



WFC POLICY STATEMENT

Resolution on Observer Status for Taiwan at the World Health Organization and Related Matters

Approved by the Council of the World Federation of Chiropractic

Toronto, December 6, 2005

Whereas the ethical obligation of health professionals is to serve all human beings irrespective of their political or religious affiliation or any other factor.

And Whereas The goal of all nations must be the advancement and protection of the health of all human beings without any discrimination. Protection of human health can only be achieved if all people and health care systems collaborate. WHO must be able to invite all people and health care systems to participate in the fight for better health and to resist against disease and premature death. Protection of human health must be separated from politics.

And Whereas approximately 23 million people living in Taiwan have been significantly affected by international epidemics, such as the SARS epidemic during 2002 and 2003, and will be threatened by future epidemics, such as the current threat of Avian Flu.

And Whereas the people of Taiwan are willing and able to contribute most significantly to international relief efforts when other people are in need, as demonstrated by their humanitarian aid support following the tsunami disaster in Asia during 2004.

And Whereas the people of Taiwan should not be excluded from the work of the World Health Organization irrespective of the legal status of Taiwan.

Now Therefore It Is Resolved that the World Federation of Chiropractic (WFC), as a non-governmental organization in official relations with WHO, calls on WHO to grant Taiwan observer status at WHO and calls on WHO and all its Member States to ensure that Taiwan is included as a participating party to the WHO International Health Regulations. Further, the WFC strongly encourages its members to call on their national governments to advocate for observer status for Taiwan at WHO and for inclusion of Taiwan as a participating party to the WHO International Health Regulations.