



**REINFORCING THE PUBLIC HEALTH
COMMITMENTS ON PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

Passed by the WFPHA General Assembly - 2008

Recognizing the Rio Declaration (August 2006) and recalling the thirty two resolutions and two position paper adopted by WFPHA on its previous Assemblies¹, from 1978 to 2005, and considering:

- the contents, arguments and requests addressed in the resolution “Peace for Public Health Initiative,” adopted by WFPHA Assembly at the 27th Annual Meeting, on May 3rd, 1993;
- the contents, arguments and requests stated in the resolution “Public Health, Peace and Human Rights”, adopted by WFPHA Assembly at the 37th Annual Meeting, on May 19th 2003;
- “Global solidarity and responsibility are essential to meet the enormous challenge of assuring that every human being can live their lives with respect and dignity, thereby creating a better future for the next generations.” (Rio Declaration, August 2006).

recognizing finally that:

- public health contributions can prevent and stop the consequences of war, social crises and violence;
- good mental health as well as the human rights require that people everywhere are allowed to free will and to belong to their original cultural and spiritual community, to speak its language and to exercise its traditions;
- much of the social turmoil and injustice worldwide is a consequence of not allowing peoples to exercise their culture and trying of forcing them into a cultural framework which is not theirs.

¹ Resolutions and position papers adopted by WFPHA are available at <http://www.wfpaha.org>



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

The WFPHA

- asks governments and international organizations and agencies to recognize this right and to organize Society in such a way that different cultural and spiritual groups can live peacefully besides each other; and
- condemns all efforts of using violence to negate this right; and
- will monitor and respond to these situations.