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Dr Ghada Karmi

Chairman of Council

Our Ref: DPA/JS/js

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Re: Israel Medical Association

Many thanks for your letter of the 22nd of February regarding the Israel Medical Association (IMA) and medical complicity in torture. The Association has again reviewed the published evidence in some detail and I am writing to let you know that we have formally written to the World Medical Association regarding the IMA. We have asked the WMA to call upon the IMA to undertake a rigorous, independent and transparent investigation into the allegations as set out by both Physicians for Human Rights (Israel) and the Public Committee Against Torture in Israel.

As you may know, the BMA has also been actively pursuing the development of a WMA recommendation in relation to monitoring states' compliance in relation to their responsibilities under the Declaration of Tokyo. The recommendation will permit the WMA to request information from member associations about allegations of violations of the Declaration. It is hoped that this will further assist the WMA to act in relation to breaches of fundamental medical ethics wherever they occur.

I hope this goes some way toward meeting both your concerns and those of your colleagues.

Best wishes

Dr Hamish Meldrum
Chairman of Council

Chief Executive/Secretary: Tony Bourne

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