Joint WHO/NGO briefing at the WHA on:

**Saving lives, saving money: achieving rational use of medicines in health services**

May 15th, 12:30-14:00
Venue: Salle IX at UN Palais

Chair: His Excellency Lyonpo Dr Jigme Singay, Minister of Health, Thimphu, Bhutan

Co-chair: Dr. Palitha Abeykoon, Advisor to Sri Lankan Government and WHO expert

Co-chair: Dr. Ravi Narayan, People’s Health Movement

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**Programme**

- Opening
- Presentations:
  - **Introduction**: What the new proposed resolution would mean for Member States?
    **Presenter**: Kathleen Holloway, Department of Medicines Policy and Standards, WHO Geneva
  - Irrational use of antibiotics - the misuse of a miracle
    **Presenter**: Otto Cars, React: Action on Antibiotic Resistance and STRAMA
  - Improving Public Health? Drug Promotion & Rational Use of Medicines
    **Presenter**: Teresa Alves and Barbara Mintzes, Health Action International
  - Rational use of medicines: economic implications - savings on drug expenditure
    **Presenter**: Eva Ombaka, World Council of Churches - Ecumenical Pharmaceutical Network
  - National approach to promote rational use of medicine: the experience of Oman
    **Presenter**: Jaffer Batool, Director of the Directorate of Rational Drug Use, Ministry of Health Oman

- Discussion
- Concluding remarks