

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

EB158/6 - Follow-up to the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

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. This statement is supported by the International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation.

The 2025 Political Declaration on NCDs and Mental Health calls for accelerated action. FIP seizes this moment to reaffirm and expand pharmacists' contributions as essential partners in prevention, early detection, treatment optimisation and people-centred care.

Pharmacists are among the most accessible healthcare professionals, particularly in underserved communities, where they are often the first and sometimes the only point of care for people living with NCDs and mental health conditions.

In 2025, FIP adopted a new [Statement of Policy on the role of pharmacists in non-communicable diseases](#). The policy provides clear recommendations for governments to fully integrate pharmacists into national NCD strategies, expand their scope of practice, ensure fair remuneration for services, and invest in workforce development. It also calls on professional organisations, educators and the pharmaceutical industry to align efforts to strengthen evidence-based pharmacy practice and research.

Pharmacists contribute directly to the delivery of the Political Declaration's commitments. They support prevention and early identification through risk-factor screening, tobacco cessation and lifestyle counselling; strengthen treatment outcomes through medicines optimisation, adherence support and coordinated care within multidisciplinary primary healthcare teams; and advance people-centred approaches that respond to individual needs across the life course, including for those living with multiple chronic conditions.

FIP encourages Member States and WHO to systematically engage pharmacists as part of integrated primary healthcare teams, in line with the system-level targets set out in the Political Declaration.

FIP and its Member Organisations remain fully committed to reducing the global burden of NCDs and supporting equitable, sustainable health systems that place people at the centre of care.

Thank you.