

Intervention on provisional agenda item 10.2 – on WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel

136th EXECUTIVE BOARD

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

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

Health personnel are the engine of health systems. A health system with insufficient health personnel is unable to respond adequately to the needs of its population.

Among health personnel, the pharmacy workforce is often considered the fourth largest group. We regret, however, that they rarely appear in many assessment and reports on human resources.

FIP would like to stress that the best way countries can have a competent and sufficient healthcare personnel is with proper planning and development, and through a competency-based approach. FIP, through its Education Initiative, is investing 2 million USD over 5 years, in order to support the reform of the education of pharmacists, so that they are sufficient in number and have appropriate skills to respond to the current and future needs of healthcare population.

Over the past decade, FIP has published a series of reports on the pharmacy workforce, which also cover components of migration. These sets of evidence are available on our website in different languages.

We urge that the review of the relevance and effectiveness of the code also covers its impact on as many healthcare personnel as possible (including the pharmacy workforce) because we believe that this would provide additional evidence, conclusions and recommendations applicable to all health personnel.

Finally, we recommend that the assessment and revision of the Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel is subject to a broad consultation of all relevant stakeholders. FIP would be delighted to share its expertise and experience.

Thank you for your attention.

(276 words)