



1st WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine

Dr. Iva Lloyd, BScH, BCPP, ND

CEO, WNF

In mid-August, the World Health Organization (WHO) convened the first **Global Summit on Traditional Medicine**. Co-hosted by the Government of India, this meeting was significant to the global naturopathic profession, and all other aspects of Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine (TCIM).

Though the WHO has had a Traditional Medicine department for years, this is the first time that they have held a global meeting. It was an opportunity for various departments of the WHO and Ministers of Health from around the globe to hear from Traditional and Indigenous experts, practitioners and researchers on the status of various aspects of TCIM (i.e., education, research, usage, research, etc.), as well as the opportunities and challenges globally. To learn more, please [click](#).



2023 WNF General Assembly

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Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the WNF 2023 General Assembly in Geneva. Thank you as well to our host member, Swiss Association of Naturopaths with Federal Diploma, ASNDF and their president Fabrice Lau. We would also like to thank the support of Anne Gimalac and Julien Henzelin from Navi for their coordination and support, and for a fabulous conference that followed the WNF GA.

We look forward to our next face-to-face GA in Brazil in 2025. Please note that the WNF will hold a virtual AGM for all members in May of 2024.

For a detailed report on the 2023 WNF General Assembly, please [click](#).

Strategic Plan 2023-2025 Session at WNF General Assembly, Geneva

Dr. Tobey-Ann Pinder, BScH, ND, JD

President, WNF

In a whirlwind session at the General Assembly in Geneva, the Strategic Plan 2023-2025 began to take shape through a rapid yet impactful exercise. Members actively participated, providing valuable insights across the plan's four pillars: Membership, Building Research Capacity, Education Standards, and International Alliances. The collated feedback is now condensed into slides that were shared at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), and have been circulated to WNF members in a link provided in the General Assembly Recap. For those unable to join the session, your input is still vital—kindly send any feedback. Next on our agenda: refining this feedback within the relevant Committees to establish achievable goals within the strategic plan's pillars. Together, we're shaping the future of WNF.

WNF Educational Working Group Summary

Tina Hausser HP, NatDipl

Dr. Abena Tuson Turner ND

A dedicated working session focused on the field of naturopathic education was held during the WNF GA. After an introductory framework by Prof Jon Wardle, ND, participants were organized into four distinct working groups, each facilitated by a WNF Officer, with each group delving into a different case study. Common themes resonated: a fervent desire for increased collaboration within the WNF community, desire for a robust exchange of educational expertise, and a collective call for the establishment of a framework that pairs schools to foster mutual support and drive advancements in the realm of naturopathic education. We extend our gratitude to all members who candidly shared their experiences, expertise, and the challenges unique to their respective countries. The [WNF Educational Committee](#) will be using the feedback from the working groups to set the direction for the committee.

Building Naturopathic Research Capacity Working Group Summary

Dr. Renée Purdy, ND

The research day started off with an informative overview by A/Prof Amie Steel, ND on naturopathic research building followed by an opportunity for members to discuss the challenges, opportunities, and solutions for their specific organization with the assistance of a naturopathic research facilitator. The working group discussions were based on the [Building Naturopathic Research Capacity guide](#) created by the [WNF Research Committee](#). Common challenges included access to research tools, a need for more mentorship and collaboration, desire for guidance on standardized naturopathic research education and guidance on acquiring research funding. Members made commitments to work toward building research capacity in their organizations, while the WNF research committee will work to create and share resources based on the needs presented by participants at the WNF GA. Further details on this will be confirmed in the coming weeks.

Environmental Health Committee Update

Dr. Moira Fitzpatrick, ND

The latest WNF Environmental Health social media campaign was a great success and focused on [Obesity](#). There is growing interest globally in many aspects of environmental health and the [WNF Environmental Health Committee](#) is responding by expanding its focus to include climate change, biodiversity and the sustainability of natural health products.

These new focuses will include the effect of current mono-agricultural practices on the immune, endocrine, and nervous system functions and on the impact of growing herbs and the manufacture of products that are essential to naturopathic care.

The Environmental Committee is looking for volunteers as the goal is to complete all sections of the website within the next year. The work of this committee is rightfully positioning the naturopathic community as leaders and experts in environmental health.

If you would like to join the committee, please contact [Dave](#) or you can contact me directly at drmoirand@gmail.com.

Founder's Award Presentation

At the 2023 GA, the WNF honored Dr. Iva Lloyd, ND with the inaugural [World Naturopathic Federation Founder's Award](#).

Dr. Lloyd was not only a driving force in organizing the WNF, she led the organization through its formative first nine 9 years. Presenting the award was current WNF President Dr. Tobey-Ann Pinder ND and WNF President's Award recipient (2019) Tina Hausser HP, NatDipl. Congratulations Iva!

2023 Organizational Highlights

Since the 2017 General Assembly, we have asked members to share news of their successes, challenges and next steps with the global naturopathic community.

What began as a modest 16-page document has grown to become a [comprehensive 50-page book](#). Included in this year's edition are maps of each world region as well as lists of; country's with a Naturopathic workforce, WNF members, naturopathic educational programs and naturopathic research centres.

Members' Newsletter Reminder

Our 3rd [Members' Newsletter](#) was just published. If you haven't had a chance to check it out, the Members' Newsletters have now been added to the WNF website. Have a story you'd like to share in the next issue - please [contact us](#) by October 24, 2023.