THE WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION on THE ABUSE OF PSYCHIATRY

Adopted by the WMA General Assembly, Washington 2002

1. The World Medical Association (WMA) notes with concern evidence from a number of countries that political dissidents and social activists have been detained in psychiatric institutions, and subjected to unnecessary psychiatric treatment as a punishment.

2. The WMA:

   2.1 declares that such detention and treatment is abusive and unacceptable;

   2.2 calls on physicians and psychiatrists to resist involvement in these abusive practices;

   2.3 calls on member NMAs to support their physician members who resist involvement in these abuses; and

   2.4 calls on governments to stop abusing medicine and psychiatry in this manner, and on non-governmental organizations and the World Health Organization to support this initiative.

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6.10.2002

The WMA Resolution on Political Abuse of Psychiatry (Doc. 20.5/2001) is an official policy document of the World Medical Association, the global representative body for physicians. It was first adopted by the WMA General Assembly, Washington 2002.