



World Health Professions Alliance WHPA

Executive Board 136th Session

Agenda Item 10.5: Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property

Honourable members of the WHO Executive Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the World Medical Association, the International Council of Nurses, the International Pharmaceutical Federation, the World Dental Federation and the World Confederation for Physical Therapy, which together form the World Health Professions Alliance (WHPA), speaking for over 26 million health care professionals in more than 130 countries.

We would like to thank the Secretariat for sharing the timeline for the report of the evaluation. It is mentioned that the Secretariat will ensure the involvement of relevant stakeholders throughout the evaluation process. It is, however, unclear who these stakeholders will be and how they will be involved. We would like to express our interest in being involved throughout this process and to provide our technical expertise, for example, if the different stages of the report were to be open for comments and broad consultation of all interested parties.

The global plan of action has an impact on how research and development is and will be done and, consequently, on researchers themselves, including in terms of their competencies. Therefore we recommend that the report also covers this angle.

Moreover, it is our understanding that innovation should not be limited to translating scientific advances into new medicines, but should also apply to their safe and practical delivery, in addition to the responsible use of these products and the health care resources related to them.

Finally, we would also recommend that the scope of this work goes beyond pharmaceuticals [to cover other treatments and therapies, for instance medical devices.](#)

Thank you for your attention.

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