



PRESS RELEASE

PAN-AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR PHARMACEUTICAL WHOLESALERS AND DISTRIBUTORS SET TO KICK OFF

Four African Countries Elect to Establish Association; Others Invited to Join

6 December 2018 – IFPW recently convened a meeting of pharmaceutical wholesale & distribution associations and companies in Africa to discuss the possibility of establishing a pan-African association of wholesalers and distributors. Representatives from Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa attended the November 27th session held in Lusaka, Zambia on the eve of this year's Global Health Supply Chain Summit (GHSCS).

Discussions, facilitated by IFPW and IQVIA, centered around what the benefits of such an Association might be (if formed); how it could be organized, funded and governed; what programs and services could be developed (both initially and over the longer term); and how the important roles and value propositions of wholesale distributors could be promoted - and eventually better understood and leveraged - on the African continent.

The participants quickly determined that the concept was valid and that an association was needed and should be established.

Over the coming months, the initial group will continue to further develop its ideas and establish proposals around the Association's name, operating structure, resources and activities. IFPW will play a supportive role, however all the final decisions and approaches will be determined by the founding members. Other associations and organizations are invited and encouraged to join in the initiative as this Association will be open to all appropriate stakeholders, directly or indirectly, including distributors, wholesalers, service providers and others. Collaboration and areas of mutual benefit will be prioritized over competitive areas and members' individual objectives.

A next meeting has been tentatively scheduled for March 2019 in Accra, Ghana.

If interested in learning more, you are encouraged to contact Chris Goetz (chris.goetz@ifpw.com) or George Bray (george.bray@ifpw.com) at IFPW's headquarters via email or by calling +703-331-3714.

About IFPW

The International Federation of Pharmaceutical Wholesalers (IFPW) is the global trade association representing full-service pharmaceutical wholesalers, distributors and wholesaler associations in 26 countries, and provides a strong, effective platform to establish dialogue within the global pharmaceutical community. The association is dedicated to helping its members and stakeholders advance the safe, efficient and continuous access to pharmaceuticals worldwide through the promotion of good distribution practices and services.

The IFPW's charitable arm, IFPW Foundation, aims to improve access to and availability of quality medicines and health commodities worldwide.

Both organizations are located in the Virginia suburbs of Washington D.C. Visit them at www.ifpw.com or www.ifpwfoundation.org as well as on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

Media contact

Christina Tucker

Tel.: +703-331-3714

Email: c.tucker@ifpw.com