



To the Constituent Members
and the Associate Members
of the World Medical Association

Observers and Guests of the
2024 WMA General Assembly

31 October 2024

2024 WMA General Assembly, Helsinki, 16-19 October 2024

Dear Colleagues,
Dear Friends,

I would like to thank you sincerely for your fruitful contributions to the work of our 2024 General Assembly in Helsinki.

We are honoured to have Dr Philip Ashok from Malaysia as our new President for 2024-2025 and are most grateful to our outgoing President, Dr Lujain AlQodmani from Kuwait, for her contribution as President for the term 2023-2024. Dr AlQodmani will remain active as Immediate Past President for the next year. Dr Jacqueline Kitulu from Kenya was elected as President for 2025-2026.

The General Assembly adopted **essential new policies and policy revisions**, reflecting the latest consensus opinions of our profession. You will find below the list of adopted policies from this meeting (available as well on [WMA website](https://www.wma.net)):

- [WMA Declaration of Helsinki – Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human Participants](#) (revised)
- [WMA Declaration of Kigali on the Ethical Use of Medical Technology](#) (revised)
- [WMA Declaration on Prevention and Reduction of Air Pollution to Improve Air Quality](#)
- [WMA Statement on Assisted Reproductive Technologies](#) (revised)
- [WMA Statement on Epidemics and Pandemics](#) (revised)
- [WMA Statement on Human Papillomavirus Vaccination](#) (revised)
- [WMA Resolution on Anti-LGBTQ Legislation](#)
- [WMA Resolution on Organ Donation in Prisoners](#)
- [WMA Resolution on Plastics and Health](#)
- [WMA Resolution on the Protection of Healthcare in Israel and Gaza](#)

Policies reaffirmed by the 226th Council Session, Seoul, April 2024 and the 227th Council Session, Helsinki, October 2024

- [WMA Declaration of Hong Kong on the Abuse of Older People](#) (with minor revision)
- [WMA Guidelines on Promotional Mass Media Appearance by Physicians](#) (with minor revision)
- [WMA Statement on Adolescent Suicide](#) (with minor revision)
- [WMA Statement on Non-Discrimination in Professional Membership and Activities of Physicians](#) (with minor revision)
- [WMA Resolution on the Revocation of WHO Guidelines on Opioid Use](#) (with minor revision)
- [WMA Resolution in Support of an International Day of the Medical Profession](#)
- [WMA Resolution in support of the Turkish Medical Association](#) (with minor revision)

Several press releases were issued on the occasion of the General Assembly. Please visit <https://www.wma.net/news-press/press-releases/> to see them.

These are strong policies and we encourage you to promulgate them actively amongst your membership. We hope that your organisational leadership and membership will discuss them and use them as guidance resources to develop your national policies and apply their principles in your daily work as physicians serving your patients. Some Constituent Members have already published or planned significant articles on the revised Declaration of Helsinki and I encourage you to do the same so that this document is circulated widely.

The following **standing document** was revised, and its updated version is available in the [members' area: Rules Applicable to WMA Associate Membership \(AM1/Oct2024\)](#).

The WMA depository folder includes the meeting documents with the final index. As soon as ready, the minutes of the Council/GA sessions will be available in the folder: "07_ReportsAndMinutes_ToBeApproved".

This message would be incomplete without thanking all those who have assisted in the WMA work since last year's Assembly, be it financially, with voluntary efforts, or in other ways.

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the Finnish Medical Association for its warm welcome and productive cooperation in organising our General Assembly in the beautiful city of Helsinki.

With kind regards,



Dr. Otmar Kloiber
Secretary General
World Medical Association

P.S. You may find the next meetings organised by the WMA on our event page (<https://www.wma.net/what-we-do/events/>):

- 229th WMA Council Session, Montevideo, 24-26 April 2025
- WFME World Conference, Bangkok, 25-28 May 2025
- WMA General Assembly, Porto, 8-11 October 2025
- International Chair in Bioethics 17th World Conference, Ljubljana, 24-26 November 2025