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Preface

This year marks the second anniversary of the launch of GSCF’s Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care. The Charter was the first climate action resolution issued by the consumer health sector, and since its release, has only grown in importance.

Our vision for a healthier world revolves around better health and environmental outcomes with self-care as a key component. We know that the essential piece of the puzzle is collective action, which is why we have established the Charter. We know that achieving tangible results across the three areas of the Charter will require multi-stakeholder action and cross-sectorial collaboration.

In June, Vanessa Kerry was appointed as the first-ever WHO Director-General Special Envoy for Climate Change and Health. Upon her appointment, she remarked that “The climate crisis is a health crisis – it poses a fundamental threat to global health, and urgent action is needed.” Resolving the issues that we see arising due to climate change will be challenging, but it is one of the critical problems of our time. At the first ever COP28 Health Day world leaders endorsed the Declaration on Climate and Health – a historic event. This outlines the clear link between health and climate change and the severe health implications that we continue to see develop as a consequence of the climate crisis.

In its second year of existence, we continue to make great strides under the charter with more pledges, strong progress and delivering impactful work through our post launch workstreams. The consequences of climate change extend far beyond our immediate area of influence, but when we look at the impact on human health, it’s abundantly clear that this is an issue that we need to be active in responding to. Working collectively as an industry, we can and will make a difference for the future.
The consumer healthcare industry is uniquely positioned to play a pivotal role in combating this crisis. The Charter was the first step on this journey, and the sector continues to make progress on this issue. The new pledges, as well as progress on existing ones, made by broader GSCF membership ensure that our industry is making a positive long-term impact on the planet by promoting environmental stewardship whilst ensuring continued access. With a clear focus on collective action and partnerships, we are consistently encouraging our members and Charter signatories to be ambitious in their environmental objectives.

Establishing systems for creating recycle ready packaging and reducing the carbon footprint of our industry is a collective effort that is accomplished over time, ensuring they are built to last.

This year, we saw direct action from two of our Task Forces. Our Blister Packs Task Force worked to spearhead research and create evidence-based positions. The Supply Chain Task Force worked alongside partners to develop best-practice emissions assessment guidelines for GSCF members and the suppliers associated with the consumer healthcare industry. Together with partners and Charter signatories, our Task Forces are laying the groundwork for smart and achievable sustainability strategies to make a difference for the future.

As we look towards achieving these long-term objectives and overcome the challenges in front of us, the Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care provides us with a practical framework to continue to mitigate our impact. Its flexible, open, and inclusive nature allows organizations at all points in their sustainability journeys, to contribute towards making a more sustainable healthcare industry for all.

I want to emphasize the long-term nature of this commitment. While our efforts impact both the short- and medium-term, we are critically aware that the fundamental outcome of these efforts will be over longer periods of time.

I am proud to have worked on such a critical catalyst for our industry and am eager to continue delivering tangible results against our goals.

Judy Stenmark
Director General, Global Self-Care Federation
What is the Charter?
Launched in November 2021, the Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care is the first industry-wide climate action resolution issued by the consumer health sector. By promoting best practices and advising on regulatory standards, the Charter seeks to minimize environmental impacts, without compromising on health outcomes, product safety and access to consumers.

The Charter is an ambitious and forward-looking platform for all our members. Its focused nature enables the direct delivery of tangible results. It establishes common challenges, and a path forward, with a global platform. Based on a joint set of guiding principles, it seeks to promote circular economy principles throughout value chains, managing the environmental impacts of self-care products from discovery and development all the way through to post-consumer use and end-of-life.

The Charter is the first global commitment from the consumer healthcare industry to drive environmentally sustainable self-care. All pledges from companies and associations are voluntary. Members are accountable for the content and level of their individual commitments, but we believe that having a common platform and goals encourages and enables sharing best practices and drives innovative solutions. The Charter showcases an unprecedented level of dedication to drive positive change – acknowledging the public health and societal benefits of our industry’s actions.
Because this is the first global initiative of its kind in our industry, the Charter also promotes direct action. It maximizes impact and directly promotes positive change across the industry to contribute to the UN ‘Decade of Action’. The design of the Charter and pledges themselves support the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement. Our efforts support Goals 3: Good Health and Wellbeing, 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, 13: Climate Action, 14: Life Below Water, 15: Life on Land, and 17: Partnerships for the Goals of the SDGs.

