

Intervention on provisional agenda item 6.6 Patient Safety - Global action on patient safety

144th 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 over four million pharmacists worldwide.

We applaud the WHO for leading global action on patient safety. We are pleased to see patient safety being included in this Executive Board's discussions. We commend the increasing political will that has been demonstrated at Patient Safety Summits since 2016. At the last summit, held in Japan, FIP and pharmacists worldwide endorsed the Tokyo Declaration on Patient Safety. We encourage all Member States to join the efforts to make patient safety a priority.

Pharmacists' involvement in ensuring patient safety is crucial. Pharmacists are charged with the responsibility to ensure that when a patient receives and uses a medicine, it will not cause harm or death.

FIP works closely with the WHO and together with other healthcare professional organisations on the implementation of the 3rd Global Patient Safety Challenge. We are preparing a reference document outlining the pharmacist's role in patient safety and disseminating patient safety best practices. This document will support national associations of pharmacists in the development of local strategies through effective interventions, capacity building and the concept of a safety culture. We encourage national associations of pharmacists to be fully engaged with you in the development of patient safety policies within broader universal health coverage policies and plans.

FIP would also like to support the establishment of an official World Patient Safety Day to raise awareness of patient safety as a growing public health challenge, and to prioritise patient safety at the global level.

Consistent with these developments, we would like to reaffirm the commitment of pharmacists around the world to improving patient safety globally.

Thank you for your attention.

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