

**Intervention on provisional agenda item 10.5 – Cancer prevention and control in the context of an integrated approach
140th 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 welcome the draft resolution on cancer prevention and control outlined in the report by the Secretariat (140/31).

Point 7 (page 8 of 140/31) urges Member States to develop, implement and monitor programmes for the early diagnosis and screening of cancers, with an emphasis on common cancers, including cervical, breast and colorectal cancers, and with adequate capacity to avoid delays in diagnosis and treatment. We wish to highlight that pharmacists support early detection with screening programmes (often with the support of the government) focused on colon cancer tests, self-palpation instructions, etc. Vaccinations against viruses (like HPV) which may cause cancers are promoted and encouraged by pharmacists.

Point 8 urges member states to develop and implement evidence-based protocols for cancer management. Cancer is a complex scenario that requires a collaborative approach of the complete health care team. Hospital and community pharmacists are well placed to optimise treatment (including adjusting of dosage) and palliative care as part of a multidisciplinary team.

Comorbidities associated with cancer treatment, such as gastro-oesophageal reflux disease, depression, pain, hypertension and insomnia, often involves additional medication, thus reinforcing the importance of managing polypharmacy and related risks for patients.

Beyond their involvement in direct care, pharmacists have often an important social and supporting role to patients and their family.

Pharmacists worldwide today renew their commitment to provide interventions for the prevention, timely diagnosis and treatment of cancer, as outlined in the national policies.

Thank you.