We also seek to promote dialogue beyond our industry. Ultimately, we want to build dialogue with all relevant stakeholders to obtain their feedback and co-create solutions for sustainable self-care.

We believe that it is critical to tackle sustainability in terms of both health and climate action.

Bringing both public and private sector actors together to engage on these issues is an important step in the process.

By providing a robust framework, we enable our members to take impactful, collective action, while engaging with stakeholders from the healthcare sector as well as those directly in sustainability-focused sectors. This is not a fixed outcome, either – the Charter is set up to evolve with the industry and the global sustainability landscape that we operate in. As is the case in this progress report, pledges and commitments will be reviewed on a periodic basis. We will continuously review and challenge our principles and priority areas to deliver the highest impact.
Our commitment & guiding principles

Signatories to the Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care make a commitment to their future and to their sustainability efforts to achieve their goals. Alongside this, we pledge to support them in achieving their goals.

Ours is this: As a federation of national associations and consumer healthcare manufacturers, we commit to drive environmentally sustainable self-care. **We care for the environment by:**

- **Developing guidance for our members on best practice, how to deliver on our ambitions, and navigating requirements and standards to help raise the bar on environmental sustainability.**

- **Providing a platform for exchange of information, ideas and innovation, finding and creating opportunities to collaborate within and beyond the self-care sector.**

- **Enriching dialogue with our stakeholders, proactively informing them of our progress on environmental sustainability and seeking their feedback.**

This commitment is based on several guiding principles that drive us forward. **Individually and together, we seek to:**

- **Maximize our positive environmental impacts and minimize our negative impacts while never compromising health outcomes for consumers.**

- **Promote circular economy principles throughout our value chains, managing the environmental impacts of our products from discovery and development all the way through to post-consumer use and end-of-life.**

- **Contribute to the development and acceleration of innovative technologies and other solutions to address environmental challenges.**
We know that achieving sustainability goals is a challenging task and one that is not accomplished alone. That’s why we strive to support our members and Charter signatories to connect, engage, and innovate for the future. It is only together that we will find success.
Three priority areas
The Environmental Sustainability Charter calls on members of GSCF to commit to concrete pledges addressing the three priority areas:

Proper packaging is essential to ensuring non-prescription medicines meet quality and safety standards to protect the health of consumers. Without compromising on this critical function of packaging, the Charter firstly encourages members to **reduce plastics in packaging wherever feasible**, promotes the adoption of **circular design principles**, redefining products from design to end-of-life, and proactively working with partners across the value chain to **innovate packaging solutions** and **improve recycling infrastructure**.

Manufacturing of medicines involves chemical processes that often have a direct impact on the environment. Pillar 2 seeks to **address the issue of pharmaceuticals in the environment** (PiE), specifically active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs), **while safeguarding access to effective self-care products for consumers**. Some examples of measures to reduce the presence of APIs include actively managing and reducing effluent discharge from manufacturing plants, promoting the safe disposal of pharmaceuticals and take-back schemes.

Finally, the Charter encourages its members to **reduce their CO₂ footprint in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement**. While many members already have emissions targets in place for scope 1 (direct) and scope 2 (indirect) emissions, the Charter goes one step further by addressing the elusive but more significant scope 3 emissions, those indirect emissions caused by the entire value chain of the industry. A framework is provided to **measure, report and reduce scope 3 emissions**, and identifying **high emitting carbon hotspots**.
Plastics & Packaging

We actively seek ways to reduce plastic packaging wherever feasible, while recognizing that proper packaging is essential to ensuring non-prescription medicines meet quality and safety standards to protect the health of our consumers.

We encourage the implementation of circular design principles to address the impacts of packaging and plastics in self-care products, from design to end-of-life.

We will proactively work with partners across the value chain to innovate packaging solutions and improve recycling infrastructure. This will entail having a full understanding of regulatory and other developments surrounding over-the-counter packaging requirements to advocate for change towards more sustainable outcomes.

To that end, we will investigate thoroughly on ways to effectively package and recycle without the risk of affecting the quality/safety of non-prescription medicines. With the above analysis in future we will contribute towards the development of a robust regulatory framework.

