

## **Intervention on provisional agenda item 11.8 on Prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases**

### **72<sup>nd</sup> 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 four million pharmacists worldwide.

Although we are pleased to see reported progress<sup>1</sup> towards most of the measured voluntary global targets for 2025 for the prevention of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), we are concerned that progress is insufficient.

A strong primary health care system is needed to get closer to meeting the Sustainable Development Goal targets. It should provide society with health promotion, disease prevention, specialised care and rehabilitation services. Each profession needs to deliver to its full potential, and pharmacists should be empowered to reduce the burden of NCDs, through a full spectrum of services, such as early screening (including point-of-care testing), triage, advanced counselling, chronic disease management, treatment optimisation and adherence monitoring.

FIP fully aligns itself with the WHO strategy to prioritise primary health care and NCDs in particular, with pharmacists being key partners in the delivery of that strategy, with clear actions and outcomes.

Last month, as part of FIP's celebration of World Health Day, we published a reference paper on pharmacists' roles in NCDs. This summarises evidence, best practices and policy options to better use pharmacists in the care of patients with NCDs, including cardiovascular diseases, asthma/COPD, diabetes and cancer.

The paper, available on our website, highlights the need and the opportunities for a broader role for pharmacists in NCD strategies, and in the healthcare teams. Promotion of inter-professional collaborative practices can be both beneficial for patients, and cost-effective.

Finally, we would like to encourage policymakers to ensure that new NCD technologies and services are accessible and appropriately remunerated, and that there are adequately trained professionals to use them.

Thank you for your attention.

---

<sup>1</sup> Report A72/19 by the Director General