



Making Medicines Affordable

PRESS RELEASE

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16th IGPA CONFERENCE: A GLOBAL MARKET - A GLOBAL INDUSTRY

Today, the International Generic Pharmaceutical Alliance (IGPA) hosted its 16th Annual Conference “A Global Market - A Global Industry”. This event brought together more than 200 representatives from the pharmaceutical industry worldwide, European institutions, national authorities, and high level representatives from the IGPA. Addressing the audience, Laurette Onkelinx, Belgian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Social Affairs and Public Health, stressed the invaluable contribution of generic medicines to society stating that the generic medicines sector is a “sustainable industry that can invest in quality”.

At the conference, the constructive dialogue amongst the participants highlighted three key messages:

- The impact of ongoing EU-US TTIP; TTP negotiations are seen as a very good opportunity for the EU and the US to increase regulatory convergence and set out common standards with GMP inspections as a key priority.
- The need for more cooperation and convergence between regulatory systems to ensure greater efficiency and reduce unnecessary hurdles such as redundancy and divergences.
- The IGPA called for an advanced manufacturing provision for the EU to enable European companies manufacturing generic and biosimilar medicines to export to countries where no patent/SPC is in place

Adrian van den Hoven, EGA Director General concluded that “the IGPA conference was a great platform to share the latest developments of our industries with our international partners as trade current issues are clearly reshaping the landscape of our industry”.

The **International Generic Pharmaceutical Alliance (IGPA)** was founded 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 JGPMA (Jordan), the NAPM (South Africa) and the JGA (Japan) while the associations from Brazil (ProGenericos) and Taiwan (TGPA) are observers. The IGPA 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 IGPA maintains constant dialogue with government authorities (including the European Commission for Europe) as well as with international institutions such as WTO, WIPO and WHO.

The **European Generic medicines Association (EGA)** represents the European generic and biosimilar pharmaceutical industry, which provides high-quality cost-competitive medicines to millions of Europeans. Companies represented within the EGA provide over 150,000 jobs in Europe. Generic medicines save EU patients and healthcare systems over €35 billion each year and account for 54% of all dispensed medicines but for only 21% of the pharmaceutical expenditure in Europe.

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