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**World Health
Organization**

Global Strategy and Plan of Action

on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property



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Organization**

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Introduction

This publication is intended to be a reader-friendly and consolidated version of documents relevant to the global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property (now abbreviated to GSPA-PHI). In it the reader will find in one place for the first time the original documents as agreed by Member States, along with the finalized, agreed list of stakeholders, time frames and progress indicators. It also includes the relevant World Health Assembly resolutions – WHA61.21 and WHA62.16 – as annexes.

Careful attention has been paid to preserve the original integrity of the text and only typographical or obvious grammatical errors have been corrected.

Overview

In 2006, the Commission on Intellectual Property Rights, Innovation and Public Health completed its report and the Member States of the World Health Organization implemented the main recommendation by establishing an intergovernmental working group to draft a global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property. In 2008, following a two-year negotiation process, the Sixty-first WHO World Health Assembly debated the output of the intergovernmental working group and subsequently the global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property was adopted in resolution WHA61.21.

The aim of the strategy is to promote new thinking on innovation and access to medicines and to secure an enhanced and sustainable basis for needs-driven essential health research and development relevant to diseases that disproportionately affect developing countries. The strategy comprises eight elements, 25 sub-elements and 108 specific actions. These elements and actions are designed to: set, prioritize and promote research; foster and build innovation capacity; promote technology transfer and local production of medical products; promote the management and application of intellectual property rights to improve public health; improve access to medical products; mobilize resources for research and development relevant to this area and monitor and evaluate the progress in all these areas.

In the following year, 2009, resolution WHA62.16 finalized the list of stakeholders responsible for the implementation of each element and sub-element, established progress indicators for each element and proposed time frames in which the actions specified in the GSPA-PHI should be accomplished. Resolution WHA62.16 also noted

estimated funding needs for the completion of each element but did not endorse or adopt these figures.

This publication consolidates in one volume the document that was adopted as an annex to WHA 61.21 and all changes adopted subsequently in WHA 62.16.

Even though some progress has been made in the past few years, the basis for alleviating the burden of diseases that disproportionately affect poor populations has to continue to be strengthened. The GSPA-PHI represents an international consensus on a strategy and actions to be taken to address these challenges. It is hoped that GSPA-PHI in its present form is more accessible to all those who are interested in seeing development and delivery of essential health technologies to all those who need them the most.

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