

## FOREWORD



IPEA is honoured to present the book *Muito além dos 60: os novos idosos brasileiros*, by Ana Amélia Camarano, whose English title would be *Beyond the sixties: the ageing experience of the Brazilians*. This book is part of IPEA's continuous and permanent commitment to tackle the greatest social issues, prevailing in Brazilian society, by producing consistent and updated analysis. In this particular case, that of our population ageing.

Over the last five years, great changes have taken place in most parts of the world, and especially in Brazil, with regard to how population ageing is being perceived and how it relates to the economy, to the labour market and to the availability of public and familial resources.

Nevertheless, due to the fact that one of the most important social transformations observed in the country since the latter half of the last century has been the lengthening of life—the continual increase in life expectancy—, this scenario has brought about adjustments in the course of both public and private spheres. Thus, instead of simply updating a previous study, edited in 1999, this book has taken on further dimensions. It encompassed a great deal of work, requiring a substantial amount of data collection in a way to reflect the elderly Brazilian society within a longer life framework, occurring in a differentiated manner among the various social, racial and regional groups.

This present edition goes even further: it offers an analysis of the dynamics of a population that is ageing rapidly and differentially within the context of profound social and familial transformations. It highlights the opportunities, the problems and challenges towards effective social protection for this group that include both public policies and familial support.

One's attention is drawn to the interdisciplinary focus of the book that examines issues such as the possibilities of continual expansion of life expectancy and the perspectives in terms of physical and mental autonomy for elderly people, intergenerational support and conflict within the scope of the family and of public policies, living conditions of elderly people and of their families and, even, the perspectives for elderly people in the future.



The interdisciplinary nature was assured thanks to the participation of specialists from other institutions that have greatly collaborated to complement and enrich the view of Ipea researchers. We express our gratitude to them for their promptness and competence in responding to the invitation of participating in yet another contribution for specialists from various fields of knowledge and from the society as a whole.

Glauco Arbix  
**President of IPEA**