

PRESS RELEASE

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**Dr Gerald Dziekan, MD, MSc
named as next WSMI Director General**

Ferney-Voltaire, France, 31 October 2012.

The World Self-Medication Industry Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Dr Gerald Dziekan, MD, MSc, has been appointed as the next WSMI Director General, to succeed the present WSMI DG Dr David Webber. Dr Dziekan will commence his service for WSMI on 1st July 2013. Dr Webber will terminate his services for WSMI on 31st December 2013.

Dr Dziekan was latterly Programme Manager, Department of Patient Safety at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva Switzerland. He will bring to WSMI over 15 years of international experience in health programme coordination and management in public health, patient safety, quality of care and health economics.

Dr Dziekan received his Medical Doctor Degree from the University of Freiburg, Germany, with a clinical specialization in infectious disease prevention and control. He also has a Doctorate in immunology, a German National Board certification in hygiene and environmental medicine and a Master of Science Degree in health policy, planning and financing of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is a German

national, has travelled widely and has lived in many countries including, Thailand, the Philippines, China and Hong Kong.

WSMI Chairman Dr Zhenyu Guo stated: *'I am very pleased that we have found in Gerald Dziekan a Director-General whose robust scientific and medical background, demonstrated commitment to public health and outstanding leadership and interpersonal skills will bring valuable perspectives to WSMI in its mission of promoting better health through self-care and responsible self-medication. Gerald will be a worthy successor to the present WSMI DG David Webber, whose major contributions to the organization over the last decade I should also like to acknowledge.'*



Encl: A photograph of Dr Dziekan.

About WSMI:

The World Self-Medication Industry is a federation of over 50 member associations representing manufacturers and distributors of non-prescription medicines and other self-care product categories on all continents.

As a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) in official relations with the World Health Organization, WSMI represents the self-medication industry and contributes to WHO's public health goals through its specialized expertise.