WFPHA on Racism
(Statement)

17 June 2020

Since its inception in 1967, social justice, equity and human rights have been the enduring values of the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA). These values underpin all our actions and activities.

Racism is a public health crisis deeper and more chronic than the current Covid-19 pandemic. A growing body of research shows, racism and discrimination constitute social determinants of health; their presence adversely affects health outcomes.

Human rights are inherent to all people, regardless of race, gender, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other factor. Everyone is entitled to these rights, without discrimination. Structural embedded racism and inequalities exist to varying degrees in all countries, creating health disparities that contribute to broader social crises.

The WFPHA joins all who are committed to preserving peace, justice, and human dignity. We call on all individuals to reflect on their own biases and behavior, and to seize daily opportunities to fight racial injustice and discrimination of all forms.