EB152 statement on substandard and falsified medical products

1 February 2023, Geneva – The International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation (IPSF), the International Alliance of Patients' Organizations (IAPO), and the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA) thank you for the opportunity to make this statement.

We agree and support the draft list of prioritized activities to implement the workplan of the Member State mechanism for the period 2022–2023, in particular the objective to strengthen the capacity of national/regional regulatory authorities for the prevention and detection of, and response to, substandard and falsified medical products.

The African Medicines Agency (AMA) creates an unprecedented opportunity for improved regulatory reliance and strengthening resulting in improved security of supply chains to better fight against substandard and falsified medicines.

The WHO estimated that 42 percent of all fake medicines reported to the WHO from 2013 to 2017 came from Africa.

A strong, unified, and coordinated regulatory system would greatly contribute to combating falsified and substandard medicinal products on the African continent by means of enhanced market surveillance, centralized information collection, and sharing of data between countries.

We believe it is critical to operationalize the African Medicines Agency. This new Agency is an integral part of the WHO Global Patient Safety Action Plan 2020-2030 and its implementation should go hand in hand with awareness raising, political engagement, and health system strengthening initiatives.

Statement on behalf of:

- International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation (IPSF)
- International Alliance of Patients' Organizations (IAPO)
- International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA)

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