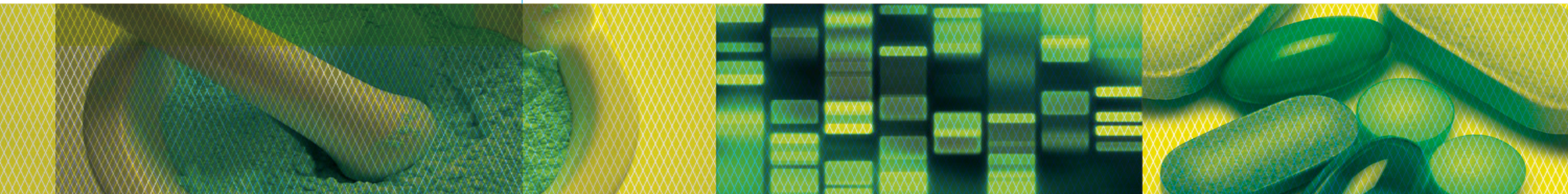




PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS: PHARMACISTS CONTRIBUTION & LESSONS LEARNED

Dr Prosper Hiag, Vice President, International
Pharmaceutical Federation
ICPA 7TH Conference & Exhibition



**ADVANCING
PHARMACY
WORLDWIDE**



What is FIP?

The global pharmacy body

Founded in 1912 in the Netherlands, the **International Pharmaceutical Federation** (FIP) is the global federation of national associations representing over four million **pharmacists, pharmaceutical scientists** and **educators** around the world.



Vision

A person with a backpack stands on a rocky peak, looking out over a vast, forested valley. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The foreground shows the rocky edge of the peak and some autumn-colored foliage. A thick blue horizontal bar is positioned below the word 'Vision'.

A world where everyone benefits from access
to safe and effective medicines and
pharmaceutical care

Mission

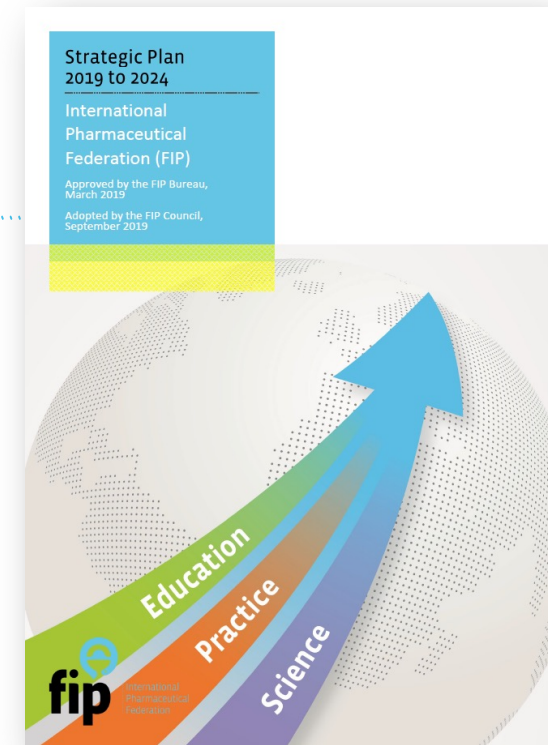


Improve global health by supporting the advancement of **pharmaceutical practice, sciences and education**

FIP strategic plan 2019-2024

Six strategic outcomes

- 1 Everyone has **access to the medicines** they need
- 2 Everyone has **access to the health and medicines-related information** they need
- 3 Everyone benefits from **new medicines, services and health technologies**
- 4 Pharmacists ensure the **responsible and quality use of medicines**
- 5 **Healthcare professionals and patients** work together to ensure comprehensive health care for all
- 6 FIP is a vibrant and growing organisation that meets **the needs and functions of its members**



Outline

- Overview of FIP work on pandemic preparedness
- Highlighting Pandemic Response Initiatives from FIP Member Organisations
- Insights from the WHA76

Presentation - Overview of previous FIP work

Overview of our previous work

The global response of pharmacy to the pandemic:

