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The ageing society needs to be understood as an opportunity for all generations. The National Programme of Preparation for Ageing therefore appeals to society as a whole - young people, the middle-aged and older persons.

This draft National Programme of Preparation for Ageing is based on the "International Plan of Action on Ageing" (Vienna 1982), the "UN Principles for Older Persons" (1991), and is in line with the conclusions of the Second World Assembly on Ageing in Madrid (8 - 12 April 2002) and the "Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing 2002".

National Programme was approved by the Government of the Czech Republic in May 15th 2002.

A. The younger generation

The younger generation needs to adopt a positive attitude to ageing and older persons. The spiritual, cultural, social and economic contribution of the older generation is of value to society, and should be understood as such by all of society, including the younger generation. An integral part of the programme must be to prepare the