

Intervention on provisional agenda item 13.7 Health and care workforce 78th WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

Honourable Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

I speak on behalf of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), representing over four million pharmacists, pharmaceutical scientists, and educators worldwide.

The world faces a projected shortfall of 11 million health workers by 2030. Today, the global pharmacy workforce faces a triple crisis: inequitable distribution, underutilisation, and unsustainable migration. Pharmacist density remains three times higher in high-income countries than in low-income settings. Migration is exacerbating this imbalance, depleting essential pharmacy workforce capacity in vulnerable health systems.

Our Global Workforce Surveillance and Development Goals¹ guide countries to build a resilient, equitably distributed pharmacy workforce—one that ensures medicines reach every patient, safely and effectively.

We urge Member States to integrate pharmacists in national workforce governance and UHC strategies, uphold ethical recruitment, and invest in pharmacy education, regulation, and retention.

A sustainable health system requires a sustainable pharmacy workforce.

Think Health. Think Workforce. Think Pharmacy.

Thank you.

¹ https://developmentgoals.fip.org/