

Intervention on provisional agenda item 13.1 Human resources for health and implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations' High-Level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth 70th WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

Speaker: Ms Zuzana Kusynová, from the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)

Honourable Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), the global organisation representing over three million pharmacists worldwide.

FIP aligns itself with and supports the Commission's work. How does this commitment translate into action? In November 2016, FIP held its Global Conference on Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Education in Nanjing, China. At this conference, 13 measurable, feasible and tangible Pharmaceutical Workforce Development Goals were adopted, well in line with the principles of the Commission, the WHO Human Resources for Health Strategy 2030 and United Nations Sustainable Development Goal #3. These goals were complemented by a series of statements representing international expectations for an effective education system for pharmacists. All these tools can be used for assessing and improving pharmacists' education through strategic planning.

The outcomes of the conference are available in a report, published on the FIP website. The report was also highlighted during an official side event at this assembly, "Promoting intersectoral and coordinated actions to further invest in health and social workforce: towards achieving the 2030 Agenda".

FIP offers multiple resources to facilitate the development of local strategies on pharmaceutical workforce through education. Such tools not only benefit governments but they support national associations of pharmacists in being fully engaged with you in the development of national human resources for health strategies.

The inclusion of pharmacists in such strategies is more important than ever as the UN has selected as an indicator to measure target #3.c of the SDGs, the density of healthcare professionals, which includes pharmacists. FIP and our national pharmacists' organisations are keen to engage with Member States in gathering data on the pharmacy workforce and to develop pharmaceutical workforce policies and plans in the context of this indicator.

Thank you.