



World Federation of Public Health Associations
Fédération mondiale des associations de santé publique
Federación mundial de las asociaciones de salud pública

Nuclear Weapons and Public Health

Passed by the WFPHA General Assembly - 1993

The World Federation of Public Health Associations,

Recognizing that the continued existence of nuclear weapons poses an unacceptable risk to global health and the global environment;

Noting that tens of thousands of nuclear weapons continue to threaten global health, that the recent U.S. - Russian Strategic Arms Accord perpetuates the threat of nuclear conflict by allowing for the modernization of nuclear weapons systems and for the development of nuclear defenses in outer space, and that control of many of these weapons has become destabilized through recent political realignments and possibly through sales;

Recognizing that this policy of security through nuclear deterrence will lead to nuclear proliferation, stand-offs, and blackmail with the virtual certainty that these weapons will one day be used in anger or by accident;

URGES the delegates to the 46th World Health Assembly to request an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice on the legal status of the use of nuclear weapons, so as to remove the cloud of legal doubt under which the nuclear powers continue their involvement with this most illegitimate of all weapons and to provide the legal basis for the gradual creation of a nuclear-free world.