

Statement Regarding Iodine Deficiency:

We note the progress toward eliminating iodine deficiency disorders (IDD) in all parts of the world in reports from the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the International Council for Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD);

We recognize and affirm the need for national priority attention in each country to achieve the goal of virtual elimination as recommended by the United Nations Special General Assembly on Children;

We are concerned that Iodine Deficiency remains a serious public health problem in many places as a major threat to preventable brain damage to millions of children, as well as threats of cretinism, miscarriage, stillbirth, and physical impairment;

We strongly support the effort to achieve Universal Salt Iodization because regular iodine consumption constitutes one of the most cost-effective public nutrition interventions, contributing to economic and social development;

We recognize that still one-third of the global population remains at risk, mostly in the poorest and economically least developed areas of the world;

We commend the work of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and ICCIDD in the global effort to initiate, improve and support national programs for the virtual elimination of Iodine Deficiency and Kiwanis International for its steadfast financial and other support to those efforts;

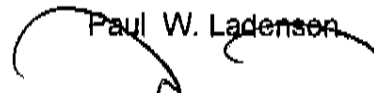
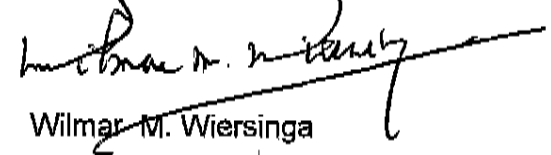
We strongly support the World Health Assembly (WHA) Resolution calling for additional political commitment, improved national oversight and monitoring, and improved reporting on iodine nutrition status; and

Further, we request all of the Members of the International Thyroid Association become associated with and support the National Committee

formed in each country for oversight, public reporting and monitoring of progress;

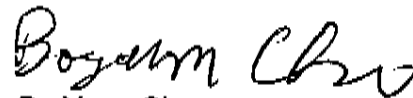
Therefore, we call upon all Members, national and international, to seek collaboration with national leaders of iodination programs in order to achieve the goal of virtual elimination of Iodine Deficiency.


American Thyroid Association President


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Doris Rosenthal

Buenos Aires, October 31, 2005