

第二十六屆世界聾人聯合會亞洲地區代表大會  
26<sup>th</sup> World Federation of the Deaf  
Regional Secretariat for Asia Representatives Meeting

24 – 28  
AUGUST  
2014



Deaf-hearing Together  
We Can Achieve More



# Strengthening Human Diversity



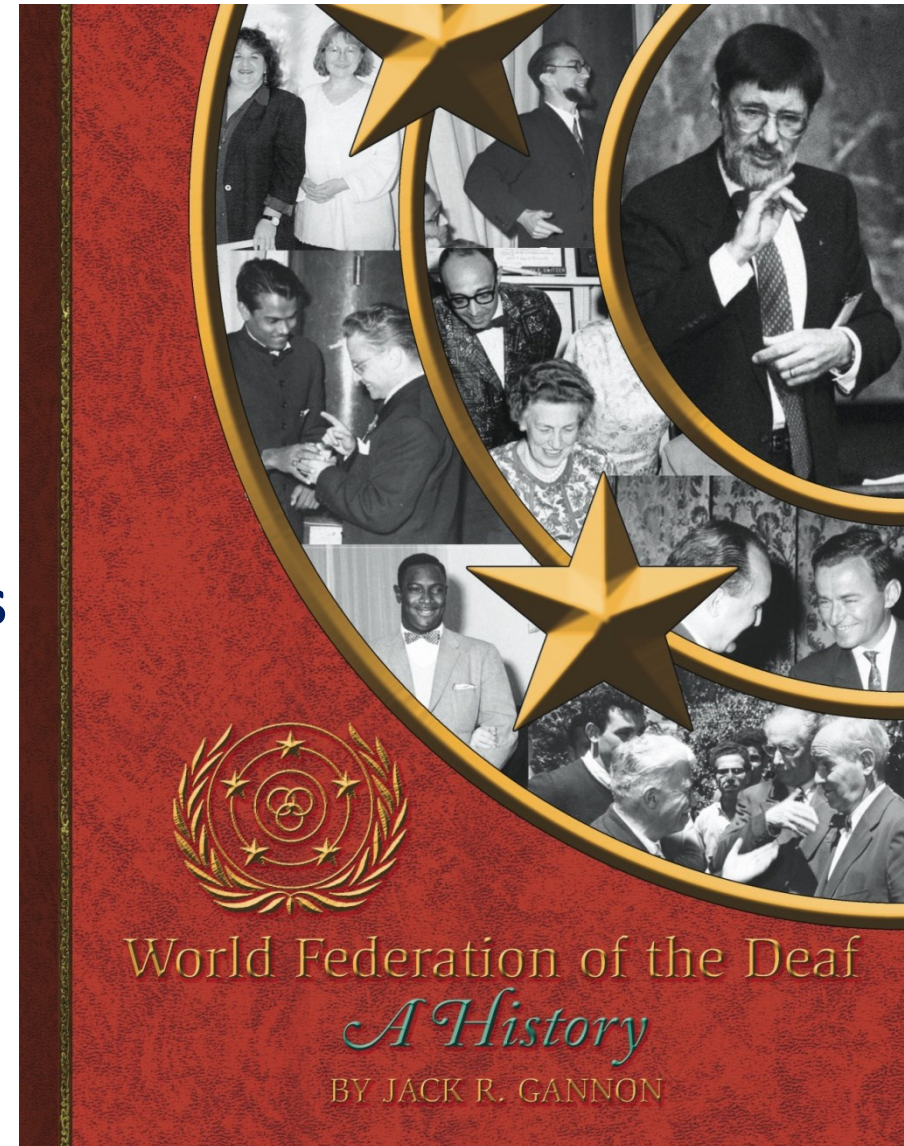
WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF



