Women, Adolescent and Children’s Health

The WFPHA Women, Adolescent and Children’s Health Working Group (WACH) addresses the health issues of these populations through advocacy and advances public health practice through research and education.

The WACH had a world leadership dialogue session during the last World Congress, which discussed the respective roles of government, civil societies. 18 people from 10 countries attended the meeting, demonstrating a broad global representation. Three major activities for the coming years are planned: survey to all WFPHA members to see how they are organized around Women, Adolescent and Children’s Health, develop a resolution on accountability of a global strategy of adolescents, work with childhood development and children with disabilities, and breastfeeding advocacy.

The Group was created as the WFPHA had very few policies addressing Maternal Childhood Health. The focus of this working group emphasizes women’s health including, but not exclusive to reproduction, parenting, and new-born, children’s and adolescent health. This lifespan approach predated the UN/WHO Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health (2016-2030) which was launched in September 2015. The work of the working group will support and expand the Strategy’s roadmap to ensure that all women, children, and adolescents survive, thrive, and transform their societies for a healthy and sustainable future. This means eliminating inequity. Founding WG members represent 10 countries (Mexico, Nigeria, Egypt, India, Sudan, Uganda, South Africa, Pakistan, Bangladesh and the United States) and have extensive experience in practice, research and education in women, children and adolescent health. The working group is reviewing WFPHA policies and will write one or more new policies on the themes covered by the working group in the following years.