The contribution of the profession to COVID-19

Key CONTENTS of THE REPORT

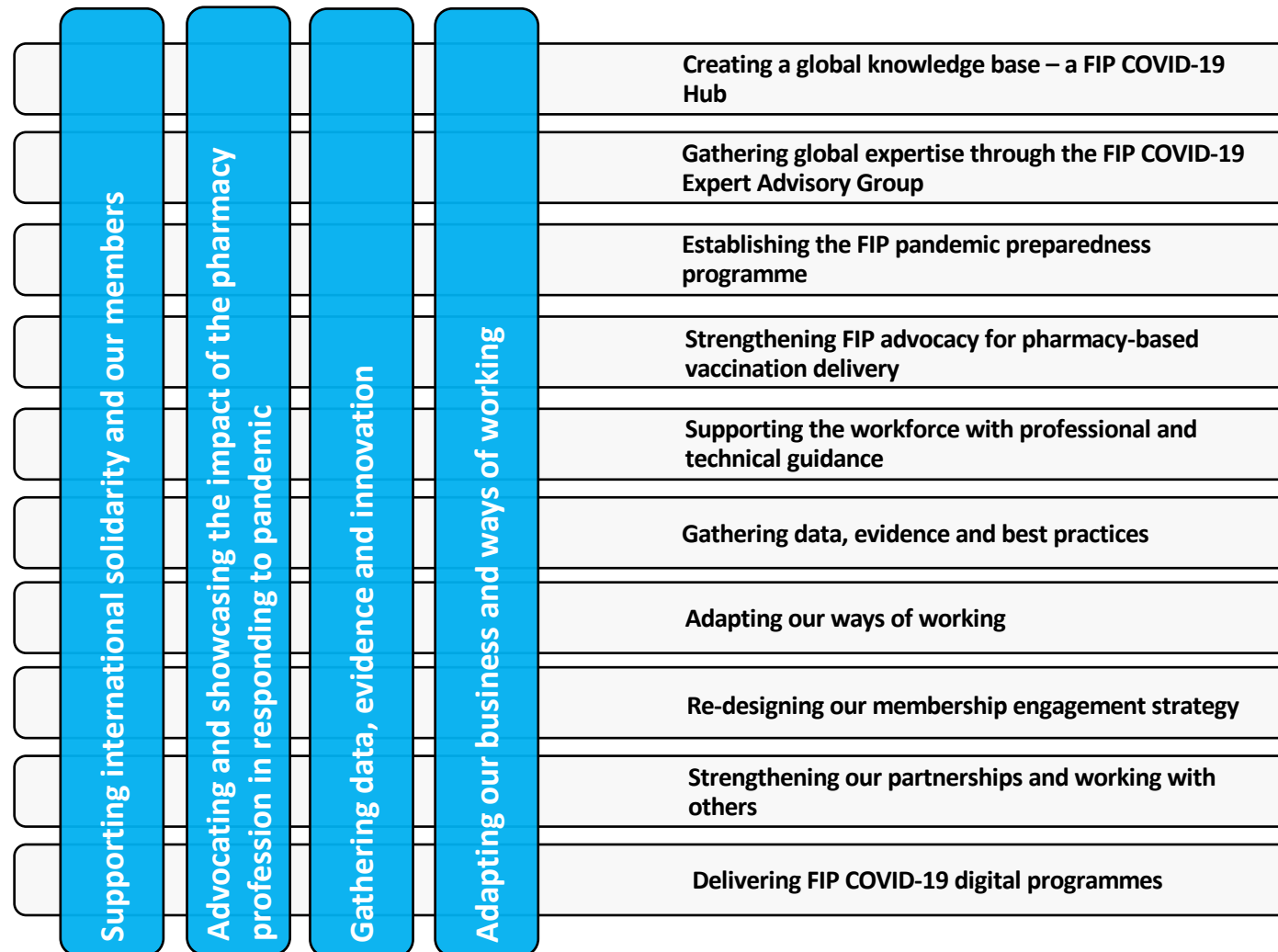
1. The FIP response to COVID-19: Supporting our members through the pandemic
2. Our member organisations' response to COVID-19
 - 2.1 Global survey on pharmacy's response to the pandemic
 - 2.2 Leadership strategies and initiatives our selected member organisations – **will be reiterated today.**

