



WORLD FEDERATION OF ACUPUNCTURE AND MOXIBUSTION SOCIETIES (WFAS)
NGO IN OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH WHO A-LIASON ORGANIZATION OF ISO/TC249

AGENDA ITEM: HEALTH 2020 IMPLEMENTATION AND CHALLENGES

**THE ACTIVITIES OF THE WORLD FEDERATION
OF ACUPUNCTURE-MOXIBUSTION SOCIETIES (WFAS)**

Speaker: Filomena Bangrazi Petti, representative of WFAS

It is a great honour for me to address this 63rd session of the WHO European Regional Committee on behalf of WFAS, NGO in official relation with WHO since 1997. WFAS includes 125 acupuncture scientific societies from 40 countries; 41 from Europe.

Over 20% of the European population has addressed acupuncture for treatment, delivered by the private sector. Only in a few countries, some Public Health Units have started to deliver acupuncture treatments within their National Health System. They made it on their own initiative, since no government regulation has been issued on the matter.

WFAS gives impulse to scientific activity by promoting a consistent program of large scientific meetings in the fields of education, research and clinical activity. Its European member societies have been involved in the organisation of these major events in co-operation with Governmental Institutions, Universities and Public Hospitals, at the same time they have widespread the culture of acupuncture in the wide public.

WHO has given significant contributions to acupuncture in the past years, such as compiling the list of 40 kinds of diseases that can be effectively treated by acupuncture. In 2008 WFAS co-sponsored the WHO Conference on Traditional Medicine, hosted in Beijing. The key outcome of the Congress was The “Beijing Declaration” (supported and implemented by the WHA62.13 Resolution), a statement made with the intention of promoting the safe and effective use of Traditional Medicine and with the aim to call on WHO Member States and other stakeholders in order to take steps to integrate TM/CAM into national health systems.

To this end, the European WFAS member societies hope that European countries be mature to adopt this resolution in a perspective of integration with, and mutual support of, the medical systems that are at present scientifically credited and in force, to the purpose of contributing to improve the health condition of the whole mankind, being this the very mission of this respectable World Organisation.