



THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

LUTHERISCHER WELTBUND - FEDERACIÓN LUTERANA MUNDIAL - FÉDÉRATION LUTHÉRIENNE MONDIALE

THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN THE CARE OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS

Resolution adopted by the Ninth Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation
Hong Kong, 8-16 July 1997

Recognizing that the HIV/AIDS pandemic has intensified and continues to spread throughout the world, especially in the economically poor countries;

Recognizing that the people most affected by the HIV virus are the poorest of the poor, children, young and productive persons, women, the illiterate and the marginalized;

Recognizing that the HIV/AIDS problem should not only be approached from the medical point of view but also from the concern for human dignity and the right of the individual to enjoy the highest possible quality of life;

Convinced that HIV/AIDS is a disease like any other disease which should not be confused with moral diagnosis;

Recognizing that people living with HIV/AIDS are often neglected, rejected and ostracized by relatives, friends and society; and

Recognizing the churches' understanding of inclusiveness;

Be it resolved that the Assembly:

1. reaffirms all resolutions declared by the Lutheran World Federation on pastoral care, advocacy and alleviation of suffering for people living with HIV/AIDS; and
2. urges the member churches to press towards the implementation of this and previously declared resolutions on HIV/AIDS into action.