The World Professional Association for Transgender Health, Inc.

A Non-Profit Corporation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 26, 2010

The *World Professional Association for Transgender Health* has prepared and released a statement urging the de-psychopathologisation of gender variance worldwide. The statement is as follows:

The WPATH Board of Directors strongly urges the de-psychopathologisation of gender variance worldwide. The expression of gender characteristics, including identities, that are not stereotypically associated with one's assigned sex at birth is a common and culturally-diverse human phenomenon which should not be judged as inherently pathological or negative. The psychopathologlisation of gender characteristics and identities reinforces or can prompt stigma, making prejudice and discrimination more likely, rendering transgender and transsexual people more vulnerable to social and legal marginalisation and exclusion, and increasing risks to mental and physical well-being. WPATH urges governmental and medical professional organizations to review their policies and practices to eliminate stigma toward gender-variant people."

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