



International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA) Statement EB Special session on the draft Thirteenth General Programme of Work

On behalf of the research-based pharmaceutical industry, the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA) would like to express our support for the ambitious goals of the thirteenth General Programme of Work and its focus on outcomes and impact and strongly agree that the private sector is a necessary partner to achieving its targets. As a non-State actor in longstanding official relations with WHO, we look forward to continuing and strengthening our history of collaboration to help WHO in “catalysing the scaling and sustainability of effective, health innovations.”

We commend WHO’s ambitions to make a billion more people safer and improve a billion more lives, and note that appropriate use of medicines and routine immunizations are foundational to achieving these goals. We are proud of our history of cross-sectoral partnerships to address serious health challenges that has led to global health progress such as new and improved treatments and vaccines for neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) and transforming HIV/AIDS from a once-guaranteed killer to a chronic illness that can be managed. Learning from and building on these partnerships will be critical for the success of WHO’s four “flagship initiative areas” such as antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and noncommunicable diseases.

We support the WHO’s ambitious goal to ensure 1 billion more people have health coverage, and welcome the recognition that UHC must include access to affordable and quality-assured medicines, vaccines and health products. We agree that a broad range of policies are required to holistically address real barriers to access to medicines, particularly “domestic investment in coverage schemes that reduces out-of-pocket payments.”

We offer our support to WHO in this new era of global health partnerships to deliver on our shared objective for improved health outcomes and impacts.

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