



Australian Government
National Health and
Medical Research Council

N H M R C

Professor Gerhard Opelz MD
President
The Transplantation Society
1255 University Street, Suite 325
MONTREAL QC CANADA
H3B 3B4

Dear Professor Opelz

RE: Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism

I refer to the correspondence from the immediate past President of the Transplantation Society, Professor Jeremy Chapman, dated 7 June 2010 seeking National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) endorsement of the *Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism* (the Declaration).

I have sought advice from the Australian Health Ethics Committee (AHEC) on the Declaration. AHEC have recommended that I endorse the Declaration, a recommendation that the Council of NHMRC has supported. AHEC have advised me that the Declaration is consistent with current NHMRC ethical guidance on organ and tissue transplantation.

Consistent with our ethical advice, it is with pleasure that I officially endorse the Declaration on behalf of NHMRC. NHMRC is supportive of all international efforts to prohibit the unethical trade in human organs and tissues.

I look forward to receiving your confirmation that NHMRC endorsement is reflected in the *Declaration of Istanbul* webpage.

Yours sincerely

Professor Warwick Anderson AM
Chief Executive Officer

18 February 2011

WORKING TO BUILD A HEALTHY AUSTRALIA
www.nhmrc.gov.au

GPO Box 1421, Canberra ACT 2601

16 Marcus Clarke Street, Canberra City ACT 2600

T. 13 000 NHMRC (13 000 64672) or +61 2 6217 9000 F. +61 2 6217 9100 E. nhmrc@nhmrc.gov.au

ABN 88 601 010 284