Key commitments include

Reduce the use of plastic.

Explore sustainable materials.

Explore innovations and partnerships around recycling infrastructure.

Incorporate circular design into secondary packaging.
Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

We are committed to protecting the environment through preventing the release of pharmaceuticals in the environment (PiE), and more specifically active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs). We aim to do this while safeguarding access to effective self-care products and treatments for consumers.

Some of the measures we aim to take to reduce the presence of APIs include actively managing and reducing effluent discharge from manufacturing plants and promoting the safe disposal of pharmaceuticals and the use of take-back schemes, where they exist. We also provide a platform for the industry to come together on issues related to PiE.

Key commitments include

- Actively manage environmental risks from manufacturing, look to reduce discharge in the process
- Promote best practices beyond regulatory requirements.
- Engage stakeholders to evaluate all aspects of product lifecycle.
- Partner with relevant stakeholders to develop consumer education programs on safe disposal of OTC medications.
- Encourage takeback schemes as appropriate for a given geography and the need to raise consumer awareness.
THREE PRIORITY AREAS

CO₂ Footprint

We recognize the strong connection between a climate-secure world and health and well-being. We acknowledge the role of the consumer health industry in addressing the climate crisis and keeping temperature warming below 1.5°C, in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement. Climate change has widespread impacts across our industry and covers all our environmental sustainability priority areas.

We aim to facilitate the transition of the self-care sector to a climate-smart future. We encourage members to reduce their carbon emissions through setting comprehensive science-based emissions reduction targets (SBTs) that are accredited by the Science-Based Targets Initiative.

We provide a platform for the industry to better understand Scope 3 emissions, which are emissions that occur across an organization’s supply chain, helping them to work closely with their suppliers to reduce these. We aim to share best practice to contribute to the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Key commitments include

- Reduce Scope 1 and 2 emissions and look to achieve net zero by either 2030 or 2050.
- Develop climate adaptation and mitigation strategies.
- Understand carbon hotspots and start measuring, reporting and reducing Scope 3 emissions.
Stakeholder commitment

Two years on from the announcement of the Charter in November 2021, we are pleased to share progress updates as well as new commitments made by GSCF member organizations.

PROGRESS ON COMMITMENTS SO FAR
AESGP, the Association of the European Self-Care Industry, is the voice of the manufacturers of non-prescription medicines, food supplements, and self-care medical devices in Europe, an area also referred to as “self-care” or consumer healthcare products.

Over 2,000 companies, ranging from multinational corporations to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), are either directly affiliated with AESGP or are indirectly connected through various local and national member associations. At AESGP sustainability is an overarching objective of the association and embedded in its vision. AESGP aspires to lead and champion self-care, with an aim to ensure that people have access to safe and affective self-care products while contributing to the sustainability of European healthcare systems and taking care of the environment we live in.

AESGP and its members support the Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care and continues to foster the exchange of best practices and collaborative efforts of its members.

Relevant activities and initiatives in relation to the Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care can be found here.

AESGP promotes sustainable & safe packaging for use in self-care products to:

- Reduce packaging waste.
- Use of safe recycled packaging material without undermining product safety.

AESGP is tackling the issue of pharmaceuticals in the environment (PiE) through its active participation in Inter-Association Initiative (IAI) on Pharmaceuticals in Environment (PiE) bringing together innovative, generic and non-prescription pharmaceutical sectors in Europe.

The highest percentage of active pharmaceutical ingredients that end up in the environment results from the use of pharmaceuticals by individuals (through excretion or washing). AESGP has expressed industry’s willingness to take responsibility for co-funding the upgrade of EU’s urban wastewater treatment plants to remove micropollutants in a fair, proportionate and collaborative way.

AESGP supports member companies’ efforts in sustainable manufacturing and green energy uptake with an aspiration for CO₂ neutrality by sharing best practices.
Anefp, the Spanish Association of the Self-Care Industry, brings together manufacturers and suppliers of non-prescription medicines and self-care products. With 44 years of history, anefp works to promote responsible self-care and to maintain daily well-being as the appropriate instrument to prevent diseases, deal with minor health problems, promote healthy lifestyle habits, and contribute to the sustainability of the healthcare system.

anefp is a member of the Association of the European Self-Care Industry (AESGP) which in turn belongs to the Global Self-Care Federation (GSCF).

