



World Right-to-Die Newsletter

Conference Edition

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SUPER 13TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE IN MELBOURNE – THANKS DWD VICTORIA!

From October 6th to 9th, 83 lively people from 12 countries and 37 Right to Die (RTD) organizations met in Melbourne, in the Australian state of Victoria, to hear about developments in the right-to-die movement around the world. On the public day almost 300 new people came to the meetings.

Since 1980, when the World Federation was formed, its major activity has been to meet every other year, hosted by a member society, to hear presentations, to meet old and new friends, and to express our solidarity for our common goal: seeking dignity and choice at the end of life.



Neil Francis, DWDV Executive Director and YourLastRight.com

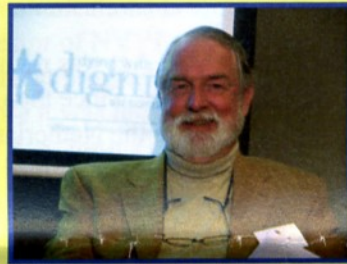
Neil Francis, the Executive Director of DWDV (Death with Dignity Victoria) coordinated this stimulating, fun, well-organized conference with the help of John Hont, volunteer chair of the organizing committee, Rowena Moore, office manager, Dr. Rodney Syme, member of the WF board

who invited us, and several others who made these few days memorable, enjoyable and informative.

Held in the comfortable and convenient Rydges Hotel, delegates were always well fed with afternoon tea, a delicious lunch, a magnificent banquet in a beautiful downtown

Continued on page 2

GREETINGS FROM THE NEW WF PRESIDENT



Ted Goodwin, WF President

It is an honor to greet you as the new President of the World Federation.

We have just recently completed our 16th Biennial World Conference in Melbourne, Australia.

Although just getting to Australia represents a significant expenditure of time, money and effort for most of us around the world, this conference was certainly worth the effort.

Perfectly organized by DWD-Victoria, we had many of the finest minds in the world making presentations, and leading discussions, on a variety of ethical, legal and practical topics that affect our movement on a global basis. At this moment, exciting developments within our movement are beginning to take place throughout the world. In addition to the enactment of meaningful legislation and judicial rulings in Luxembourg, Washington State (U.S.) and Montana during the last two years, we will see several new initiatives introduced in the near future, which have a good chance of success.

Continued on page 3

YourLastRights.com was announced as a new umbrella organization in Australia uniting six of the state organizations to better support their legislative efforts. Impetus for this unification came from the estate of Clem Jones (see WF Newsletter Spring 2008) who wanted to funnel his funds into one major Australian organization. Neil Francis, Executive Director of Death with Dignity Victoria – and a genial and efficient host for this meeting – will also head YourLastRights.com.

