

**IAPO Intervention: Agenda Item 13.2 Health in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development  
69<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly**

Speaker: Chair IAPO Governing Board Jolanta Bilińska

Thank you Chair, honourable members, distinguished delegates.

The International Alliance of Patients' Organizations (IAPO) is an alliance of patient groups in official relationship with the WHO and representing the interests of patients worldwide. Our 250 member organizations are based in more than 65 countries covering over 60 different conditions.

We welcome the Secretariat's report *Health in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and congratulate the Member States for having committed to achieving universal health coverage by 2030 at the 70th session of the UN General Assembly through UN General Assembly resolution 70/1, particularly through sustainable development goal 3.8 (SDG 3.8).

IAPO reinforces the report's recommendations that access to acceptable, affordable, safe and quality health care facilities, services, goods and devices is the first step towards enabling chronically ill patients into becoming productive and active contributors towards their national economic, social and cultural development. Investment in SDG 3.8, besides improving the chronically ill patients' health, will also improve their access to employment, education and training opportunities and support the achievement of other goals.

SDG 3.8 gives Member States a golden opportunity to collaborate globally to realise sustainable patient-centred health systems globally, and by putting 'Health in all Policies' chronically-ill patients can be a part of the drive towards sustainable development for all by 2030.

We strongly endorse the Secretariat's recommendation that the Health Assembly adopts the draft resolution recommended by the Executive Board in resolution EB138.R5, and we urge for an accelerated approach to the realisation of SDG 3.8.

Thank you for your attention.