

## STATEMENT

### **Joint IFPMA - EFPIA - EUCOPE statement to support the adoption of the WHA Resolution on Rare Diseases**

5 MAY 2025, GENEVA – The International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA), representing the innovative pharmaceutical industry worldwide, the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA) representing the innovative biopharmaceutical industry operating in Europe, and the European Confederation of Pharmaceutical Entrepreneurs (EUCOPE), representing small and mid-sized innovative health technology companies in Europe, welcome and echo the [Call to Action](#) issued by the Coalition in Support of the [World Health Assembly \(WHA\) Resolution on Rare Diseases](#), led by Rare Diseases International.

The WHA Resolution on Rare Diseases represents a historic opportunity to advance the rights, health, and well-being of over 300 million people living with a rare disease (PLWRD) worldwide. We hope the WHA will adopt this resolution in May and lead the development of a Global Rare Disease Action Plan.

Governments have already shown their commitment, with 26 countries co-sponsoring the Resolution and a number of countries hosting legislative debates on the benefits of a rare disease action plan for PLWRD and their community. Coordinated, sustainable efforts at international, regional, and national levels by all stakeholders can yield concrete results - from improved diagnostics and care pathways to advances in research and innovation. However, challenges persist, and we know that no single actor or region can meet the needs of the rare disease community alone. To illustrate the political momentum for action on rare diseases, Members of the European Parliament called for a European Rare Disease Action Plan at a hosted debate on 3 April.

A Global Action Plan should inspire countries and regions to develop, implement, and review their own action plans. These must bring together all relevant sectors of society, including patient organisations, healthcare providers, policymakers, and industry. Together, we can drive forward a truly integrated approach to rare diseases that ensures no one is left behind.

#### **About IFPMA**

IFPMA represents the innovative pharmaceutical industry at the international level, engaging in official relations with the United Nations and multilateral organizations. Our vision is to ensure that

scientific progress translates into the next generation of medicines and vaccines that deliver a healthier future for people everywhere. To achieve this, we act as a trusted partner, bringing our members' expertise to champion pharmaceutical innovation, drive policy that supports the research, development, and delivery of health technologies, and create sustainable solutions that advance global health.

For more information, visit [ifpma.org](https://ifpma.org).

## About EFPIA

The European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA) represents the biopharmaceutical industry operating in Europe. Through its direct membership of 37 national associations, 40 leading pharmaceutical companies and a growing number of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), EFPIA's mission is to create a collaborative environment that enables our members to innovate, discover, develop and deliver new therapies and vaccines for people across Europe, as well as contribute to the European economy.

For more information, visit [efpia.eu](https://efpia.eu).

## About EUCOPE

The European Confederation of Pharmaceutical Entrepreneurs (EUCOPE) is Europe's trade body that gives a bigger voice to small and mid-sized innovative companies working in the field of biopharmaceuticals and medical technologies. Through its members, EUCOPE represents 2600+ health technology companies that are researching, developing, supplying, manufacturing, and deploying the next generation of pharmaceutical innovation and therapeutic solutions around the continent.

For more information, visit [eucope.org](https://eucope.org)

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