THE IMPACT OF CHRONIC DISEASE IN LEBANON

Chronic diseases are the major cause of death and disability worldwide

Facts:
- In Lebanon, chronic diseases accounted for 77% of all deaths in 2002 (see chart, right).
  - Total deaths in Lebanon, 2002 = 24,000.
  - Total deaths related to chronic disease in Lebanon, 2002 = 19,000.

Note:
The data presented in this information sheet were estimated by WHO using standard methods to maximize cross-country comparability. They are not necessarily the official statistics of WHO Member States.

Deaths by cause, all ages, Lebanon, 2002

- Cardiovascular disease: 45%
- Chronic respiratory disease: 5%
- Diabetes: 2%
- Other chronic diseases: 15%
- Communicable, maternal and perinatal, nutritional deficiencies: 10%
- Injuries: 13%
- Cancer: 10%
Projected prevalence of overweight, Lebanon, males and females aged 30 years or more, 2005 and 2015

**Facts:**
- Raised body mass index (overweight and obesity) is an important cause of chronic disease.
- Prevalence of overweight in Lebanon is expected to remain relatively constant in men and increase in women over the next 10 years (see charts, left).

**Solutions:**
- At least 80% of premature heart disease, stroke and type 2 diabetes, and 40% of cancer could be prevented through healthy diet, regular physical activity and avoidance of tobacco products.
- Cost-effective interventions exist, and have worked in many countries: the most successful strategies have employed a range of population-wide approaches combined with interventions for individuals.