

World Board Resolution on Asbestos

Meeting in Vienna, on the 8th of May 2014, the World Board of the Building and Woodworkers International (BWI)

Considering that:

The 1989 World Congress of the International Federation of Building and Wood Workers adopted the policy of pursuing a global prohibition of asbestos;

All forms of asbestos, including chrysotile, are classified as known human carcinogens by the International Agency for Research on Cancer;

Global policies for the prohibition of asbestos have been adopted by the International Labour Organisation, the International Programme on Chemical Safety, the World Health Organization, the International Social Security Association, the International Association of Labour Inspection, the Collegium Ramazzini and the United Nations Environment Programme;

Noting that there is a comprehensive ban on the manufacturing and use of asbestos and asbestos-containing materials in more than fifty countries;

Alarmed that an estimated 107,000 workers die every year from diseases caused by exposure to asbestos and that workers continue to face serious risks from asbestos exposure;

Resolves that:

The policy of the BWI is to actively promote a global prohibition of the use of all types of asbestos and asbestos containing materials, and to campaign for the elimination of asbestos related diseases world -wide.

The BWI will work to give effect to recommendations of the Vienna Conference Declaration.