

**Intervention on provisional agenda item 8.3 – Addressing the global shortage of medicines and vaccines**  
**140<sup>th</sup> WHO EXECUTIVE BOARD**

*Speaker: Ms Zuzana Kusynová, from the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)*

Honourable Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), the global organisation representing three million pharmacists worldwide.

We are pleased to see the work and progress made by the secretariat.

FIP encourages the global coordinated approach to tackle the issue of shortages. FIP has been contributing to raising awareness and finding solutions to this public health issue for many years. We are pleased to have the support of the government of South Africa in preparing a side event on medicine shortage for the upcoming World Health Assembly. This side event would ensure that the international community and global health leaders continue to be mobilised on this issue, which challenges the life of many patients around the world. Such side event will also allow to share best practices and consider the next steps in the implementation of the resolution adopted last year by the World Health Assembly. We would welcome the support of all interested member states to participate and support such initiative.

As medicines shortages continue to worsen throughout the world, pharmacists are committed to continue contributing to finding and implementing solutions to ensure the timely access to medicines and recognise and support the crucial leadership of WHO in this matter.

Thank you for your attention.