Colin Allen  
WFD President  
25 August 2014

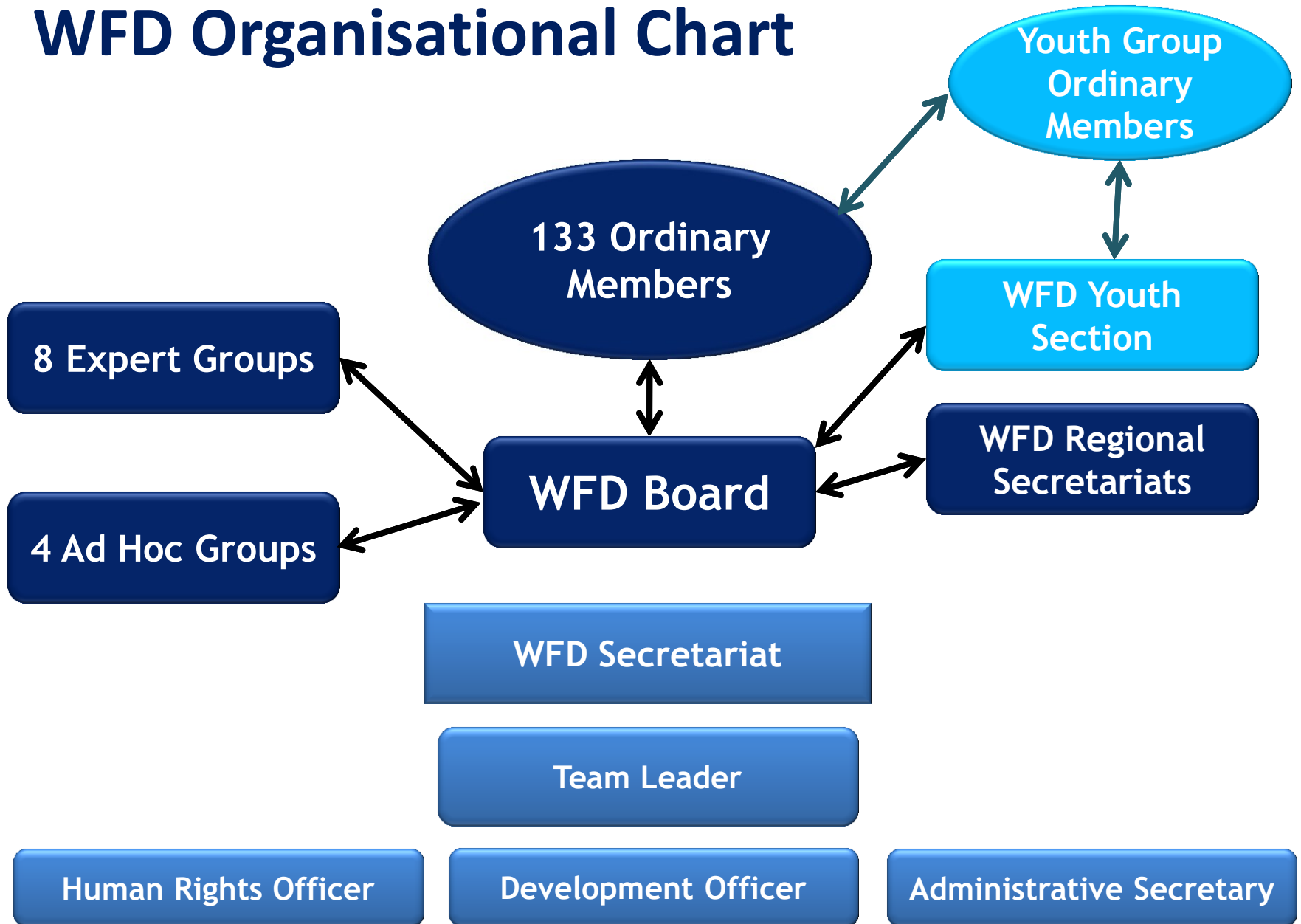
# *World Federation of the Deaf:* **History**

- **Rome, Italy on 23 September 1951**
- **One of the oldest international organisations of people with disabilities in the world.**
- **1951 - 25 National Associations of the Deaf (OMs)**
- **2014 – 133 OMs, representing all five continents.**





# WFD Organisational Chart



# 8 WFD Regional Secretariats





WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF

*Founded in 1951 in Rome, Italy*


*An interest group representing deaf people who use sign language*

## WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF: VISION & ACTION PLAN 2011-2015



# WAY FORWARD

# VISION

The United Nations emblem, featuring a world map surrounded by a laurel wreath and a star at the top, is centered behind the text.

Deaf people have full human rights in an equal world where they and their sign languages are recognised and included as part of human diversity.

# MISSION



The WFD promotes and advances the human rights of deaf people through cooperation with the United Nations and its agencies, national organisations of deaf people, and other partners.



