

Reducing the threat of resistant bacteria

- **FIP COPENHAGEN 2025**
- **COPENHAGEN, 31 AUGUST TO 3 SEPTEMBER**

From 31 August to 3 September, **The International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)** held its 83rd World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Copenhagen, welcoming over 3,400 delegates from 120 countries. Under the theme *“Pharmacy Forward: Performance, Collaboration, and Health Transformation,”* the congress explored how the pharmacy profession is evolving to tackle global healthcare challenges.

A GROWING GLOBAL CHALLENGE

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) causes around one million deaths each year and is recognised by WHO as one of the most urgent global health threats. Antimicrobials are agents that kill or inhibit the growth of microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites. However, decades of inappropriate prescribing and overuse have enabled many microorganisms to develop resistance, making once treatable

infections increasingly difficult - and sometimes impossible - to cure. This growing threat also increases the risks

“WHO has identified AMR as one of the top 10 threats to public health, primarily due to the current burden of more than 1 million deaths annually caused by AMR. Additionally, AMR poses a future threat, affecting lives, livelihoods, and economic development.”

Dr. Yvan J-F Hutin, Director of AMR, World Health Organization (WHO)



Photo: Wonderful Copenhagen



Photo: Wonderful Copenhagen

associated with antimicrobial resistant infections during or after routine medical procedures such as surgeries, caesarean sections, dialysis or chemotherapy.

While AMR affects societies worldwide, its consequences are particularly severe in low- and middle-income countries, where inequality and limited resources amplify the problem. In addition to direct deaths, AMR contributed to nearly 5 million deaths globally in 2019 ([WHO, 2023](#)). Beyond its human toll, AMR is projected to increase healthcare expenses by an additional US\$1 trillion by 2050, placing unsustainable pressure on societies worldwide ([WHO, 2023](#)).

A DAY FOCUSED ON COMBATTING AMR

Ahead of FIP 2025, **Copenhagen Legacy Lab** hosted a workshop bringing together FIP representatives and Danish

pharmacy organisations to discuss current challenges in the pharmaceutical area. Participants shared a strong concern about the growing threat of AMR and a common commitment to tackle it across pharmaceutical sciences and national borders. Furthermore, AMR is high on the Danish agenda, and several political as well as industrial initiatives have been taken to prevent AMR.

Building on these discussions, **FIP**, in collaboration with **PharmaDanmark**, **Danmarks Apotekerforening**, the **AMR Industry Alliance**, and Copenhagen Legacy Lab, agreed to dedicate a full day of the congress programme to AMR. Highlights from the day included:

- Opening remarks from Denmark's Minister of the Interior and Health, Sophie Løhde, emphasising the urgent need for international collaboration to combat AMR.



- Sessions on the societal and healthcare impact of AMR, both today and in the future.
- Recommendations from researchers and policymakers on actionable strategies to combat AMR.
- Signing of the FIP Copenhagen Declaration on AMR.
- Promoting the rational use of antimicrobials based on diagnostic evidence and enhancing public health education and empowerment
- Strengthening the global medicine supply chain and use of innovative technologies
- Generating evidence on AMR interventions and impact

STRENGTHENING GLOBAL COLLABORATIONS

The day culminated with the signing ceremony of the [FIP Copenhagen Declaration on Antimicrobial Resistance \(AMR\)](#), a global action plan aimed at mobilising FIP member organisations. More than 80 organisations (and growing) signed the declaration, committing to taking concrete steps over the next five years to reduce AMR, with tailored support from FIP.

Subsequent actions include:

- Supporting global efforts and building partnerships to combat AMR
- Promoting vaccination and disease prevention to combat AMR

These commitments underscore the urgent need for a collaborative, cross-border approach and highlight the critical role of pharmacists in ensuring that antimicrobials remain effective for future generations.

Combating AMR is now a key priority in the FIP Strategic Plan 2025-2030 ensuring sustained international focus on this pressing health challenge by pharmacy globally.



