

**Statement on the occasion of the  
67<sup>th</sup> session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe  
Budapest, Hungary, 11-14 September 2017**

Taking into account the agenda items related to sustainable healthcare systems and access to medicines, the World Self-Medication Industry (WSMI) would like to draw attention to the increasingly important role of self-care.

Nowadays, people want to take responsibility for their own health and this, combined with demographic changes and the increasing cost of healthcare, means that more must be done to develop and support self-care.

Research has shown that European citizens are able to treat self-manageable conditions safely and effectively. This can be further enhanced by improving the regulatory system for self-care products and promoting health literacy. The self-care industry believes that these goals can only be achieved thanks to close cooperation with all stakeholders, including governmental authorities, pharmacists, healthcare practitioners and consumers. This collaborative model should cover all self-care categories as defined by law: non-prescription medicines, food supplements and self-care medical devices. More details are available in the [AESGP Self-Care Agenda 2020](#).

Nyon, 20 July 2017