# FOUR GOALS



- 1. INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY**
- 2. HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING ACTIVITIES**
- 3. EXPANDING INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS**
- 4. STRENGTHENING THE WFD**



**WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF  
YOUTH SECTION**



Jenny Nilsson  
President  
Sweden  


Robert Ssewagudde  
Vice President  
Uganda  


Jannicke Kvitvær  
Secretary  
Norway  


Braam Jordaan  
Board Member  
South Africa  


Ana Navas Serna  
Board Member  
Spain  


Eunjung Byun  
Board Member  
South Korea  


Florencia Laurence  
Board Member  
Argentina  


# WFDYS BOARD MEMBERS 2011-2015



WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF  
YOUTH SECTION

<http://wfdys.org/>



WFD

133

Ordinary  
Members

WFDYS:

18 Youth  
Ordinary  
Members  
(YOM)



# United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Sign language mentioned 8 times in 5 different articles:

**Article 2:** Definition

**Article 9:** Accessibility

**Article 21:** Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information

**Article 24:** Education

**Article 30:** Participation in cultural life, recreation leisure and sport

# Message for the Deaf Associations around the world



<http://wfdeaf.org/news/message-for-the-deaf-associations-across-the-world>

# CRPD Article 2: Definition

United Nations

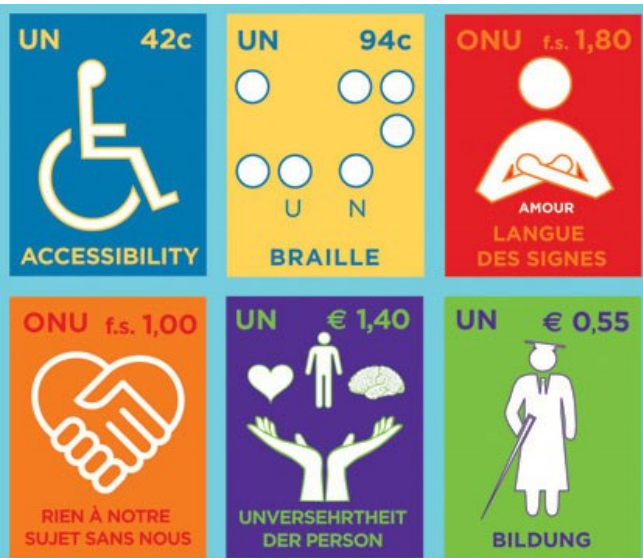


## Five Sub-Definitions:

1. Communication
2. **Language**
3. Discrimination on the basis of disability
4. Reasonable accommodation
5. Universal design

Definition of language is the following:

*“Language” includes spoken and **signed languages** and other forms of non spoken languages.*





# CRPD Article 9: Accessibility

**9.2(e): Provide forms of live assistance and intermediaries, including guides, readers and professional sign language interpreters, to facilitate accessibility to buildings and other facilities open to the public**

**means that states have responsibilities to promote and develop sign language interpreter training, degree, registration and also to facilitate interpreter services and to promote access to interpreters.**







# CRPD Article 21:

Freedom of Expression and Opinion,  
and access to information

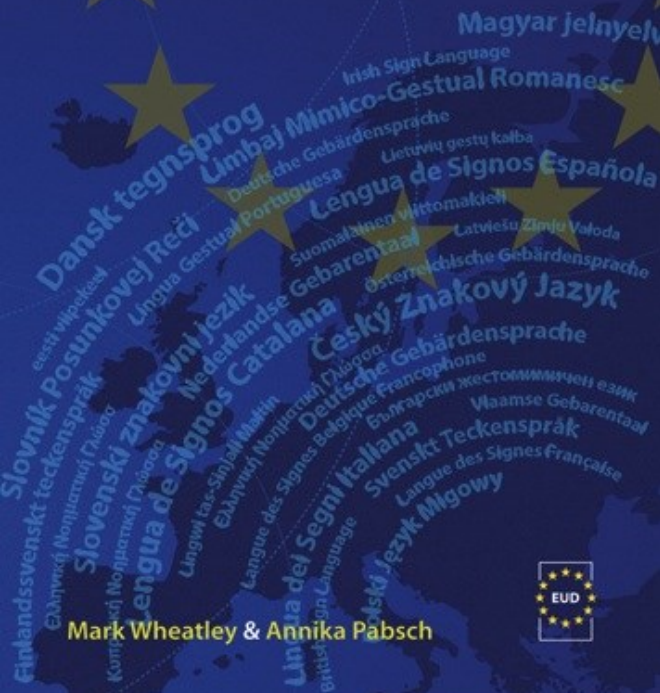
## 21(e) *Recognizing and promoting the use of sign languages.*

Mean this item is of great significance and it will have great impact in the future. It means that sign language should be recognised either in legislation or in public policies and programs.