Minimizing the environmental impact of medicines and self-care products, while safeguarding access to effective treatment and wellness options for European citizens is a cornerstone of the activity of both the Association of the European Self-Care Industry (AESGP) and its members, whether national associations or pharmaceutical companies.

Following in the footsteps of the AESGP, anefp hereby joins the GSCF Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care, (hereinafter, “the Charter”), and undertakes to promote the goals set up therein among its members.

The environmental guidelines settled by anefp and its members are governed by some guiding principles, aiming to:

- **Maximize the positive environmental impact** and minimize the negative impact without ever compromising citizens' health.

- **Promote the principles of circular economy** throughout the value chain of anefp members’ products, managing the environmental impact of the products from their conception and development to their supply and subsequent use by the population, until the end of their shelf life.

- **Promote among our members the development of innovative technologies** and other solutions to address environmental challenges.

By conducting an annual sectoral survey, anefp monitors the progressive advancement of its affiliated companies in the implementation of strategies for improving environmental sustainability and circular economy.

Anefp members focus their priority actions on the following guidelines:

1. **Plastics and packaging.**
2. **Pharmaceutical products in the environment.**
3. **Carbon footprint.**
Through the meetings and activities of its Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability Committee, anefp regularly shares best practice examples from self-care industry, and encourages the efforts of its members to:

- Promote the use of packaging materials that can be recycled or that are made from recycled material.
- Encouraging the phasing out of plastic as a packaging material.
- Promote the implementation of circular economy principles.
- Explore partnerships throughout the value chain to develop innovative packaging solutions and improve recycling infrastructure.

In order to address these goals, anefp is developing a Practical Guide on Packaging Eco-Design for Non-Prescription Medicines and Self-Care Products. This guide will use checklists tailored to each type of packaging to offer recommendations and help design new Non-Prescription Medicines and pharmaceutical and Self-Care products packaging, as well as redesign old packaging to make it more sustainable.

Likewise, internally, the anefp team is committed to the principles of circular economy, by actively promoting the reduction of the use of plastic containers in the workplace environment and by incorporating a plastic waste management system. Furthermore, anefp staff has committed to reducing the use of paper in work activities, by progressively decreasing the number of printouts and to increasing paper, cardboard and battery recycling activities.

During the period from 2020 to 2022, anefp achieved a 23% reduction in paper printing at its headquarters.

Anefp encourages the efforts of its members to:

- Actively manage and reduce effluent discharge from manufacturing plants.
- Promote the safe disposal of medicines and self-care products in pharmacies through the SIGRE system, whose Board of Trustees anefp is a member of. Following the entry into force of Law/2022 on waste and contaminated soils for a circular economy, SIGRE opted to broaden its scope of operation and seek accreditation as a manager of industrial waste related to pharmaceutical products through a collective EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility) system. Furthermore, SIGRE has increased the recycling of packaging and expired or unused pharmaceutical waste by 5% throughout the year 2022.
Anefp encourages its members to **reduce carbon emissions through science-based targets** (SBTs).

Every year, anefp organizes the **Green Week**, a series of sessions during which associates can delve into various aspects of improving sustainability in the self-care product sector. This event showcases **initiatives developed by different companies that can serve as inspiration for businesses to progressively reduce their carbon footprint across the entire value chain**. Internally, anefp team is committed to reducing its carbon footprint, through initiatives such as the **progressive replacement of lights in the work environment with led lights**, and the **reduction of air conditioning and heating temperatures**. Additionally, the anefp team prioritizes the use of sustainable public transportation for commuting to the workplace. When it comes to in-person meetings held outside of Madrid, the preference is given to train travel over air travel for transportation purposes.

To show the engagement of the Spain-based self-care industry to the principles of the **GSCF Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care**, anefp is committed to collecting information on the progress of its members in terms of environmental sustainability in the areas of packaging, environmental impact of self-care products and carbon footprint reduction, as well as to seeking new ways to develop good sustainability practices.
BAH, the German Medicines Manufacturers Association, is the leading trade organization of the pharmaceutical industry in Germany and fully supports the GSCF Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care.

In collaboration with the member companies, new projects for sustainable transformation in the pharmaceutical sector were implemented in 2022. Our goal is to continue this successful work in the next years.

