

**Intervention on provisional agenda item 15.1 Preparation for the third High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, to be held in 2018**

**70th WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY**

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 over three million pharmacists worldwide.

To address NCDs, the involvement of all stakeholders and healthcare professionals is needed. Pharmacists are the most frequently visited healthcare professionals. In Europe alone, 46 million people visit a community pharmacy every day.

Including pharmacies in population-based screening would support wide outreach of screening programmes, while allowing some interventions in community pharmacies to address risk factors. There are multiple examples of pharmacists' involvement in screening programmes or in identifying risks factors (such diabetes screening in France, Spain and Australia<sup>1</sup>).

Beyond earlier detection and preventing NCDs, there is strong evidence that advanced services offered by pharmacists to patients living with an NCD are cost-effective. These services include medication therapy management in the USA, medicine use reviews and dedicated programmes for diabetes, asthma or hypertension in Finland. In other countries, such as Norway, pharmacists offer services to improve adherence, which is so important for long-term therapies.

The contribution of pharmacists in NCD patient care is driven by the current scope of practice and regulation in a country. We believe there is strong evidence for review and, if needed, revision to allow the full involvement of pharmacists as part of a multidisciplinary team.

FIP is summarising the contribution of pharmacists in NCDs in a report to be published in 2018.

Pharmacists are keen to work with all stakeholders to change the course of the NCD epidemic. FIP looks forward to contributing to the 2018 third High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of NCDs.

Thank you.

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<sup>1</sup> More examples from all over the world are summarised in the FIP publication "Pharmacists' contributions to diabetes care," available on our website at <https://www.fip.org/publications>.