The FDI sets out certain universal principles to be observed in consideration of the relationship between the dental profession and all third party funding agencies, both governmental and private:

1. The overriding and fundamental principle that treatment decisions are a matter between dentist and patient must be maintained.

2. Dentists should advise treatments which are in the best interest of the patients’ long term oral health and not be influenced by the eligibility of patients under third party reimbursement schemes.

3. Third party reimbursement programmes should be open to all legally qualified dentists who choose to participate.

4. Patients should have the unrestricted right to select the dentist of their choice.