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"ACCESS TO COVID-19 TOOLS (ACT) ACCELERATOR" IGBA is Joining Forces on Global Collaboration to Overcome COVID-19

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IGBA, the International Generic and Biosimilar medicines Association (IGBA), representing global manufacturers of generic and biosimilar medicines, today endorses the <u>commitment and call to action</u> by an initial group of global health actors, private sector partners and other stakeholders, to launch an unprecedented global and time-limited collaboration to accelerate the development, production and equitable global access to new COVID-19 essential health technologies.

According to the IGBA Chair, Hanan Sboul, "Alongside the need for novel treatments to combat COVID-19, there is a tremendous need for existing medicines to treat infected patients. Since the beginning of this severe pandemic, our industry has continued to manufacture under lockdown and wherever possible has ramped up manufacturing operations to produce necessary medicines. IGBA's vision is to improve access to cost-effective quality medicines worldwide and its members will continue to contribute with their expertise to this global collaboration by bringing essential treatments to COVID-19 patients around the world."

"In the spirit of working together to overcome COVID-19 and to ensure worldwide equitable access to treatments, IGBA joins the call to the global community and political leaders to support this landmark collaboration. As mentioned in the joint commitment statement, we also call for donors to provide the necessary resources to accelerate the achievement of the objectives of this worldwide collaboration, capitalizing on the opportunity provided by the rolling pledging campaign that will start on 4 May 2020", added Suzette Kox, Secretary General of IGBA.

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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.