

31 October 2021

Dear Heads of State and National Delegations,

The International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) and the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) are committed to tackling the climate and ecological emergency through pharmacy. FIP is the global body representing pharmacy, pharmaceutical sciences and pharmaceutical education. The RPS – a founder member organisation of FIP since its inception in 1912 - is the body responsible for the leadership and support of the pharmacy profession within England, Scotland and Wales. As a sign of solidarity and shared commitment, from the pharmacy profession in Great Britain and globally, we have aligned the initiatives we can deliver as part of our contribution to the climate change crisis and specifically COP26.

Climate change is one of the greatest threats to global health in the 21st century, and the healthcare industry – being responsible for 4-5% of greenhouse emissions globally – has an important role to play in battling climate change. Pharmacy is a critical component of healthcare systems and service delivery and are often the most accessible members of the healthcare team. Being medicines experts, pharmacists can protect the environment by firstly continuing to support people to stay well and through reducing medicines waste, tackling air & water pollution, and implementing green pharmacy practices.

In September 2021, both FIP and RPS voiced their commitment to this agenda when FIP launched the FIP Development Goals to support pharmacy transformation globally. These are aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and includes FIP Development Goal 21 “Sustainability in Pharmacy” which drives policies, regulations and strategies to ensure the sustainability of the environment and minimise the impact of pharmaceuticals and pharmacy practice. In parallel, the RPS formally recognised the scale and importance of situation by publishing a climate and ecological declaration.

The sustainability in pharmacy and health agenda is a priority programme of work for both organisations. Both organisations are aligned in their commitment to this global battle and to supporting the pharmacy profession worldwide to play our role in climate action. FIP is establishing its new Sustainability Rx programme dedicated to supporting the implementation of Goal 21 and RPS is drafting a sustainability policy that outlines pharmacy’s role in climate action and sustainable healthcare.

We support the Conference of the Parties (COP) and the 2021 United Nations climate change conference to take place in Glasgow. We recognise this as a pivotal moment in the fight against climate change and we voice our full support.



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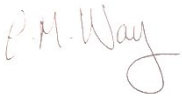
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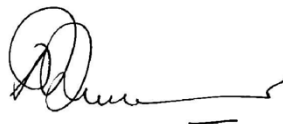
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