

FORTY-SECOND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA42.5

Agenda item 18.2

15 May 1989

PREVENTING THE PURCHASE AND SALE OF HUMAN ORGANS

The Forty-second World Health Assembly,

Concerned by the commercial trafficking in the organs of healthy donors, which exploits human distress and puts at increased risk the health of the donors;

Aware that commercial arrangements for organ transplants are nevertheless being undertaken and that to date there has been little success in preventing trafficking in human organs;

Anxious to prevent the exploitation of human distress particularly in children and other vulnerable groups and to further the recognition of the ethical principles which condemn the buying and selling of organs for purposes of transplantation;

1. CALLS UPON Member States to take appropriate measures to prevent the purchase and sale of human organs for transplantation;
2. RECOMMENDS that Member States introduce legislation to prohibit trafficking in organs where this cannot effectively be prevented by other measures;
3. URGES Member States, in close cooperation with professional health organizations and supervising health authorities, to discourage all practices which facilitate commercial trafficking in organs;
4. REQUESTS Member States to report as soon as possible to WHO action taken with respect to this resolution;
5. REQUESTS the Director-General to report to the Forty-fourth World Health Assembly the measures taken by the governments of Member States in furtherance of this resolution.

Eleventh Plenary Meeting, 15 May 1989
A42/VR/11

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