



World Chronicle

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United Nations Second World Assembly
On Ageing

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AGEING OF THE GLOBAL POPULATION

Humankind is ageing. Global society is already older than ever before in human history. Average life expectancy has increased by 20 years since 1950 to 66 years and is expected to extend a further ten years by mid-century. This means that the number of people over 60 will increase from about 6000 million in 2000 to almost 2 billion in 2050. The increase will be greatest in developing countries where the older population is expected to quadruple during the next fifty years. The United Nations Second World Assembly on Ageing will address this most important challenge: the ageing of the global population. In this edition of **World Chronicle**, Goodwill Ambassador for the Second World Assembly on Ageing Marcel Marceau, the world's greatest mime, talks about the importance of the elderly in global society.

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