

NUMAD 7th conference

Forum: Health Committee

Main Submitter: Israel

Co-Submitters: Sweden, Japan, Israël, South Africa, Bolivia, Brazil, United Kingdom, Turkey, Russia, Austria, USA

The Health Committee,

Noting that everyday more and more people die from genetically caused diseases,

Reaffirming that these diseases could be cured using gene editing methods,

Declaring that a human embryo is defined as an individual from the time of the implantation to the end of the eighth week after conception,

Deeply convinced that every individual is granted the right to live,

1. Calls for the creation of a committee called Committee for Human Gene Pool Modification Research Safety (CHGPMRS), and placed under UNESCO International Bioethics Committee (UIBE), under the supervision and protection of the World Health Organization (WHO) that will:
 - a. be composed of international and independent:
 - i. biologists,
 - ii. lawmakers,
 - iii. ethicists,
 - b. conduct experiments and research submitted by:
 - i. private sector research laboratories,
 - ii. government-led research laboratories,
 - c. authorise or prohibit the use of technologies regarding human gene pool editing and grant patents of modified human gene sequences,
 - d. improve communication between researchers within Member States by:
 - i. holding annual conferences to discuss ongoing research and advances,
 - ii. creating a database in order to share individual research results with other researchers;

2. Calls upon Member States to support research and development in the field of human genetic engineering by:
 - a. passing and enacting new healthcare laws and/or improving existing legislations,
 - b. providing access to research of the human genome for non-discriminatory uses,
 - c. loosening or lifting existing restrictions on the study and the modification of the human gene pool for scientific and medical purposes;
3. Encourages the World Health Organization to allocate a budget for human gene pool research in order to:
 - a. improve existing research in the Member States by continuing investments,
 - b. promote research in Member States that have not yet initiated it,
 - c. ensure that research is conducted in full transparency;
4. Urges Member States to create legislations with regulatory purposes that prohibit:
 - a. the implantation of genetically-modified embryos into the womb of a mother until safety has been determined by the CHGPMRS,
 - b. the genetic modification of embryos for eugenic purposes,
 - c. conducting research on fetuses after eight weeks of gestation,
 - d. cloning of a human being,
 - e. research on somatic or germline cells without receiving informed patient consent,
 - f. the production of or research on biological weapons for malicious purposes such as:
 - i. the creation of military units with enhanced soldiers,
 - ii. the use of genetically modified viruses and bacteria in combat,
 - g. conducting any research on human embryos if scientists can achieve the same goal with animal embryos until scientists have tested and received results on animal embryos,
 - h. research on human embryos unless embryos are non viable, artificial or to be terminated,
 - i. the production of or research on human genes which will create discrimination in society;
5. Recommends that Member States fund the education of their citizens in order to:
 - a. reconcile scientific development with religious beliefs,
 - b. raise awareness towards the social, ethical and biological implications of human gene pool editing,
 - c. find and educate the youth on the developments in genomics to create foundation for future research;

6. Calls for the WHO to conduct a thorough and unbiased appraisal, with the private sector, of the necessary measures to be adopted to facilitate the implementation of all new, cutting-edge gene technology such as, but not limited to, CRISPR (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats);
7. Supports the implementation of scientific exchange programs to enable :
 - a. scientists from less developed countries to visit institutes to:
 - i. conduct research on the modification of the human gene pool,
 - ii. disseminate knowledge in their home countries after participating in the program,
 - b. scientists from more developed countries to:
 - i. create WHO-funded research institutes on the human gene pool in less developed member states,
 - ii. hold seminars and lectures for researchers in those countries.