The Plenary Assembly of the National Health Council, in its 95th Ordinary Meeting, occurred on 15-16 March 2002, in the use of its regimental competencies and granted attributions by the Law n° 8.080, of 19 November 1990 and by the Law n° 8.142, of 28 December 1990, considering,

- the responsibility of the National Health Council in protecting the integrity of the research subject, having constituted the National Committee of Ethics in Research – CONEP (in Portuguese);
- the directives and adjustment rules of Research involving Human Beings, Resolutions CNS 196/96, 251/87 and 292/99;
- the discussion of proposals to modify the Declaration of Helsinki, ruled by the General Assembly of the World Medical Association, to take place in October/2000 in Edinburgh;
- the representatives of the Brazilian Medical Association in the mentioned Assembly

DECIDES:

1 – To keep inalterable the item II.3 of the mentioned Declaration: “In any medical study, every patient – including those of a control group, if any – should be assured of the best proven diagnostic and therapeutic method.”

2 – To express contrarily to the proposed alterations, especially the one referring to the use of placebo in the face of the existence of therapeutic and diagnostic methods proved.

3 – Urge with the Brazilian Medical Association to send this position to the organizers of the General Assembly of the World Medical Association as soon as possible.

JOSÉ SERRA
President of the Nacional Health Council

I ratify the Resolution CNS n° 301, of 16 March 2000, in the terms of the Competency Delegation Decree of 12 November 1991
JOSÉ SERRA
Minister of Health