It also means right for deaf of all ages to use sign language – children should not be forced to change their language while growing.

Promotion also covers support for sign language publications, education, research and general usage.

SIGN LANGUAGE LEGISLATION  
IN THE EUROPEAN UNION



[http://www.eud.eu/EUD\\_Book-i-293.html](http://www.eud.eu/EUD_Book-i-293.html)

[http://www.eud.eu/news.php?action=view&news\\_id=78](http://www.eud.eu/news.php?action=view&news_id=78)



WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF

# STATUS OF SIGN LANGUAGE IN LEGISLATION

(February 2013)

## Sign language recognised in the Constitution

1. Austria (2005)
2. Finland (1995)
3. Uganda (1995)
4. South Africa (1996)
5. New Zealand (2006)
6. Portugal (1997)
7. Czech Republic (1998)
8. Ecuador (1998)
9. Venezuela (1999)
10. Zimbabwe (2010)

## Sign language recognised in other legislation

11. Iran ('28)
12. Sweden (81 PD)
13. Zimbabwe ('87 E)
14. Canada ('88 – '93 LA)
15. Australia ('91 D)
16. Belarus ('91 DP)
17. Denmark ('91 E)
18. USA ('91 ADA)
19. Switzerland ('94 FC)
20. India ('95)
21. Mozambique ('99)
22. Slovak Republic ('95 SL Law)
23. Colombia ('96 SL Law)
24. Lithuania ('96)
25. Norway ('96 E, not a law)
26. Poland ('97)
27. Czech Republic ('98 CSL Law)
28. Perú ('98)
29. Iceland ('99 E)
30. Macedonia ('09)
31. Iceland ('99 E)
32. Thailand ('99 R)
33. Mozambique ('99)
34. Greece (2000 E)
35. Latvia ('01)
36. Brazil ('02)
37. Some German States ('02)
38. Romania '02
39. Spain ('07)
40. Sri Lanka ('03)
41. France ('05)
42. Mexico ('05)
43. Cyprus ('06)
44. Belgium- Flemish Sign Language
45. Estonia ('07)
46. China
47. Uruguay
49. Hungary ('09)
50. Ukraine



# CRPD Article 24:

## Education

***24.4: In order to help ensure the realization of this right, States Parties shall take appropriate measures to employ teachers, including teachers with disabilities, who are qualified in sign language and/or Braille, and to train professionals and staff who work at all levels of education. Such training shall incorporate disability awareness and the use of appropriate augmentative and alternative modes, means and formats of communication, educational techniques and materials to support persons with disabilities.***

<http://www.thedeafblog.co.uk/Fingerspell.jpg>;

<http://www.deafconnection.org/uploads/images/kenyaweb.jpg>;

