

Alliance of Health Disparities

September 22,2007

Summary

The Alliance of Health Disparities (AHD), appreciates the opportunity to comment on the current Resolution WHA60-30, in particular discussions at the IGWG regarding public health, innovation and intellectual property. As an organization of ethnic minority health care providers and advocates, we too understand that governments must deal with cost pressures, and that the private system is not a perfect one. We also know that we have all benefited from the discoveries which have brought about huge changes in how we treat our patients. We must not lose sight of this! Private firms, in general are thought to be better informed about the potential value of innovations to patients and providers when directing research. We are concerned that the unintended consequences of these actions would only serve to blunt any future R& D advances for all and strongly oppose them.