



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Vivian Frittelli  
[igba@igbamedicines.org](mailto:igba@igbamedicines.org)

## **IGBA Welcomes ICH Reform and Openness For New Members**

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA (November 3, 2015).- The International Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Association (IGBA) welcomed the International Conference on Harmonisation (ICH) reform and the opening of the process to new members, including international industry organisations. The IGBA fully recognises the contribution of the ICH in developing international standards applied to the pharmaceutical industry, including generic and biosimilar manufacturers.

The generic and biosimilar pharmaceutical industry is now largely a global industry, with generic medicines accounting for the overwhelming majority of the prescriptions filled globally. These industries also lead in the development and manufacturing of biosimilar and other complex to manufacture medicines. Consequently, the generic and biosimilar medicines industry should be recognised as an equal industry partner in ICH. The IGBA members with representation in five continents commit to engage actively in the ICH process.

“The IGBA welcomes ICH reform which will bring greater openness to this important standard setting process. The IGBA looks forward to joining the ICH Assembly and in accordance with the new process, to play a constructive role in the Management Committee in the near future”, commented the Chair of the IGBA Vivian Frittelli.

####

### **About IGBA**

The International Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Association (IGBA) was founded as IGPA (International Generic Pharmaceutical Alliance) in March 1997 to strengthen cooperation between associations representing manufacturers of generic medicines. Its membership includes the EGA (Europe), the CGPA (Canada), the GPhA (USA), the JAPM (Jordan), the NAPM (South Africa), the TGPA (Taiwan) and the JGA (Japan) while the associations from Australia (GBMA), Brazil (ProGenericos) and Mexico (AMEGI) are Associate Members. The IGBA is at the forefront of stimulating competitiveness and innovation in the pharmaceutical sector by providing high quality pro-competitive medicines to millions of patients around the world. Through its constituent member associations, the IGBA maintains constant dialogue with government authorities (including the European Commission for Europe) as well as with international institutions such as WTO, WIPO and WHO. More information: [www.igbamedicines.com](http://www.igbamedicines.com)