

ACTION GROUP

The working group agreed a simple co-ordinating structure, trying to ensure it should not be bureaucratic, that it should provide support to local initiatives, and be fully representative of different geographical regions and disciplines. There should be two levels:

1. A Steering Group of 5 or 6 members appointed until the launch of the Decade in 1999.

2. A Board comprising one representative from all organisations and journals which join the campaign. They will be asked to promote national and regional activities.

Endorsement

The Steering Group should seek endorsement of the Decade by the United Nations by mid 1999, to add significant weight to the campaign, and try to gain active support and endorsement from key governments around the world. Such plans should be agreed upon by the end of June 1998.

All those attending the Consensus Meeting were asked to sign a 'Declaration of Intent' to be published with a press release.

Participation

Maintaining momentum after the Consensus Meeting is vital, and new ideas suggested by organisations not present at the Consensus Meeting should be incorporated.

Organisations should indicate their support and membership by November 1998, before a full meeting of the Board in Spring 1999.

Funding

Funding should be sought to support the Steering Group meetings, a secretariat, data handling and publicity, electronic communications and an information-clearing house. The estimate budget for the first year alone is US\$ 350,000.

DECLARATION OF INTENT

Musculoskeletal conditions are crippling diseases that are the most common causes of severe long-term pain and physical disability, affecting hundreds of millions of people across the world. The extent of human suffering is expected to worsen as people live longer and the number of accidents increases. Resulting health problems will cause significant economic burden, es-

calating the amount of money governments will need to spend and potentially denying patients the right to necessary treatments and rehabilitation.

We, the under signed, propose that 2000-2010 be designated the Decade committed to improving quality of life to people with bone and joint disease and injuries throughout the world.

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The following organizations and journals were represented at the meeting or have expressed support

Organizations

- American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons
 American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
 American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
 American College of Rheumatology
 American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine
 American Orthopaedic Association
 American Society for Bone Mineral Research
 American Society for Surgery of the Hand
 AO ASIF Foundation
 Asia Pacific Society for Surgery of the Hand
 Association for the Rational Treatment of Fractures
 Association of Bone and Joint Surgeons
 Australian Orthopaedic Association
 British Orthopaedic Association
 British Orthopaedic Research Society
 British Society for Rheumatology
 Canadian Orthopaedic Association
 Cervical Spine Research Society
 Cervical Spine Research Society-European Section
 European Federation of National Associations for Orthopaedics and Traumatology
 European Foundation for Osteoporosis
 European League Against Rheumatism
 European Orthopaedic Research Society
 European Society of Biomechanics
 European Spinal Deformities Society
 European Spine Society
 Federation of the European Societies for Surgery of the Hand
 Finnish League Against Musculoskeletal Disorders
 German Association for Orthopedics and Traumatology
 German Orthopaedic Society
 Graduate Institute for Clinical and Fundamental Human Movement Science
 Greater Glasgow Health Board, Scotland
 International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand
 International League of Associations for Rheumatism
 International Committee of the Red Cross
 International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics
 International Society for Study of the Lumbar Spine
 Japanese Orthopaedic Association
 Japanese Orthopaedic Research Society
 Japanese Spine Society
 National Institutes of Health / NIAMS
 National Osteoporosis Foundation
 National Osteoporosis Society
 Netherlands Society of Rheumatoid Arthritis Surgery
 Nordic Orthopaedic Federation
 North American Spine Society
 Orthopaedic Research Society
 Orthopaedic Trauma Association
 Osteoarthritis Research Society
 Pan American League of Ass. for Rheumatology
 Physiiatric Association of Spine, Sports and Occupational Rehabilitation
 Scandinavian Society for Surgery of the Hand
 Societat Catalana de Cirurgia Ortopedica y Traumatologia
 Sociedad Espanola Cirurgia Ortopedica y Traumatologia
 Société Française de Chirurgie Orthopédique et Traumatologique
 Société Internationale de Chirurgie Orthopédique et de Traumatologie / SICOT
 Société Internationale de Recherche Orthopédique et de Traumatologie / SIROT
 Swedish Orthopedic Association
 Swedish Osteoporosis Patient Society
 Western Pacific Orthopedic Society
 World Confederation for Physical Therapy
 World Federation of Occupational Therapists
 World Health Organisation

Journals

Acta Orthopaedica Scandinavica
Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases
Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
Arthritis and Rheumatism
British Journal of Rheumatology
Canadian Journal of Surgery
Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research
European Spine Journal
Hip International
International Orthopaedics Sicot
Journal of Arthroplasty
Journal of Biomechanics
Journal of Biomedical Materials Research
Journal of Bone and Mineral Research
Journal of Bone Joint Surgery (Am)
Journal of Bone Joint Surgery (Br)
Journal of Hand Surgery (Br)
Journal of Orthopaedic Research
Journal of Orthopedic Trauma
Journal of Rheumatology
Orthopäde
Osteoarthritis & Cartilage
Osteoporosis International
Physical Therapy
Revue de Chirurgie Orthopédique et Réparatrice de
l'appareil locomoteur
Scandinavian Journal of Rheumatology
SPINE
The American Journal of Occupational Therapy
Zeitschrift für Orthopäde