Launched in October 2022



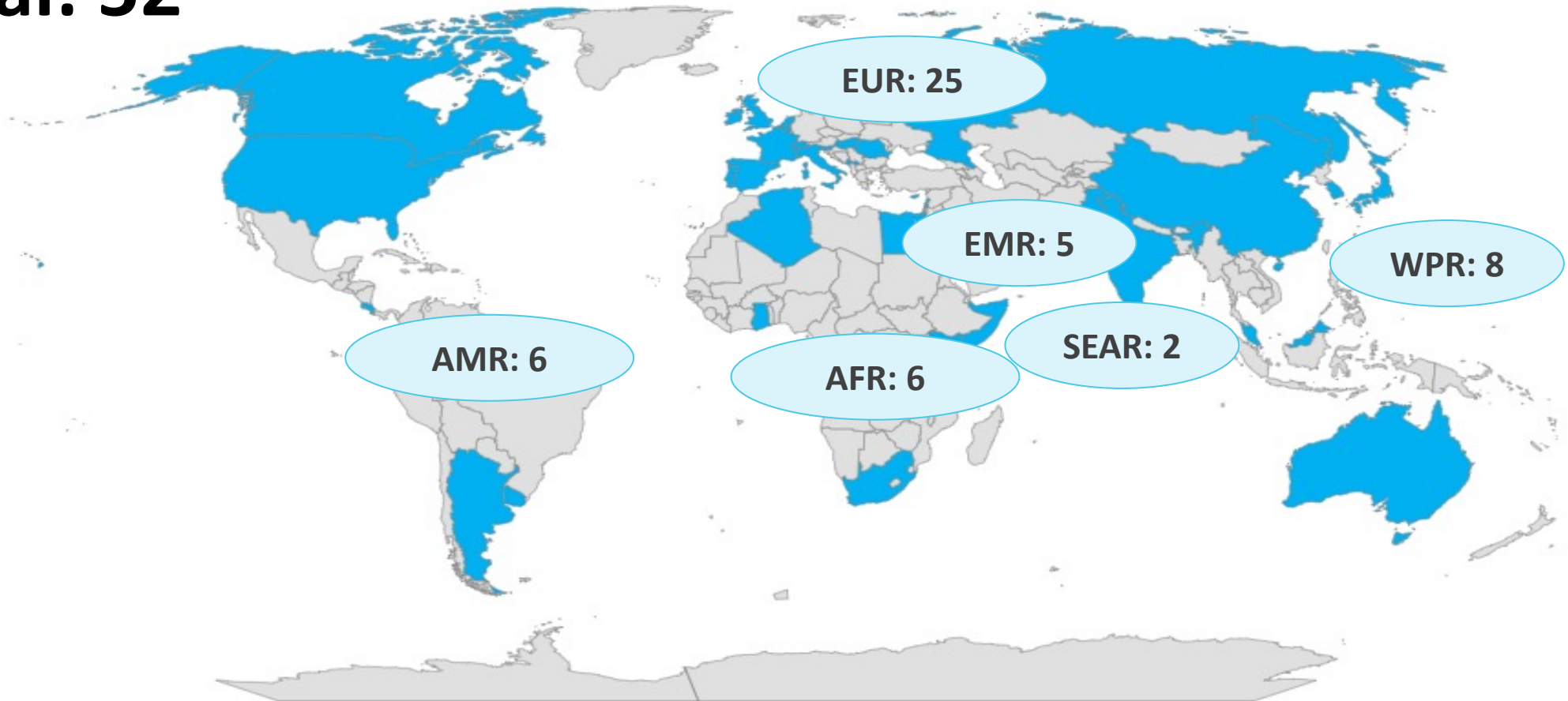
FIP's 10 pandemic response themes

Underpinned by the 4 areas



Global survey on pharmacy's response to the pandemic

Total: 52



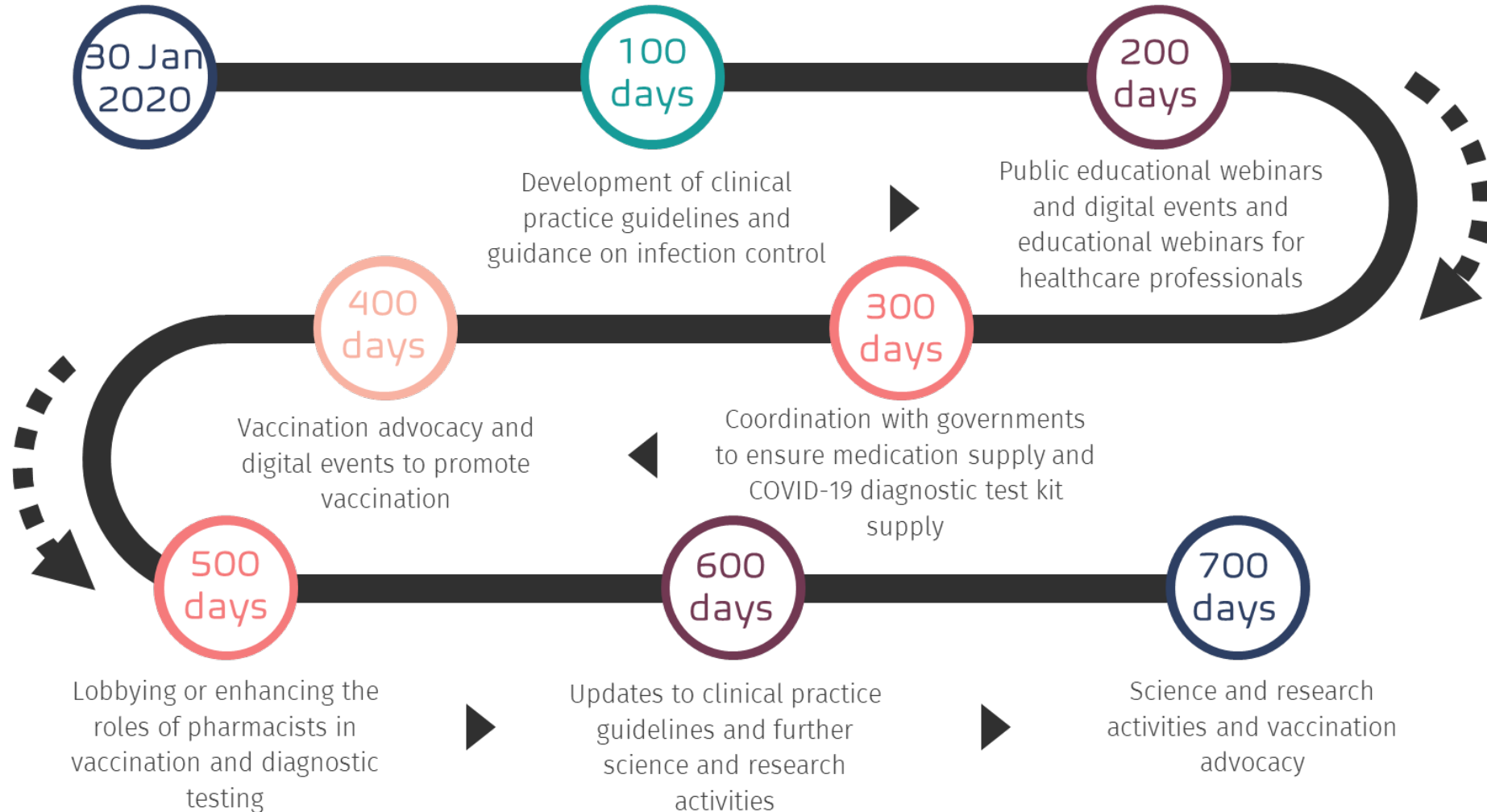
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© Australian Bureau of Statistics, GeoNames, Microsoft, Navinfo, OpenStreetMap, TomTom

