

## **Summary, panel B: PARTICIPATION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION**

The different panelist gave a good impression in there statement of the exclusion of elderly or the possibility to be so within several years. They all agreed that measures to stimulate participation and social inclusion are needed.

The summary is organized to the two question formulated by the chair in advance.

### Question 1

Which basic conditions and which enabling environment need to be created by governments in order to guarantee independence living and fully participation I society.

#### Ad 1. Environment:

Needed is an age friendly environment.

#### Ad 1a. Basic conditions

To create such an environment the next common basic conditions are needed:

- No age discrimination and clear human right in every life sphere.
- Participation of the elderly in policymaking and in decision making. In the fields of social, cultural, political, economic and working life.
- Participation can also be realized by working longer or participation in voluntary work.
- Emancipation of the elderly, especially women, by organizing the voice of the elderly.
- Realize dialogue with the elderly and elderly organizations. Discussion about the elderly must be held with the elderly.
- See en use the potential of elderly. For example by adapting technology to the needs and possibilities of the elderly.
- Create an stimulate an learning society for all ages.
- Reduce poverty, that means no exclusion of the elderly. Not in the labour market and not as a user of social insurance and social services. Sufficient social and financial support are needed.
- Create a healthy environment (good healthcare and care for the elderly and attention to prevention)
- Take care of a good quality of life for the elderly and stimulate participation by deinstitutionalization of care

### Question 2.

In which areas in particular are specific policies and measures required in order to achieve such a society of all ages?

#### Ad 2. Areas

Policies must focusing on the following areas:

- Long term care services
- To be able to face the challenge of ageing it is necessary not to focus only on the elderly but also on the youth, the elderly of tomorrow. Active and healthy ageing start with the youth of today. More policies based on life-cycle or life course approach are needed.
- Not only focusing on pension and health services, but also on other fields like policies on mobility, housing, education, finance and economics.
- There are different interests between and in countries. Common policy is difficult already on national level. Individualized policies are necessary. There for actions must be taken at all levels of the government: national, regional and local and preferable in support and collaboration with NGO's and civil societies. e

Ad 2a. Specific policies

The following policies are needed:

- Legislation for active participation and social inclusion of the elderly.
- Stimulation of the intergenerational solidarity to both side (young – old and old – young)
- Policies to reduce stereotyping of the elderly
- Encourage and support the participation of the elderly/elderly organizations in policymaking, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

The audience ask attention for:

- of the elderly in development plans.

**FINAL CONCLUSION, LAST BUT NOT LEAST:**

**Participation can only be realized if it is an priority of the government.**

Individual examples that are mentioned are:

In the discussion other issues has been brought up like: