



## WFC POLICY STATEMENT

### Use of the Title *Chiropractor*

*Approved by the Assembly of the World Federation of Chiropractic*

*Paris, May 2001*

*As amended Orlando, Florida, April 2003*

**Whereas** persons without a formal and acceptable chiropractic education practice as chiropractors in a number of countries where the practice of chiropractic is not regulated by law;

**And whereas** such persons have frequently taken brief instruction in treatment techniques at unofficial schools or courses claiming to offer chiropractic education;

**And whereas** both of the above matters are against the interests of the public and chiropractic profession;

#### **Now therefore be it resolved that:**

1. The title chiropractor, doctor of chiropractic and titles derived from them should only be used by duly licensed or registered chiropractors or graduates of chiropractic educational programmes that are formally accredited by a chiropractic accreditation agency or an alternative government-recognised accreditation process in the country in question, or that are recognised and approved on an interim basis within the terms of the World Federation of Chiropractic's Tokyo Charter by the national association of chiropractors in the country in question.

2. The term chiropractic and terms derived from it, insofar as they are used in an educational context to describe a school or educational course purporting to offer a primary qualification or competence for chiropractic practice, should only be used by chiropractic educational programmes are formally accredited by a chiropractic accreditation agency or an alternative government-recognised accreditation process in the country in question, or that are recognised and approved on an interim basis within the terms of the World Federation of Chiropractic's Tokyo Charter by the national association of chiropractors in the country in question.
3. The term *chiropractic* and its derivatives, insofar as they are used in a professional context to describe a job, service, or treatment purporting chiropractic practice, should only be used by chiropractors or doctors of chiropractic who have graduated from chiropractic educational institutions formally accredited by a recognized process in the country in question, or that are recognized and approved on an interim basis, within the terms of the World Federation of Chiropractic's Tokyo Charter, by the national association of chiropractors in the country in question.

## **Explanatory Notes**

- (i) The amendment to the current WFC policy statement is found in paragraph three. This extends the range of the policy.
- (ii) It seeks to restrict inappropriate use of the term chiropractic in an educational context, the new paragraph 3 extends this to practice. The goal is to try and remove the potential for other health professionals to claim that they are providing chiropractic services in countries where chiropractic practice is not regulated by law.

### **Explanatory notes to the original policy, passed at the Paris Assembly in 2001 were:**

- (i) The above proposed policy is presented by the Japanese Association of Chiropractors. It seeks policy from the WFC that can be used by the JAC and other national associations with their governments and other parties to protect use of the title chiropractor and use of the term chiropractic in connection with unrecognised and unaccredited schools. The policy is only relevant to countries where the practice of chiropractic is not regulated by law.
- (ii) The language of the resolution is relatively complex because of the different circumstances that apply with respect to chiropractic education in different countries. Some chiropractic schools are accredited by chiropractic accrediting agencies, some are accredited by non-chiropractic government-recognised agencies (eg South Africa), some are unaccredited but recognised by national associations pursuant to the provision of the WFC's Tokyo Charter (eg Brazil, Japan, Korea), and some are neither accredited nor

recognised by the relevant national association but have been conferred status by government (eg Sweden and the UK).

- (iii) The motion must be drafted so that it applies to primary or first professional courses, but does not extend to post-graduate or continuing education courses.