Our ref. IP-13-036

World Health Organisation
Office of the EML Secretariat
Medicine Access and Rational Use (MAR)
Department of Essential Medicines and Health Products
Secretary of the Expert Committee on the Selection and Use of Essential Medicines
20 Avenue Appia
CH-1211 Geneva 27
Switzerland
Contact: emlsecretariat@who.int

Amsterdam, 5 February 2013

Subject: IPFA and Addition of Whole Blood and Red Blood Cells to WHO EML and WHO EML for children

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the International Plasma Fractionation Association (IPFA) I support that Whole Blood and Red Blood Cells are added to the WHO Essential Medicines List and WHO Essential Medicines List for Children.

IPFA strongly believes that the placement of these products, used as essential medicines, results in a higher quality of care for patients, better management and use of medicines and more cost effective health resources.

The provision of safe, adequate and cost effective Whole Blood and Red Blood Cells that are appropriately transfused or manufactured into plasma products is a key component of the public health infrastructure in every country. Since as a consequence of the activities GMP need to be introduced in blood establishments, the quality of plasma will increase to a level that it will be made suitable for fractionation. Therefore, we believe that this process will lead to improvement of the whole blood transfusion chain.

We thank you for your consideration of this request and hope, for the benefit of donors and patients, that our request will be endorsed by the WHO Expert Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Paul Strengers, President
IPFA