



Press release

Committing to Global Health: Balancing Access and Sustainability key to success

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Warsaw, Poland

Summary

- Generic, biosimilar and value added medicine manufacturers deliver increased access to medicines worldwide.
- This access could be threatened by shortsighted cost-containment policies that make manufacturing and supply unsustainable.
- Focused pharmaceutical policies based on healthy competition, regulatory convergence, biosimilar medicines uptake and continuous innovation will deliver efficiency for healthcare, improved access to medicines and opportunities for manufacturers to invest for the future.

Global medicine manufacturers gathered in Warsaw this week to discuss the contribution of the generic, biosimilar and value added medicines to patient access and durable healthcare systems around the world.

Delivering access is at the core of the off patent sector. Generic medicines provide for 67% of dispensed medicines in Europe alone and have doubled access to medicines for patients with diabetes or cardiac conditions.

In an era of growing incidence rates of chronic diseases, global competition, and digitalisation, the sustainability of the industry cannot be left behind if the sector is to continue providing benefits for public health and the sustainability of healthcare systems. Our call is for access-focused pharmaceutical policies, efficient international regulatory cooperation, fostering the use of biosimilar medicines, and facilitating



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continuous innovation for value added medicines. These are some of the pathways to deliver better healthcare globally.

Medicines for Europe President Marc-Alexander Mahl commented *“We are committed to delivering better patient access to medicines. Industry and stakeholders need clear access-focused policies to ensure that the generic, biosimilar and value added medicines can continue delivering on public health. I look forward to working with the newly elected European Parliament and the incoming European Commission to achieve this.”*

Jim Keon, **Chair of the International Generic and Biosimilar medicines Association (IGBA)** commented *“Developing international frameworks supporting true global development for generic and biosimilar medicines, a more competitive business environment for the off-patent sector around the globe as well as promoting the implementation of balanced, well-functioning and transparent intellectual property systems in all jurisdictions are essential to support equity of access to healthcare and the UN Member States vision of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by 2030.”*

About Medicines for Europe

Medicines for Europe represents the generic, biosimilar and value added medicines industries across Europe. Its vision is to provide sustainable access to high quality medicines, based on 5 important pillars: patients, quality, value, sustainability and partnership. Its members directly employ 190,000 people at over 400 manufacturing and 126 R&D sites in Europe, and invest up to 17% of their turnover in R&D investment. Medicines for Europe member companies across Europe are both increasing access to medicines and driving improved health outcomes. They play a key role in creating sustainable European healthcare systems by continuing to provide high quality, effective generic medicines, whilst also innovating to create new biosimilar medicines and bringing to market value added medicines, which deliver better health outcomes, greater efficiency and/or improved safety in the hospital setting for patients. For more information please follow us at www.medicinesforeurope.com and on Twitter @medicinesforEU.

About IGBA

The **International Generic and Biosimilar medicines Association (IGBA)** was founded to strengthen cooperation between associations representing manufacturers of generic and biosimilar medicines from around the world. Its full membership includes associations from Canada (CGPA), India (IPA), Japan (JGA), Jordan (JAPM), Europe (Medicines for Europe), South Africa (Generic & Biosimilar Medicines Southern Africa), Taiwan (TGPA) and the U.S.A (aam), while the associations from Australia (GBMA), Brazil (ProGenericos), Malaysia (MOPI), Mexico (AMEGI) and Saudi Arabia (NCPI) are Associate Members. The IGBA is at the forefront of preserving sustainable competition within our industry, by stimulating competitiveness and innovation in the pharmaceutical sector; thereby, ensuring millions of patients around the world have access to high quality, pro-competitive medicines. For more details, regarding IGBA and its member associations, see the IGBA website at www.igbamedicines.org