The FIP Copenhagen Declaration on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

Together, we will combat antimicrobial resistance by ensuring that antimicrobials remain effective for future generations. We will work toward a world where every person has access to essential medicines, safe treatments, and the right care at the right time, leaving no one behind.

We, as FIP members and leaders, commit to supporting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in relation to health and well-being, by addressing AMR. Together, we will reduce inequalities in access to medicines including vaccines, improve health outcomes, and ensure the responsible use of antimicrobials to meet the SDGs for health, equity, and sustainability.

To achieve these aims, we support the following priorities:

- 1 Supporting Global Efforts and Building partnerships to Combat AMR
- 2 Promoting Vaccination and Disease Prevention to Combat AMR
- 3 Promoting the Rational Use of Antimicrobials based on diagnostic evidence and enhance Public Health Education and Empowerment
- 4 Strengthening the Global Medicine Supply Chain and use of innovative technologies
- 5 Generating Evidence on AMR Interventions and Impact

CONTINUE READING

“The FIP Copenhagen Declaration on Antimicrobial Resistance will mobilise all our member organisations through our strategic plan to take us through to 2030, so that what we do in nations and globally will ensure that AMR will be solved for the generations to come.”

Dr Catherine Duggan, CEO at International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)

LEGACY PROCESS



Strategic goals and societal needs

According to WHO, antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is one of the most urgent global health challenges, requiring coordinated action at both international and national levels.

In Denmark, AMR is a key priority in the recently launched **National action plan for antimicrobial resistance om humans** (Ministry of the Interior and Health of Denmark, 2025). In addition, a national AMR Alliance was established in 2024 to unite patient organisations, research institutions, hospitals, and the life science industry in strengthening cross-sector collaboration. These national initiatives are closely aligned with FIP’s global strategic agenda, where tackling AMR remains a central priority.



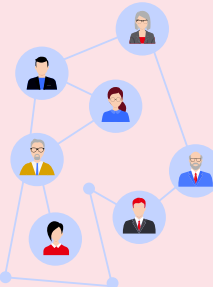
Outputs (immediately after the activity)

More than 80 FIP member organisations signed the declaration, committing themselves to collective action against AMR over the next five years (see the list of supporting member organisations [here](#)).



Objective

To combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR) by mobilising FIP member organisations in a coordinated effort.



Stakeholder involvement

Copenhagen Legacy Lab: Initiated the legacy process at FIP 2024 in Cape Town, hosted a kick-off workshop with FIP and local pharmaceutical associations, and provided strategic guidance on planning and evaluation.

PharmaDanmark: Contributed to planning the programme and ensured involvement of Danish speakers and political stakeholders.

The International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP): Organised the AMR congress programme and mobilised member organisations to sign the declaration.

FIP member organisations: Committed to implementing concrete measures to combat AMR.



Outcomes (+6-12 months - changed behaviour)

- FIP will publish the MOs newsletter and an article in the International Pharmacy Journal (IPJ) in September and October 2025.
- A global announcement of the AMR Declaration, together with the launch of a legacy video, will take place during World AMR Awareness Week at FIP’s digital event in November 2025.
- In 2026, FIP will conduct regional engagement meetings to highlight best practices and support MOs and regional forums in implementing interventions within their countries and regions.
- Monthly communications, in the form of letters or testimonials, will also be organised throughout the year.
- An AMR progress survey, designed to capture key actions in policy and practice, will be conducted in April 2026.
- Finally, a summary report of the year’s work will be published during World AMR Awareness Week 2026.



Impact (+1 year – societal value)

Over the next five years, the implementation and outcomes of the member organisations’ action plans will be assessed.



Activities

A full day of the congress programme was dedicated to AMR and culminated in the signing of the FIP Copenhagen Declaration on AMR.



Potential legacy (+1-3 years and beyond)

To be evaluated.