Kuala Lumpur to host 2008 IFPMA Asian Regulatory Conference

Is Asia Ready for a Strategic Role in Medicine Development for a Global Market?

Geneva, 10 September 2007 – The International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations has announced that its 5th IFPMA Asian Regulatory Conference will take place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 11-13 March 2008. It will be staged in collaboration with the World Health Organization and is supported by the Pharmaceutical Association of Malaysia (PhAMA).

IFPMA Director General Dr. Harvey Bale said: “A number of Asian countries are not only growing pharmaceutical markets, but also increasingly important locations for pharmaceutical R&D. This dynamism presents a major challenge to government regulators and industry alike, to ensure best utilization of available resources and expertise, to ensure the appropriate, competent oversight and regulation needed to allow new products to be made available to patients in a safe, timely manner.”

PhAMA President Ms. Zaiton Dato Jamaluddin commented: “PhAMA is delighted to host this meeting which will facilitate exchanges between Asian regulators, their counterparts elsewhere in the world and industry experts. In an increasingly complex and global field such as development and regulation of pharmaceuticals, leading players need to be continually learning from each other.”

To help the 5th IFPMA Asian Regulatory Conference to define the Asian regulatory agenda for the next few years, it will be addressed by senior regulators including:
- Y.Bhg. Dato Che Mohd Zin B Che Awang, Director of Pharmaceutical Services, Ministry of Health, Malaysia
- Mr. Thomas Lööngren, Executive Director, European Medicines Agency, European Union
- Dr. Murray Lumpkin, Deputy Commissioner, International & Special Programs, Food & Drug Administration, USA
- Mr. Kazuhiko Mori, Associate Center Director, Center for Product Evaluation, Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Agency, Japan.

Other speakers will include:
- Dr. Lembit Rägo, Coordinator, Quality Assurance & Safety: Medicines, Medicines Policy & Standards, World Health Organization
- Dr. Stephen Wise, Director and Associate Professor of National University of Singapore, Lilly-NUS Centre for Clinical Pharmacology, Singapore.

As well as examining if Asia is ready for Future Regulatory Challenges, the Conference will look at a number of specific topics including: Quality of Medicines, Asian Perspectives on the International Conference on Harmonisation (ICH) and its Global Cooperation Group, ASEAN Harmonization Process, Pharmacovigilance and Maintenance of Product Information, Good Regulatory Practices and Asia’s Contribution to Global Drug Development.

For more details and on-line registration, please go to http://www.ifpma.org/arc-2008

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About the IFPMA:

The International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations is the global non-profit NGO representing the research-based pharmaceutical, biotech and vaccine sectors. Its members comprise 25 leading international companies and 46 national and regional industry associations covering developed and developing countries. The industry’s R&D pipeline contains hundreds of new medicines and vaccines being developed to address global disease threats, including cancer, heart disease, HIV/AIDS and malaria. The IFPMA Clinical Trials Portal (www.ifpma.org/clinicaltrials) and IFPMA activities in Health Partnerships (www.ifpma.org) help make the industry’s activities more transparent. The IFPMA strengthens patient safety by improving risk assessment of medicines and combating their counterfeiting. It also provides the secretariat for the International Conference on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH).

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