An atlas of leprosy

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An "Atlas of Leprosy" has been produced by the Department of Epidemiology (a WHO Collaborating Center), University of Louvain in Brussels at the request of Mr. L. MOYERSON, President of the DAMIEN FOUNDATION:

This Atlas provides the latest figures on the prevalence of leprosy in a number of countries. Information was obtained through various channels, including WHO, Governments, ILEP (International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations), and published literature. In several instances the data were supplemented by information obtained from local correspondents engaged in leprosy work in the country itself. The source is indicated as well as the year to which the data apply. At present the Atlas covers 95 countries.

For each country the information is organized as follows:

- a prevalence map, according to administrative regions;
- a map with the location of ILEP supported projects;
- a statistical table with: population of the country (by administrative regions), number of registered patients, prevalence, number of patients in ILEP supported projects.

For countries where information is available it also includes: number of estimated and treated patients.

The Atlas is edited in a simple xerox form to permit frequent updating. It is updated on an annual basis. Additional countries are included as soon as information becomes available.

In the countries covered in the Atlas the total number of registered patients is 4,334,000, of which 65% are located in Asia (mean prevalence 2.5 per thousand) and 28% in Africa (mean prevalence 3.6 per thousand). The number of patients in ILEP supported projects is 1,384,000 (32%). These figures point to the need for a better recording and reporting system for leprosy, since they are clearly underestimates.

The last version of the Atlas is available at a nominal cost (*) at the following address:

DAMIEN FOUNDATION
Rue Stévin, 16
B-1040 BRUXELLES (BELGIUM)

(*) For developed countries, a nominal charge of US\$20.00 is kindly requested, including postage by surface mail; updatings will be sent automatically when published.