

**Intervention on provisional agenda item 14.4 - Global action plan on antimicrobial resistance
69th WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY**

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

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

We would like to applaud the WHO for its leadership in the activities towards the implementation of the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). Fighting AMR is one of the priorities of FIP's work, especially through the responsible use of antimicrobial medicines. It remains a key issue because even if we are able to discover the next generation of antibiotics, their efficiency may soon become impaired if used irresponsibly. Moreover, an estimated USD 54bn could be saved annually through responsible use of antimicrobials¹ and pharmacists have been identified as the main actors.

FIP was pleased to contribute to WHO consultations to develop this global action plan. We are keen to collaborate on its implementation as well, for example, FIP was recently invited by WHO to work on the engagement of pharmacists in collaboration with other health care professionals to reduce AMR.

In 2015, FIP launched a report called "Fighting antimicrobial resistance: The contribution of pharmacists" (available at: <http://www.fip.org/publications>), highlighting best practices worldwide and how current national AMR policies are facilitated by professional organisations of pharmacists. It also summarised the best practices by national pharmacists' organisations, for example the early diagnostic of tuberculosis infections and referral by pharmacists involved in directly observed treatment short-course (DOTS) programmes in India, Pakistan and the Philippines. In preparing your national plan that needs to be adopted by 2017 according to the last WHA resolution, such evidence could inspire and help you in reducing AMR thanks to the use of the full potential of pharmacists.

I thank you for your attention.

¹ <https://goo.gl/psufaS>