AFR: Africa; AMR: Americas; EMR: Eastern Mediterranean; EUR: European; SEAR: South East Asian; WPR: Western Pacific

Global survey on pharmacy's response to the pandemic

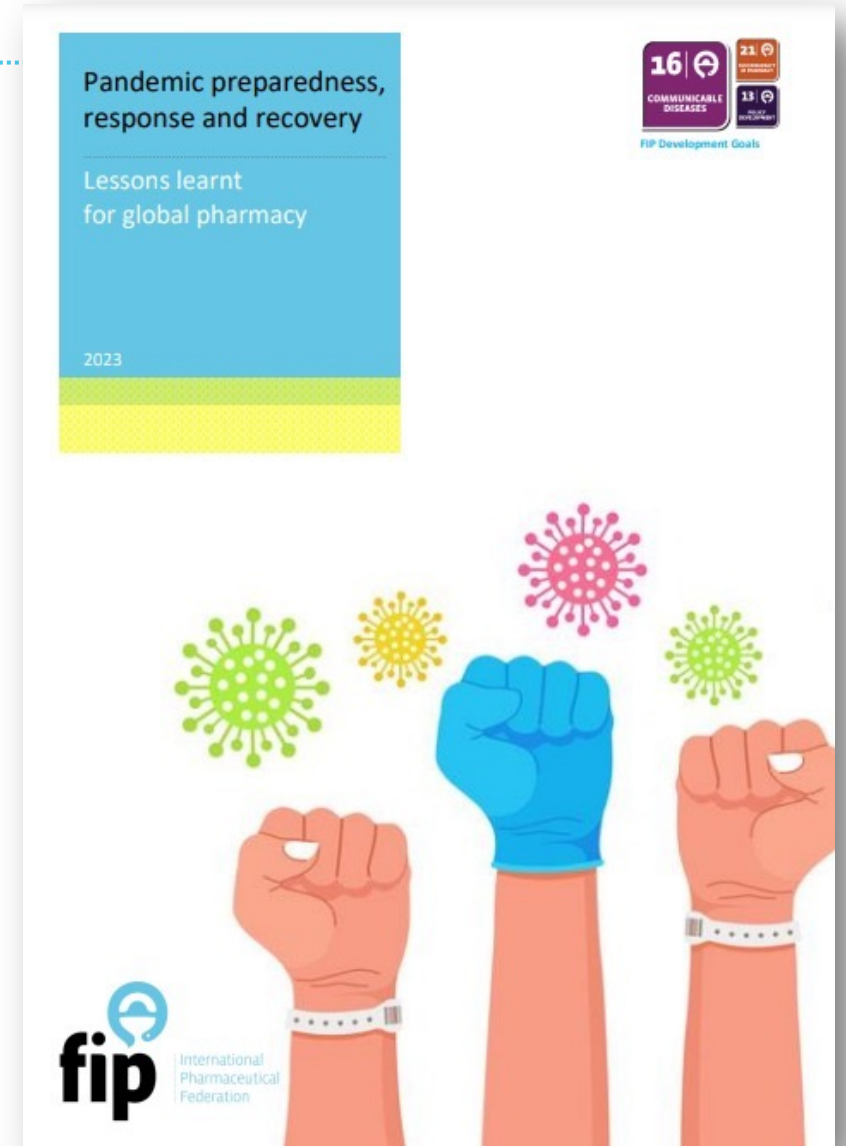
General themes of activities per 100 days



NEW FIP REPORT ON PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

Pandemic preparedness, response and recovery: Lessons learnt for global pharmacy

**FIP
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EVENTS**



"Pandemic preparedness, response and recovery: Lessons learnt for global pharmacy"

REPORT OUTLINE

Six key focus areas:

