

WHO 158th session of the Executive Board 2–7 February 2026

Agenda item 12. Substandard and falsified medical products

Distinguished Chair, honourable Members of the Executive Board,

I speak on behalf of the International Pharmaceutical Federation, representing over 5.5 million pharmacists, educators and pharmaceutical scientists worldwide.

FIP commends WHO and the Member States for their continued commitment to strengthening global mechanisms that protect patients from substandard and falsified medicines. FIP particularly welcomes WHO's 2025 launch of the 'Training Toolkit on Substandard and Falsified Medical Products', a comprehensive resource designed to support health professionals, regulators and educators in preventing, detecting and responding to such products. The toolkit's competency framework, curriculum guide and trainer resources reflect WHO's recognition that a well-trained health workforce is essential for safeguarding medicines quality and reinforcing regulatory systems.

This WHO initiative directly builds on—and complements—FIP's long-standing work in this area, including our structured training resources such as the [curriculum](#) for undergraduate pharmacy students on substandard and falsified medical products, which provides foundational competencies, teaching materials and a train-the-trainer framework. FIP has also recently developed and published teaching [modules](#) that address the risks of purchasing substandard and falsified medical products online, supporting educators and practitioners in recognising digital-era threats and strengthening early detection and prevention.

FIP has consistently highlighted that pharmacists are key to detecting suspicious products, ensuring secure supply chains, reporting quality incidents, and educating the public and other health professionals. As frontline medicines experts, pharmacists play an essential role in maintaining product integrity and protecting patients from preventable harm.

As WHO advances its 2026–2027 priorities for the Member State mechanism, FIP looks forward to continued partnership with WHO. FIP stands ready to collaborate by promoting uptake of the WHO Training Toolkit across pharmacy education and practice, and by supporting our members in developing a competent and vigilant and pharmacy workforce able to address the evolving challenges posed by substandard and falsified medical products.

Thank you.