



World Confederation
for Physical Therapy



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**FIP (International Pharmaceutical Federation) Joint Intervention on Agenda item 10.4 on Substandard/spurious/false-labelled/falsified/counterfeit medical products
138th WHO Executive Board**

Speaker: Ms Zuzana Kusynová, from the International Pharmaceutical Federation

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of WMA, ICN, FIP, FDI and WCPT, which together form the World Health Professions Alliance WHPA, representing over 26 million healthcare workers in 130 countries.

We welcome the list of prioritised activities and we hope that they will be supported by adequate funding within the programme budget for 2016-2017.

WHPA has for many years worked to support the combat against SSFFC medical products through a series of activities aligned with the report. We therefore encourage the WHO to also consider activities developed by civil society.

For instance, for Activity A, our alliance developed last year training materials for health care professionals entitled “All you need to know about spurious medicines”, in cooperation with the Indian health care professions. The guidelines covered prevention, detection, and response to SSFFC medical products.

The detection of counterfeits is facilitated through improved vigilance, empowering patients, increased competencies of regulators and health care professionals, and educating the public through new technologies. Detection only leads to protection when cases are shared. We therefore appreciate WHO efforts to share cases of SSFFC medicines via a global database and information systems.

Concerning Activity E, “to develop effective risk communication and awareness campaigns”, a number of national health-care-professions-led campaigns are available on our website at: www.whpa.org/counterfeit_campaign.htm and could inspire future activities.

Finally, we recommend that appropriate consideration is also given to situations facilitating intrusion of SSFFC medicines in the legitimate supply chain, such as medicines shortages (also discussed at Agenda item 10.5). Please be assured of the continuous support of health care professionals to fight this threat to the safety and health of patients.

Thank you.

(275 words)