monitoring and understanding healthy aging.