1. Leading by example: Governments, nations and members organisations
2. Enabling system transformation: Remuneration, regulations and data infrastructure for vaccination services
3. Investing in science and innovation: Vaccine development, misinformation and hesitancy
4. Reshaping pharmaceutical practice: New trends for the profession post-pandemic
5. Accelerating universal health coverage: Equity, access and sustainability of vaccines, medicines and services
6. Transforming the workforce: workforce preparedness and resilience



"Pandemic preparedness, response and recovery: Lessons learnt for global pharmacy"

CONCLUDING COMMITMENTS FROM FIP

Six concluding commitments:

1. To advocate the role of pharmacists in pandemic preparedness
2. To support the profession during disasters and pandemics
3. To enable the workforce to deliver quality care during pandemics
4. To call for policy development and transformation
5. To utilise data and surveillance
6. To provide global guidance to members worldwide

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"Pandemic preparedness, response and recovery: Lessons learnt for global pharmacy"

REMARKS FROM FIP CEO



“FIP continues to play a pivotal role in advancing the pharmacy profession and promoting global health. We are committed to providing pharmacists with timely and relevant information to navigate the evolving landscape of healthcare challenges, including pandemics, so that they can continue to be at the forefront of safeguarding public health.”

Catherine Duggan, FIP CEO

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Highlighting Pandemic Response Initiatives from FIP Member Organisations

A Reflection on Key Takeaways

Initiatives on the pandemic response from selected MOs

Costa Rica: College of Pharmacists of Costa Rica



Sofía Segura

Professor, University of Costa Rica and College of Pharmacists of Costa Rica
Costa Rica

Pharmaceutical Services in Immunization in Costa Rica

- **Launched January 2020:** Adapted for COVID-19 response.
- **Core Activities:** Addressing vaccine concerns, informative campaigns, and specialized COVID-19 training for professionals.
- **Outcomes:** Positive results from training & campaigns; lack of impact measurement tools.
- **Challenges & Forward Path:** Media engagement, collaboration with the Ministry of Health; focus on broader public health projects and multi-stakeholder involvement for future improvements.

Initiatives on the pandemic response from selected MOs

Ireland: Irish Pharmacy Union



Susan O'Donnell
Professional Services Pharmacist,
Irish Pharmacy Union
Ireland

Role of Community Pharmacies in Ireland's COVID-19 Vaccination

- **Key Role:** Helped give out and manage COVID-19 vaccines to aid public and country recovery.
- **Utilizing Strengths:** Used skilled vaccination staff, wide pharmacy network, and long opening hours.
- **Team-Up:** Irish Pharmacy Union (IPU) & Health Services Executive (HSE) made HSE PharmaVax, a special vaccination system linked to a main COVID-19 vaccine record.
- **Challenges & Work Ahead:** Need for organizing data better and making systems work together; working with partners to fix these.
- **Outcome:** Made community pharmacies known as main health helpers and made stronger partnerships for better pharmacy services.

Initiatives on the pandemic response from selected MOs

Japan: Japan Pharmaceutical Association



Nobuo Yamamoto

President, Japan Pharmaceutical Association
Japan

Role of the Japan Pharmaceutical Association during COVID-19

- **Main Action:** Gave remote advice and delivered medicine to continue treatment and lower infection risks.
- **Support:** Got financial help from the government.
- **Issues:** Funding troubles and keeping pharmacists safe.
- **Big Lesson:** Need strong local plans to make sure medicines are available in emergencies.

Initiatives on the pandemic response from selected MOs

Lebanon: National Institute of Public Health, Clinical Epidemiology, and Toxicology



Rony Zeenny

American University of Beirut - Medical Center
Director, Department of Pharmacy
Lebanon

Studying COVID-19 and economic crisis impacts in Lebanon

- **Main Goal:** Understand COVID-19 and economic crisis effects; encourage strategic thinking in healthcare.
- **Action Taken:** Independent research addressed various issues, including drug shortages and long COVID predictors.
- **Urgency Factors:** No easy access to COVID-19 data, economic troubles, drug shortages, and pressure on the healthcare system.
- **Results:** Research papers guided decisions, helping create a national drug plan and strategies for pharmacy schooling, jobs, and research.
- **Challenges:** Working together was hard, with differing views among health workers, and limited data access due to political and organizational roadblocks.

Initiatives on the pandemic response from selected MOs

Malta: Malta Chamber of Pharmacists



Mary Ann Sant Fournier
President, Malta Chamber of
Pharmacists
Malta

Malta's Paperless Prescription Initiative

- **Main Goal:** Implement paperless repeat prescribing and dispensing in the “Pharmacy of Your Choice” national scheme due to COVID-19.
- **New Authority:** Pharmacists can give repeat medicines without a doctor's note, making the dispensing process smoother.
- **Benefits:** Uninterrupted medicine access, treatment continuity, and filling the gap from fewer family doctors during the pandemic.
- **Highlight:** Shows the adaptability of pharmacists and their expertise.
- **Current Status:** Ongoing with set guidelines, protocols, and operations.
- **Challenges:** Some pharmacists' acceptance, computer issues, need for more teamwork among doctors.
- **Key Lesson:** Pharmacists must adapt, and there's a need for more teamwork and data gathering to improve results.

