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## PRESS RELEASE

### **25 African Regulatory authorities, 6 health financing and donor organisations signed a Call to Action proclaiming their intention to pursue pharmaceutical traceability by adopting global supply chain standards.**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Lagos, September 19, 2019.** Under the coordination of the African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization (AMRH) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), representatives from national and regional economic communities (RECs) from across Africa have signed a Call to Action for the “**Africa Strategy for Pharmaceutical Traceability**”. In doing so they have declared their support and commitment to undertake actions that will improve the availability of quality medicines, ensure greater visibility of products within the supply chain and enable improved patient care. The adoption of existing global supply chain standards for pharmaceutical traceability will help achieve these goals through stronger regional regulatory harmonisation, as well as global and national interoperability of supply chains and supporting information systems.

“Across Africa medicine regulatory authorities work hard to protect patients and provide access to quality medicines. Today we affirm medicine traceability as a key tool in our collective efforts to support healthy populations and more effective supply chains “ said Moji Christianah Adeyeye, Director General of Nigeria’s National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC).

“The Call to Action states the case – in clear language developed by Africa’s regulatory leaders – for the adoption of global standards for medicine traceability. We are watching with real admiration the commitment made today to medicine quality. This is Africa’s time to shine” added Tom Woods, World Bank’s Chairman of the Global Steering Committee for Quality Assurance.

GS1, the leading global supply chain standards organisation is holding its second [African Healthcare conference](#) in Lagos, Nigeria, from 17 to 19 September 2019. This conference is supported by The World Bank, The Global Fund, USAID and the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers (IFPMA) and co-hosted by NAFDAC (National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control in Nigeria).

See the full text of this [Call to Action here](#).

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**About NAFDAC** - The National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) was established by Decree No. 15 of 1993 as amended by Decree No. 19 of 1999 and now the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control Act Cap N1 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria (LFN) 2004 to regulate and control the manufacture, importation, exportation, distribution, advertisement, sale and use of Food, Drugs, Cosmetics, Medical Devices, Packaged Water, Chemicals and Detergents (collectively known as regulated products). The agency was officially established in October 1992.

View the [NAFDAC Website](#)

**About GS1** - GS1 is a neutral, not-for-profit organisation that develops and maintains the most widely used global standards for efficient business communication. We are best known for the barcode, named by the BBC as one of “the 50 things that made the world economy”. GS1 standards improve the efficiency, safety and visibility of supply chains across physical and digital channels in 25 sectors. Our scale and reach – local Member Organisations in 112 countries, 1.5 million user companies and 6 billion transactions every day – help ensure that GS1 standards create a common language that supports systems and processes across the globe. Find out more at [www.gs1.org](http://www.gs1.org)

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