



INTERNATIONAL GENERIC AND  
BIOSIMILAR MEDICINES ASSOCIATION

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## **IGBA RELEASES TRADE PRINCIPLES TO FOSTER TRADE IN GENERIC AND BIOSIMILAR MEDICINES**

**GENEVA – 26 June 2019** – The International Generic and Biosimilar medicines Association (IGBA) today released a revised report *Trade Principles: Generic and Biosimilar Medicines* which addresses how trade agreements can be designed to foster trade in generic and biosimilar medicines and improve access to affordable medicines.

The report highlights five key areas of trade agreements where decisions made can have a profound impact on the trade in generic and biosimilar medicines: regulatory approaches, technical barriers to trade, intellectual property, competition/anti-trust safeguards and incentives.

*“While trade agreements should be focused on facilitating trade between countries, all too often we see agreements that erect new barriers to the trade for generic and biosimilar medicines manufacturers and hinder access to affordable medicines”* said Jim Keon, who serves as Chair of the IGBA and its International Trade and Intellectual Property Committee.

*“The removal of such barriers would reduce costs for the development of generic and biosimilar medicines and ensure that such products can be traded freely and enter markets without delay,”* he added.

Keon cited the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement as an example of a recent agreement that will be harmful to the trade in generic and biosimilar medicines, and delay patients’ access to affordable medicines.

The IGBA report *Trade Principles: Generic and Biosimilar Medicines* is available [here](#)

### **About IGBA**

The International Generic and Biosimilar medicines Association (IGBA) was founded to strengthen cooperation between associations representing manufacturers of generic and biosimilar medicines from around the world. The IGBA is at the forefront of preserving sustainable competition within our industry, by stimulating competitiveness and innovation in the pharmaceutical sector; thereby, ensuring millions of patients around the world have access to high quality, pro-competitive medicines. For more details, regarding IGBA and its member associations, see the IGBA website at: [www.igbamedicines.org](http://www.igbamedicines.org).