Initiatives on the pandemic response from selected MOs

Portugal: National Association of Pharmacies



Rute Horta

Executive Director of the Centre for
Medicines Information and Health
Interventions, National Association of
Pharmacies
Portugal

Rapid Antigen Testing in Portuguese Community Pharmacies

- **Objective:** Implement rapid antigen tests for SARS-CoV-2 in community pharmacies with NHS referrals.
- **Purpose:** Boost testing, catch cases early, and handle outbreaks better.
- **Implementation:** Pharmacies got the green light to test and report results to public health teams.
- **Progress:** Ongoing with 12+ million tests done in half the country's pharmacies.
- **Benefits:** Easier test access, shorter travel to test spots, and fairer access.
- **Challenges:** Pharmacy sign-up with the Health Agency, and low pay.
- **Takeaways:** Pharmacies play a key role, joint efforts are vital, and fair pay for pharmacy services is crucial.

Initiatives on the pandemic response from selected MOs

Portugal: Portuguese Pharmaceutical Society



Carla Diogo

Professional Affairs, Portuguese
Pharmaceutical Society
Portugal

Help Desk Support for Pharmacists in Portugal

- **Objective:** Develop a help desk with sectorial partners to back pharmacists during COVID-19.
- **Features:** Free phone line, volunteer database for technical help, and a Q&A section.
- **Resources:** Info materials, COVID-19 guidelines, and news to promote health understanding.
- **Outcome:** Better communication and trusted info access, marking the initiative's success.
- **Next Steps:** The Society plans to review the help desk's impact and success.
- **Big Picture:** The project shows how teamwork among groups can aid pharmacists, boost communication, and give the right info during health crises.

Initiatives on the pandemic response from selected MOs

South Africa: Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa



Jackie Maimin

Chief Executive Officer, Independent Community
Pharmacy Association (ICPA)
Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa (PSSA)
South Africa

PSSA's Webinar Initiative during COVID-19

- **Background:** Early COVID-19 days saw info gaps and slow updates from the national health department.
- **Objective:** PSSA provided essential COVID-19 webinars on the virus, PPE, treatments, and vaccines.
- **Platform Utility:** Used PSSA's existing webinar platform (from 2017) for easy online access.
- **Impact:** 60 webinars over 30 months, 7,000+ participants, and nearly 4,000 replay views.
- **Accessibility:** Helped members, even in remote places or with tight schedules, get ongoing professional learning.
- **Outcome:** Improved information dissemination and training during a critical health crisis

Initiatives on the pandemic response from selected MOs

India: Indian Pharmaceutical Association



Rao V. S. V. Vadlamudi
Immediate Past President,
Indian Pharmaceutical
Association (IPA)
India

Pharmacists' Role in India's COVID-19 Response

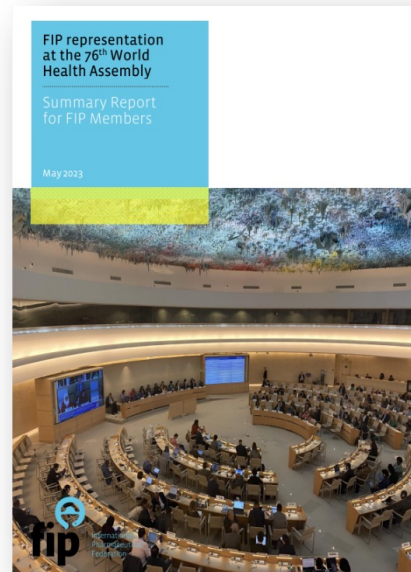
- **Awareness & Compliance:** Followed national & WHO guidelines for medicine stocking, distribution, and dispensing for COVID patients.
- **Frontline Role:** Acted as primary contact for patients, offering crucial advice, leading to enhanced recognition of pharmacists in healthcare.
- **Challenges:** Timely medicine supply, supply chain disruptions, and keeping pharmacies open and staffed.
- **Key Lessons:** Emphasized the need for awareness programmes, maintaining drug supplies, promoting correct drug usage, battling misinformation, and training for disaster & infection prevention.
- **Future Goals:** Indian Pharmaceutical Association to support the role of pharmacists as pivotal healthcare providers in India.

Insights from the WHA76

FIP Constituency statement on pandemic preparedness

Statement led by WHPA on COVID-19 impact on health workforce, and their contribution to pandemic response.

