

**Intervention on provisional agenda item 14.7 – Promoting the health of migrants
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.

As outlined in the report, migrants are vulnerable and suffer more frequently from chronic diseases and depression. Moreover, these groups often develop serious conditions and complications. Prevention and early detection require a strong community care system, with a central role for health care professionals. Pharmacists are an important gateway to the health care system for the migrant population. FIP prepared a health advisory document, “Providing pharmaceutical care to migrant populations: Information and guidelines for pharmacists and the pharmacy workforce”, detailing the roles and important considerations for pharmacists to effectively support migrant populations.

The effectiveness of the treatment can be impaired by language, health literacy or cultural barriers. FIP developed tools specifically tailored to support the taking of medicines and to communicate health issues when there is no common language or when patients have low literacy levels. Moreover, FIP developed a series of validated pictograms in 16 languages. All these tools are freely available at: www.fip.org/emergencies.

At the local level, for example, the pharmacists association in the Netherlands developed in-pharmacy tools to support the improvement of counselling and therapy adherence among migrants. The German pharmacists association adjusted FIP tools and widely disseminated them to pharmacists. As a number of migrants are also health care professionals, pharmacists associations in Sweden and Denmark are actively supporting Syrian pharmacists in their integration within the health care system.

All the newly developed tools and activities highlight the commitment of pharmacists to ensure and provide migrants with high-quality care.

Thank you.