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**STATEMENT BY DR MO-IM KIM, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES**

Mr Chairman, Distinguished Representatives, Dr Han, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have listened with great interest to the discussions over the last few days and I wish to congratulate the World Health Organization, Western Pacific Region on the remarkable progress made in the past year and on this very successful meeting. However, we are all aware that much effort is still needed before we achieve "Health for All by the Year 2000.

As President of the International Council of Nurses, I would like to convey to this group information on the continued efforts of ICN's 106 member associations to cooperate with WHO and its regional and country offices in their programmes to achieve better health in a better world.

Nurses are committed to providing quality care. Our goal of fulfilling our full potential in the health care system appears reachable. This optimism has been bolstered by the WHA resolution (WHA45.5 of May 1992) to strengthen the role of nurses/midwives, which was passed at the Forty-Fifth World Health Assembly and by this Regional Committee's resolution (WPR/RC/43/Conf. Paper No. 5) on WPRO's collaboration in the field of nursing developing within the context of human resources for health. Now, it is up to all of us to ensure that the resolution is fully implemented in our countries, so that nurses can make their invaluable contribution to health care systems, and policy making and become an integral part of WHO programmes. In each country of the region, there must be a thorough and systematic review of our progress relative to that resolution as well as others such as those on HIV/AIDS and Health Research. Then an action plan must be developed and implemented and it must be done soon.

ICN's cooperation with WHO is long standing. It has worked closely with WHO on programmes for immunization, safe motherhood, primary health care and health education. Our latest collaboration was in Africa, where over 800 nurses in eight countries were trained as trainers to prevent the spread of HIV and to participate in national AIDS prevention and care programmes. We are on the front line with those infected and ill, and we must be active participants in any programme to control the spread of AIDS.

Many of you are familiar with ICN's work to revamp the regulatory system for nurses in order to allow the appropriate extension of nursing practice to better serve the public. WPRO as well as my own association (KNA), the Japanese Nursing Association and the British Overseas Development Agency made that regional project possible and we do thank WHO, Western Pacific Regional Office, especially Dr Han, the Regional Director.

ICN is also keeping nurses attuned to the changes needed by providing guidelines for continuing education, workshops and documentation, including ICN's recent publication "Guidelines for Preparation of Nurse Managers". As nurses are sharing the burden in the health systems restructuring which in this region is very evident right now, ICN convened a Task Force on Costing of Nursing Services to examine the impact of recent and potential health financing changes on quality of care and to prepare nurses to work with cost-conscious ministries of health, health care institutions and a concerned public. Nurses will also be made more aware of health care costing on International Nurses' Day in May 1993, when the theme will be "Quality, Costs and Nursing".

All these and other issues of concern to nurses will be thoroughly covered and debated at what we like to consider both a "learning and social experience" for the world's nurses: ICN's 20th Quadrennial Congress which will be held in Madrid, Spain, 20-25 June 1993. The theme is "Unity for Quality". Nurses will hear about how to provide quality care through better management, through strength in the workplace and through influencing appropriate health policy development. Programmes on child health, AIDS and many other topics will be presented.

We hope very much that each ministry of health in this region will assist key nurses to participate in this important quadrennial Congress.

As the first Asian President of ICN, it is important to me to have good representation from this part of the world at what will be my final official ICN function.

The support and assistance of many members of this group has been very much appreciated by me and by my colleagues.

**Mo-Im Kim, DrPH**  
**President of**  
**International Council of Nurses**