For more information:
WHA76 Summary Report
for Members



Insights from the WHA76

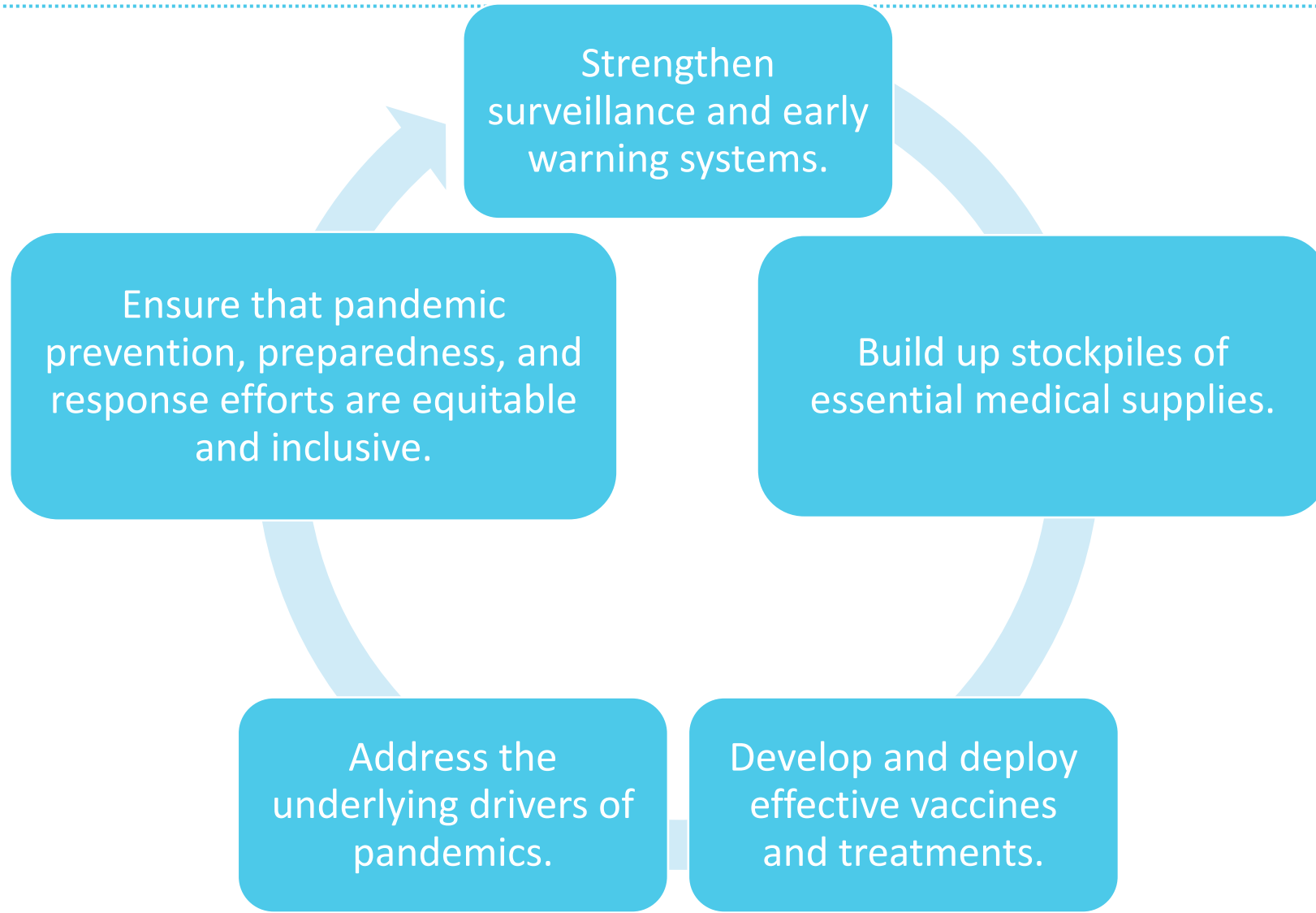
Strategic Roundtable on 22 May 2023

The World Together:
Member-State led
Processes to Strengthen
Pandemic Prevention,
Preparedness, and
Response, Today and for
Generations to Come



