



## **IAPO Statement at 74th WHO Regional Committee for Africa**

### **Agenda item 18.1: Progress report on the Framework for strengthening the use of evidence, information and research for policy-making in the African Region ([Document AFR/RC74/INF.DOC/2](#))**

The International Alliance of Patients' Organizations (IAPO) has been advocating for patient-centred healthcare for 25 years and fully supports the Framework for Strengthening the Use of Evidence, Information, and Research for Policy-Making in the African Region.

IAPO welcomes its first progress report as a vital step towards more informed and effective health policy-making across the continent. We particularly commend the Framework's guiding principle on citizen participation and emphasize the importance of actively including patients, communities, and people with lived experiences in its activities. This ensures that policies are not only evidence-based but also truly reflective of the needs and realities faced by those directly affected.

In alignment with the recently adopted [resolution on social participation for universal health coverage, health, and well-being](#) at the 77th World Health Assembly, we urge Member States from the African region to fully commit to its implementation.

Recognizing the value of engaging people with lived experiences is crucial in bridging the gap between research findings and policy development.

IAPO remains committed to collaborating with all stakeholders to advance these goals and to promote patient-centred, evidence-driven healthcare policies across the African region.