



INTERNATIONAL GENERIC AND  
BIOSIMILAR MEDICINES ASSOCIATION

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## **IGBA welcomes new chair and new full member**

### **For immediate release**

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IGBA, the [International Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Association \(IGBA\)](#), representing global manufacturers of generic and biosimilar medicines, announced today that [Shinichiro Hirose](#), Director of International Affairs at the Japanese Generic Medicines Association (JGA) is taking over the position of IGBA Chair for 2025 from Adrian van den Hoven, Director of Medicines for Europe. Jim Keon, President of the Canadian Generic Pharmaceutical Association, will take over the position of IGBA Vice-Chair for 2025.

The incoming IGBA Chair, Shinichiro Hirose, has over 30 years of experiences in the pharmaceutical industry and has been involved within IGBA since 2017. “I feel honored to be given the opportunity to take this important position. The generic and biosimilar industries play a critical role in ensuring patients around the world have access to affordable and quality-assured medicines. IGBA and its members, as well as the IGBA CEO Advisory Committee, are central to this effort, engaging with stakeholders to promote and support environments that patients have access to the medicines they need. I look forward to contributing to the consolidation and recognition of IGBA as the voice of generic and biosimilar medicines industries all over the world and to ensuring the missions, priorities and operations of the organization building upon achievements in 2024.” Hirose says.

“Last year was an important year for IGBA in many ways”, commented Adrian van den Hoven, outgoing IGBA Chair. “The association participated in the WHO’s Fair Pricing Forum, supported the Pandemic Agreement, engaged with WHO’s Executive Board and World Health Assembly, the WIPO Assemblies, events from the WHO-WTO-WIPO Trilateral Collaboration, and WHO-UNICEF-UNFPA Meeting with manufacturers and suppliers, to mention a few”, recalled van den Hoven. “IGBA also secured its seat in ICH’s Management Committee, completed its fifth Global Biosimilars Week, and advanced work on patent quality in intellectual property systems”, he concluded.

“IGBA’s priorities include access to safe, effective, cost-effective, and quality-assured medicines; single global development and regulatory convergence balanced; balanced intellectual property systems; and

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industry sustainability” noted Secretary General Susana Almeida. “These will continue to be the axes of our work at IGBA, and we will support the incoming Chair and the membership in the realization of these priorities”.

The Management Committee has also accepted CILFA, the Argentinian association of generic and biosimilar pharmaceutical manufacturers, as a full member, after four years as an associate member. “We are happy to enter this new stage of membership”, said Eduardo Franciosi, CILFA’s Executive Director, “We see IGBA as a valuable source of information as well as an important platform for international engagement and advocacy for the off-patent medicines sector. We look forward to contributing to global access to medicines at IGBA, now as full members of the association”.

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