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NUMAD 7th conference

Forum: Health Committee

Main submitter: Belgium

Co-submitters: Switzerland, New-Zealand, Senegal, Hungary, France, Vatican, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Denmark, the Netherlands, Novartis, Canada, Doctors without Borders, Republic of Korea

The Health Committee,

Recognising genetic modification of the human gene pool as a result of improvement of science,

Aware of the new possibilities for humanity provided by CRISPR-Cas9 (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats),

Alarmed by the harm editing of the human gene pool can cause,

Affirming that multinational corporations are contributing significantly to this controversial condition.

1. Asks all governments to agree to a moratorium on the application of gene editing on the human germ line cells outside research, until all risks are better understood;
2. Considers that gene transfers in human somatic cells are a morally acceptable form of therapy, about which the patient must be properly informed and its consent properly obtained;
3. Calls upon legislation prohibiting the use of genetics to improve selected characteristics or traits of an organism for eugenic purposes;
4. Emphasizes that the best way to make safe use of the revolutionary science discovery is to support further research;
5. Submits a code of conduct for such research, which is as follows, but not limited to:
 - a. be conducted on only on artificial and non-viable embryos, these embryos are designated as such by a legal representative aware of the risks medical procedures could entail; having signed a legal disclaimer assuming all responsibilities
 - b. researching on animal embryos shall be prioritised before using non viable or artificial human embryos
 - c. considering the use of dead embryos to be permitted
6. Proposes biannual meetings of all scientific academies and invites all leading scientists of the world to a summit on this topic by the summer of 2018 to discuss:
 - a. ongoing research
 - b. new research
 - c. verifying of older research

7. Emphasizes that the best way to get a larger consensus is to release a regular public report on the risks of gene editing and the possibilities offered by gene editing;

8. Calls for further efforts to create a global coalition to develop a consensus on what is ethical in the interest of all nations;

9. Encourages the classification of companies that work upon the modification of the human genome, and only to cure diseases, as pharmaceutical companies;

10. Reaffirms that citizens' genetic information is classified under personal protection of information laws;

11. States the need of developed countries to aid areas with the highest necessity through research funds, education programs, and the application of such technology;

12. Supports the prohibition of cloning of human beings and embryos;

13. Presses to forbid the development of biological warfare pathogens that have been genetically engineered for "defensive" or "offensive" reasons;

14. Calls for a ban on the general use of genetic analysis for mass examinations of employees.