

TO: the Honorable Mr. Adonis Georgiades  
Minister of Health, [minister@yyka.gov.gr](mailto:minister@yyka.gov.gr); [G-adonis@otenet.gr](mailto:G-adonis@otenet.gr)

Cc: Konstantinos M. Frouzis, President of SFEE

**Subject: Access of Greek patients to medicines**

Ref: RB/RT

Date 6 November 2013

Dear Minister,

The research-based pharmaceutical industry has been a major contributor to the efficiency savings that the Greek Government has sought as part of its fiscal consolidation programme.

We have always achieved to be a constructive partner with the Government while proposing reasonable, cost efficient and implementable solutions.

The European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA) along with SFEE acknowledges and supports the efforts you make in order to ensure public health while rationalizing the budget of the healthcare sector.

As Greece continues on its path of structural reform and returns to growth it is important that the practical operation of the health system becomes efficient and predictable for business sector providers. To this end, I am writing to ask for your urgent support in expediting the completion of pricing and reimbursement processes affecting pharmaceutical product lines.

As I believe you are aware, delays in the pricing and reimbursement of several hundred product lines are now significant and run into several years of delay. The processing of these product lines has no material budget implications for the Greek government since overall public expenditure is managed under the arrangements of the Memorandum of Understanding. On the other hand, such administrative delays create great uncertainty for the industry, undermining business confidence in the Greek economy.

I understand that a key pricing and reimbursement committee meeting will take place on 7 November and I would appreciate your intervention to ensure that all is done, not only to clear the backlog of products but also to ensure that we have an efficient system in place for the future.

I reiterate the research-based pharmaceutical Industry's commitment to partner constructively with the Greek Government on all issues of common interest and I look forward to your response and actions.

Best Regards,



Richard Bergstrom, Director General