



International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation

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IPSF Statement to the 74th World Health Assembly Agenda Item 13.5 Antimicrobial Resistance

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Established in 1949, IPSF is the leading international advocacy organisation for pharmacy and pharmaceutical science students and recent graduates that promotes improved public health through the provision of information, education, networking, and a range of publications and professional activities.

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**Statement of the
International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation
74th World Health Assembly, 24th of May to 01st of June, 2021
Point 13.5
Antimicrobial Resistance**

Honorable Chair, distinguished delegates,

It is a great honour to speak on behalf of the International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation (IPSF) which represents over 500,000 pharmacy students and recent graduates in over 100 countries worldwide.

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is the next pandemic waiting to emerge if inappropriate use of antimicrobials continues. IPSF commends the release of WHO guidance on the appropriate use of antimicrobials in the clinical management of COVID-19 and applauds the revitalised policies proposed by WHO to combat AMR through prevention, education, research, stewardship and surveillance.

IPSF continues to make AMR a priority of youth in healthcare by recently developing an AMR Advocacy Toolkit providing a clear path for our member organisations to advocate for awareness on a local level. Youth are also leading the way from a One Health approach, where IPSF alongside medical, dental, veterinary and agricultural students organised the first ever virtual AMR Youth Summit. We gathered more than 2500 young people across 25 disciplines from more than 120 countries. The summit highlighted the crucial role of youth and the importance of a coordinated approach against AMR.

IPSF commends WHO and its efforts to develop National Action Plans (NAPs) as a part of the Global Action Plan on AMR, with 144 countries having finalised their NAP and 44 having begun to develop it. IPSF calls on WHO and member states to recognise and include youth and civil society as a key stakeholder in implementing NAPs as the plans are only as good as the concrete actions which are executed.

Given the static development of antimicrobials, IPSF calls on WHO member states and stakeholders to work with the AMR Action Fund to support and fund youth AMR innovation. Youth are at the center of novel developments and pave the way for future innovations.

Thank you.