



# worldwide network for blood and marrow transplantation

NGO in official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO)

WBMT, c/o Blutspende SRK Schweiz AG, Waldeggstrasse 51, CH-3097 Liebefeld, Switzerland

Chicago, June 3, 2024

Dear WBMT board member,  
Dear society board representative of

AABB, AfBMT, ANZTCT, APBMT, ASFA, ASHI, ASTCT, CIBMTR, EBMT, EFI, ELN, EMBMT, Eurocord, FACT, ICCBBA, ISBT, ISCT, JACIE, LABMT, WMDA,

you may be aware that the World Health Organisation (WHO) has been holding its annual 77th World Health Assembly (WHA) meeting this week in Geneva (27th May to 1st June) and the WHA is the decision-making body of the WHO.

We would like to update you on the significant initiatives concerning transplantation that have been discussed this week at the WHA for which WBMT have lent its support and added its voice in its capacity as the organisation in official relations with WHO and on behalf of our member societies.

Firstly, the WHA adopted the Resolution entitled "Increasing availability, ethical access and oversight of transplantation of human cells, tissues and organs". This Resolution is based on the elements reflected in the Santander Declaration ([https://www.ont.es/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Santander\\_Transplant\\_Statement\\_nov\\_23.pdf](https://www.ont.es/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Santander_Transplant_Statement_nov_23.pdf)) which arose out of the Global Transplant Summit that was held November 2023 in the city. Some members of WBMT were involved in this summit.

The Resolution emphasizes the need to expand transplantation, maximizing donation from the deceased and guaranteeing the protection of the living donor, establish measures for the oversight of activities (authorization, audits, registries, coding, traceability and biovigilance), combat organ trafficking and address innovation in this area. It also urges the World Health Organization to support Member States in complying with the Resolution and through the development of a Global Strategy. This global strategy is now being discussed at WHO with the active involvement of WBMT.

Here you can find the text of the Resolution (for now, this is the version adopted at the Executive Board in January): [https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/EB154/B154\(7\)-en.pdf](https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB154/B154(7)-en.pdf)

Secondly, please find attached the constituency statement that has been prepared by 7 different non state actors (NSAs) in official relations with the WHO; WBMT being one of them. This constituency statement highlights the support for the resolution listed above.

Please see [the link](#) to the full statement that was prepared and which was read out in person at WHA by Eoin McGrath, Executive Director for ICCBBA (The international standards organisation responsible for the management of the ISBT128 standard) who coordinated this work on behalf of all 7 NSAs.

I would be grateful if you could forward this email and highlight the work done for this World Health Assembly to the President and Executive Board of your organization.

Thank you for continuing to be part of WBMT!

Kind Regards,

Damiano Rondelli (WBMT President)

Mickey BC Koh (WBMT Vice-President)