

Intervention on provisional agenda item 7. Substandard and falsified medical products
152nd EXECUTIVE BOARD

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.

Pharmacists, as primary health care professionals with medicines expertise, are at the forefront of the fight against fake medicines.

Since education needs to equip pharmacists with competencies to minimise health risks connected to fake medicines, FIP in close collaboration with WHO and universities designed and implemented a specific course on fake medicines for undergraduate pharmacy students.¹ The project, running 2019-2022, was funded by the European Commission.

The course was well received by both teachers and students in a pilot. It improved knowledge on fake medicines and was deemed useful for professional practice. Further full implementation of this course in curricula beyond the pilot has, therefore, potential to reinforce the capacity of health systems to protect communities from fake medicines.

This is a great example of successful collaboration and action at global level. Similar projects in collaboration with WHO can drive forward the endeavours of the Member State Mechanism and empower pharmacists across health systems to intervene and minimise harm from fake medicines.

Thank you for your attention.

¹ <https://www.fip.org/file/4917>