<http://www.ohioschoolforthe deaf.org/resources/3/images/TempStory.jpg>



# Signs for a Good Education

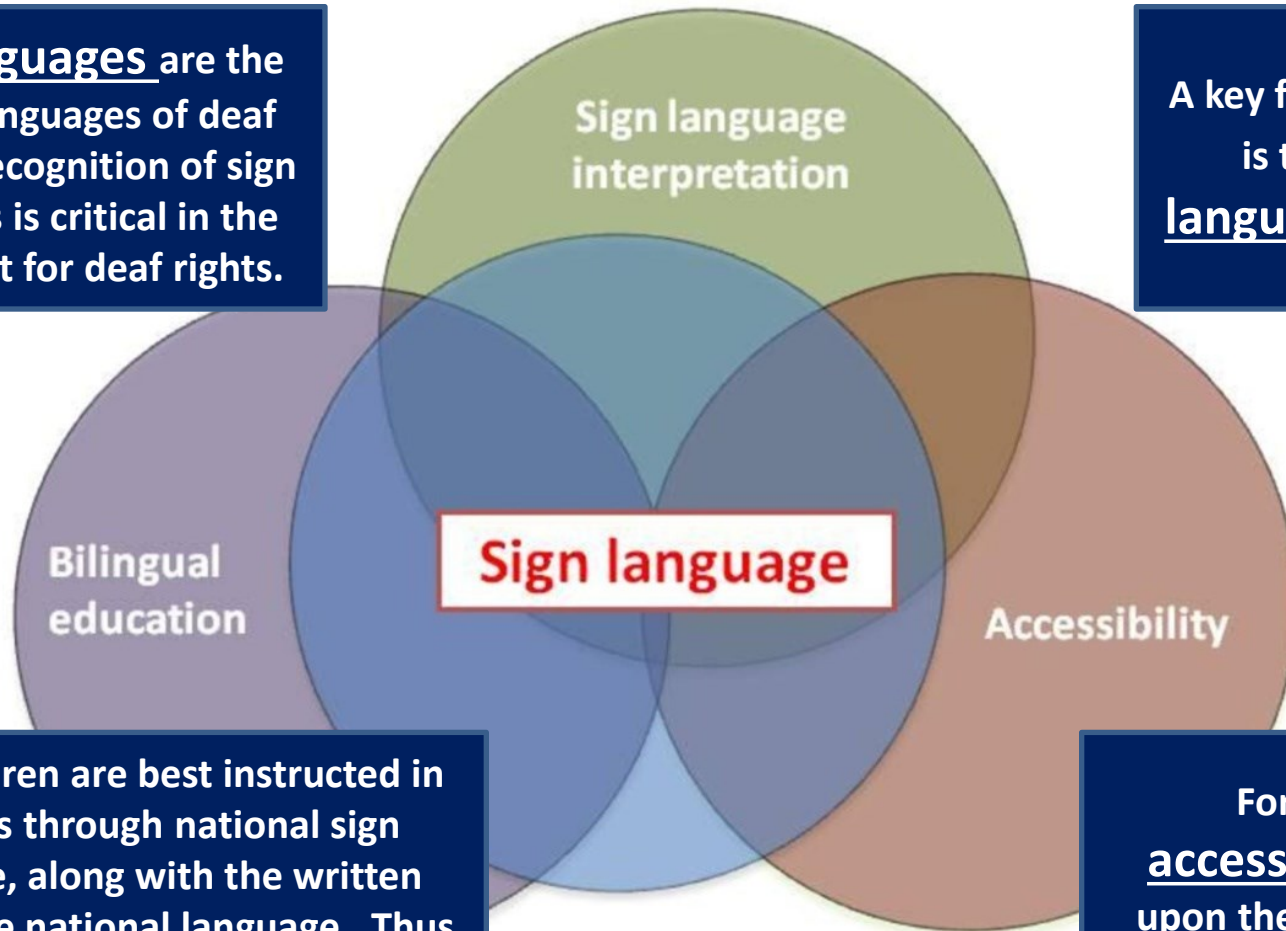


[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WwksMw6Ar\\_s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WwksMw6Ar_s)

# Basic Factors for Human Rights of Deaf People

Sign languages are the natural languages of deaf people. Recognition of sign languages is critical in the movement for deaf rights.

A key factor to accessibility is the right to sign language interpreting.



Deaf children are best instructed in subjects through national sign language, along with the written form of the national language. Thus a bilingual approach in education for deaf children is crucial.

For deaf people, accessibility often rests upon the availability of sign language interpreters.



# Strengthening Human Diversity

Deaf people and sign languages are not currently considered as parts of human diversity.

- The first challenge is to recognise deaf people as a part of human diversity.
- The second challenge is to recognise and strengthen diversity in every deaf community globally, including children, youth, senior citizens, women, Lesbian, Gay, Transgendered and Bisexual people, deaf people with disabilities, deafblind people and Children of Deaf Adults, whether in developed or developing countries, and to continue working together in the areas of sign language, deaf studies, education, employment, accessibility, technology, health and bioethics.



World Federation of the Deaf



[www.wfdcongress2015.org](http://www.wfdcongress2015.org)

## *Strengthening Human Diversity*

Turkish National Federation of the Deaf (TNFD) is organizing "XVII. World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf" under the World Federation of the Deaf in ISTANBUL between July 28<sup>th</sup> – August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 in International Congress and Event Center.

As a host of XVII. World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf, we are am deeply honored to invite you to attend this World Congress at a city unique for its history, atmosphere and beauty.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our conference organizer ([info@wfdcongress2015.org](mailto:info@wfdcongress2015.org)) Istanbul is waiting for you in 2015.

**XVII World Congress  
of WFD  
Istanbul, Turkey  
28 July – 2 August 2015  
[www.wfdcongress2015.org/](http://www.wfdcongress2015.org/)**



# CONTACT



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On the WFD website, please check for more information, updates and contact details.