World Health Organization

SEVENTY-SECOND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY **A72/A/CONF./2 Rev.1**
Agenda item 11.7 **28 May 2019**

Improving the transparency of markets for medicines, vaccines, and other health products (FOOTNOTE)

Draft resolution proposed by Andorra, Brazil, Egypt, Eswatini, Greece, India, Italy, Kenya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Portugal, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Uganda

The Seventy-second World Health Assembly,

PP1 Having considered the Report by the Director-General on Access to medicines and vaccines[1] and its annex "Draft Road Map for access to medicines, vaccines, and other health products" and the Report by the Director-General on Medicines, vaccines and health products, Cancer medicines (document EB144/18), pursuant to resolution WHA70.12;

PP2 Recognizing the critical role played by health products [FOOTNOTE:] and services innovation in bringing new treatments and value to patients and health care systems around the world;

FOOTNOTE: For the purposes of this resolution, health products include medicines, vaccines, medical devices, diagnostics, assistive products, cell- and gene-based therapies, and other health technologies.

PP3 Recognizing that improving access to health products is a multi-dimensional challenge that requires action at, and adequate knowledge of, the entire value chain and life cycle, from research and development to quality assurance, regulatory capacity, supply chain management and use;

PP4 Seriously concerned about the high prices for some health products, and the inequitable access within and among Member States as well as the financial hardships associated with high prices which impede progress towards achieving Universal Health Coverage;

PP5 Recognizing that the types of information publicly available on data across the value chain of health products, including prices effectively paid by different actors and costs, vary among Member States and that the availability of comparable price information may facilitate efforts towards affordable and equitable access to health products;

[1] Document A72/17.

PP6 Seeking to enhance the publicly available information on the prices applied in different sectors, in different countries, the access to and use of this information, while recognizing different national and regional legal frameworks and contexts and acknowledging the importance of differential pricing;

PP7 Taking note of the productive discussions at the last Fair Pricing Forum in South Africa regarding the promotion of greater transparency around prices of health products, especially through sharing of information in order to stimulate the development of functional and competitive global markets;

PP8 Noting the importance of both public and private sector funding for research and development of health products, and seeking to improve the transparency of such funding across the value chain;

PP9 Seeking to progressively enhance the publicly available information on inputs across the value chain of health products and the public reporting of the relevant patents, their status and the availability of information on the patents landscape covering a particular health product as well as its marketing approval status;

PP10 Noting the latest Declaration of Helsinki, which promotes making publicly available the results of clinical trials, including negative and inconclusive as well as positive results, and noting that public access to comprehensive data on clinical trials is important for promoting the advancement in science and successful treatment of patients, while protecting personal patient information;

PP11 Agreeing that policies that influence the pricing of health products and that reduce barriers to access can be better formulated and evaluated when there is reliable, comparable, transparent and sufficiently detailed data [FOOTNOTE] across the value chain;

[FOOTNOTE: including but not limited to the availability, especially in small markets, units sold and patients reached in different markets and the medical benefits and added therapeutic value of these products;]

OP1 URGES Member States in accordance with their national and regional legal frameworks and contexts to:

1.1 Take appropriate measures to publicly share information on the net prices [FOOTNOTE] of health products;

FOOTNOTE: For the purposes of this resolution, net price or effective price or net transaction price or manufacturer selling price is the amount received by manufacturers after subtraction of all rebates, discounts, and other incentives.

1.2 Take the necessary steps, as appropriate, to support dissemination of and enhanced availability of and access to aggregated results data and, if already publicly-available or voluntarily-provided, costs from human subject clinical trials regardless of outcomes or whether the results will support an application for marketing approval, while ensuring patient confidentiality;

1.3 Work collaboratively to improve the reporting of information by suppliers on registered health products, such as reports on sales revenues, prices, units sold, marketing costs, and subsidies and incentives;

1.4 Facilitate improved public reporting of patent status information and marketing approval status of health products;

1.5 Improve national capacities, including through international cooperation, open and collaborative research for development and production of health products, especially in developing countries and low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), including for diseases that primarily affect them, as well as for product selection and cost-effective procurement, quality assurance, and supply chain management;

OP2 REQUESTS the WHO Director-General to:

2.1 Continue to support Member States, upon their request, in collecting and analysing information on economic data across the value chain for health products and data for relevant policy development and implementation towards achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC);

2.2 Continue supporting Member States, especially LMICs, in developing and implementing their national policies relevant to the transparency of markets for health products, including national capacities for local production, rapid and timely adoption of generic and biosimilar products, cost-effective procurement, product selection, quality assurance and supply-chain management of health products;

2.3 Support research on and monitor the impact of price transparency on affordability and availability of health products, including the effect on differential pricing, especially in LMICs and small markets, and provide analysis and support to Member States in this regard as appropriate;

2.4 Analyse the availability of data on inputs throughout the value chain, including on clinical trial data and price information, with a view to assessing the feasibility and potential value of establishing a web-based tool to share information relevant to the transparency of markets for health products, including investments, incentives, and subsidies;

2.5 Continue WHO's efforts to biennially convene the Fair Pricing Forum with Member States and all relevant stakeholders to discuss affordability and transparency of prices and costs relating to health products;

2.6 Continue supporting the existing efforts for determining patent status of health products and promoting publicly available user-friendly patent status information databases for public health actors, in line with the Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property, and to work with other relevant international organizations and stakeholders to improve international cooperation, avoid duplication of work, and promote relevant initiatives;

2.7 Report to the Seventh-fourth World Health Assembly (through EB148) on progress made in implementing this resolution.

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