Insights from the WHA76

Key Recommendations from the Roundtable





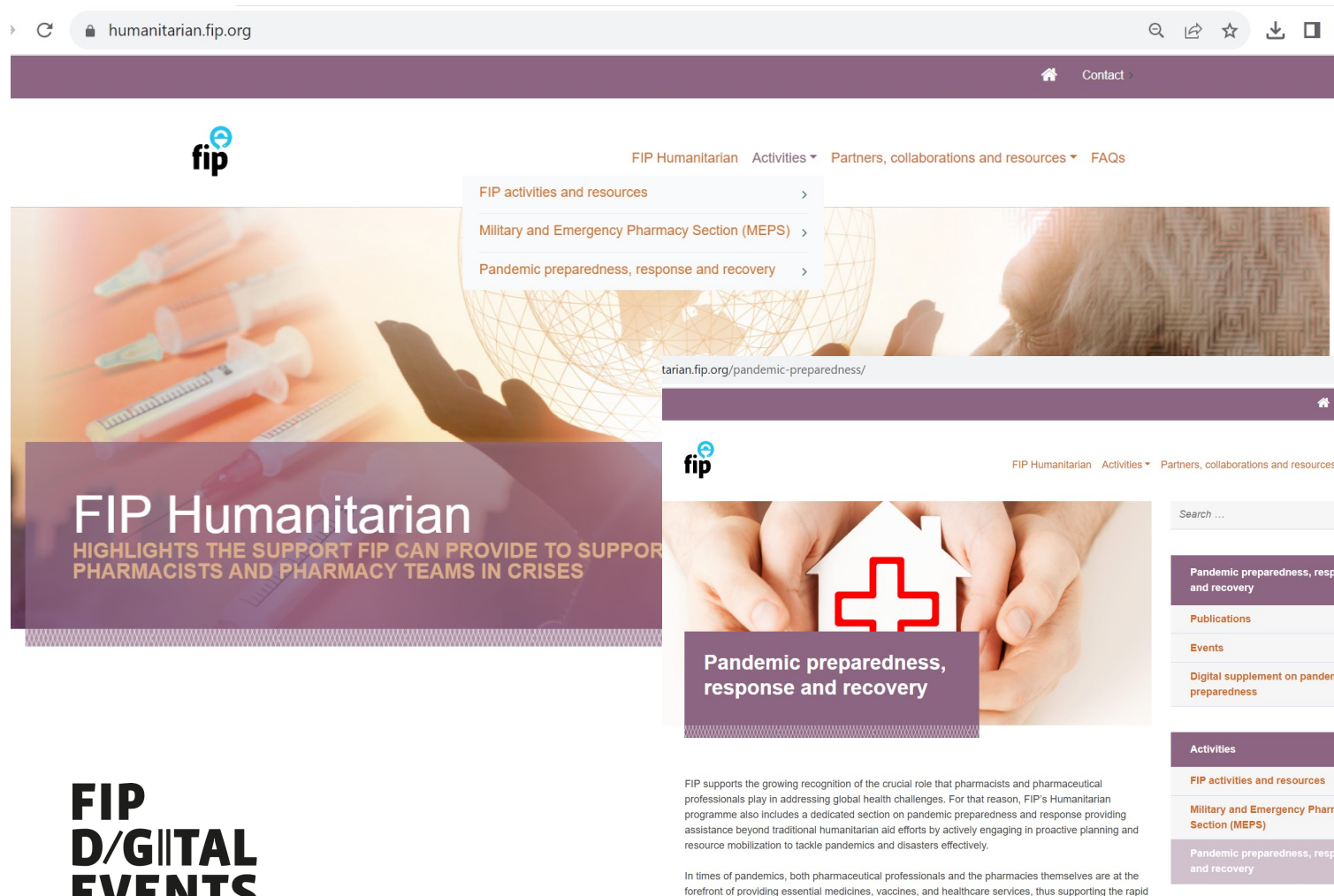
**Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the
Director-General of the World Health
Organization (WHO)**

“The end of COVID-19 as a global health emergency is not the end of COVID-19 as a global health threat”

“The threat of another variant emerging that causes new surges of disease and death remains, and the threat of another pathogen emerging with even deadlier potential remains ... pandemics are far from the only threat we face”

“When the next pandemic comes knocking – and it will – we must be ready to answer decisively, collectively, and equitably”

Where can we find all resources?



The screenshot shows the humanitarian.fip.org website. The browser address bar displays 'humanitarian.fip.org'. The website has a purple header with the FIP logo and navigation links: 'FIP Humanitarian', 'Activities', 'Partners, collaborations and resources', and 'FAQs'. A dropdown menu is open under 'Activities', showing 'FIP activities and resources', 'Military and Emergency Pharmacy Section (MEPS)', and 'Pandemic preparedness, response and recovery'. The main content area features a large banner with the text 'FIP Humanitarian HIGHLIGHTS THE SUPPORT FIP CAN PROVIDE TO SUPPORT PHARMACISTS AND PHARMACY TEAMS IN CRISES'. Below this, there is a section titled 'Pandemic preparedness, response and recovery' with a sub-header 'Digital supplement on pandemic preparedness'. The text describes FIP's support for global health challenges and its dedicated section on pandemic preparedness and response.

Digital supplement on pandemic preparedness

In 2023, FIP published a new report "Pandemic preparedness, response and recovery: Lessons learnt for global pharmacy". The report is accompanied by this digital supplement on pandemic preparedness, response and recovery, which collates key resources from the global health community, other health professions and key research outputs. The digital supplement will continuously be updated to include emerging data and lessons — and will expand to include more examples from FIP members as the world continues to recover and learn from COVID-19.

Resources from WHO

Resources from other health professions

Resources from around the world

Research References

Resources from Pharmacy

Pandemic prevention, preparedness and response accord

[Open link](#)

This is a web page from the World Health Organization that provides information and answers to frequently asked questions about the global process to draft and negotiate a new international instrument to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness and response. It explains the rationale, objectives, scope, timeline, and stakeholders

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Thank you for your attention