**Achieved Goals**

To motivate companies to be more sustainable, BAH has launched the **first sustainability award in the pharmaceutical sector** in 2022. The award was made on the basis of a transparent quality criteria which was developed by Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Stefan Schaltegger from the Leuphana University of Lüneburg, a leading scientist on sustainability management in Europe. **The projects were selected by an independent jury of distinguished experts from science and civil society.**

- Award-winning projects: Salus Haus GmbH for innovative and highly efficient refrigeration; ORION Pharma GmbH for climate neutral inhaler; WELEDA AG for sustainable B.corp certification. The projects demonstrate how climate protection, innovation, plastic reduction, and responsible business practice can be implemented in the pharmaceutical industry.
- In November 2022, BAH launched the first three-day training course on sustainability management in the pharmaceutical industry.
- For the annual report 2022/23, BAH started to implement a reporting system on sustainable corporate development and transformation in the pharmaceutical sector.

**Next Purposes:**

- Expansion of further training opportunities, especially for CSRD and sustainable packaging.
- Intensify the work of the Sustainability and Climate Protection Committee.
- Currently in preparation: an expert opinion on regenerative power supply.

For many years, **BAH supports member companies in context of trace substances and the reduction of possible environmental factors.** Moreover, BAH participates in the PiE Task Force, an Inter-Association Initiative in the EU.

In 2023, a joint expert opinion on the commission proposal for the urban wastewater treatment directive was carried out under the initiative of the BAH.

In order to make the work of the AMR industry alliance in Germany more visible, a publication is being prepared.
Bayer is proud to support the Global Self-Care Federation’s Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care and share its annual progress for 2022, in each of the Charter’s three focal areas of action.

In the last year:

- **Innovative packaging:** Bayer introduced a refillable bottle for a new range of Bepanthen™ dermatology products. The refill pack uses 80% less packaging by weight and can be transported more sustainably due to its smaller size and weight.

- **Partnership:** Bayer has been an active partner in the Global Self-Care Federation’s working group focused on implementing more sustainable blister packaging and ensuring we can offer a safe and compliant solution across the OTC business. With the aim to develop common standards and awareness of the specific healthcare packaging requirements, the GSCF platform facilitates open discussion and alignments for stronger cross-industry collaboration. This year Bayer joined a Collaborative to explore the potential to replace plastic packaging with a new dry-molded fiber blister pack made from renewable fibers.

Bayer has established strict voluntary discharge limits for allowable emissions of Active Ingredients (AIs) into wastewater at all sites where they are produced. In order to support compliance, Bayer teams have calculated more than 750 Maximum Tolerable Emission (MTE) limits for each site, based on over 350 Predicted No Effect Concentrations (PNECs), wastewater flow & dilution factor. Each site must verify compliance with these MTEs, and if needed, develop a risk mitigation roadmap by early 2025.

- **Scope 1+2:** Outperformed 2022 reduction target, achieving 8% reduction YoY and delivering 41% emissions reduction since 2019. Goal achieved via energy efficiency measures & renewable energy implementation. In 2023, targeting 3k tons reductions from existing efficiency projects and 17k ton reduction from the procurement of renewable electricity at Lerma, Cimanggis, and QiDong production sites.

- **Scope 3:** Despite a 3.8% increase in emissions from 2021-22, maintained outperformance against annual reduction goals, achieving a cumulative reduction of 5.4% from 2019 baseline. In 2023, Scope 3 emissions will need accelerated focus. As such, a Scope 3 acceleration team was established to engage directly with 30+ of the most strategic suppliers, accounting for half of Consumer Health’s Scope 3 emissions in order to refine actual scope 3 emissions and identify opportunities to collaboratively reduce CO₂ emissions.

- **Partnership:** Bayer also supported the GSCF in launching a working group focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the supply chain.
Consumer Healthcare Products Association is committed to promoting best practices that seek to minimize environmental impacts, without compromising on health outcomes, product safety, and access to consumers. Since endorsing the Global Self-Care Federation Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care in November 2021 CHPA has continued to meet our pledge by:

- Ensuring members have access to information about the Charter and GSCF’s continued efforts through member updates and consultations.

- Encouraging member companies to pledge to GSCF’s charter on Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care.

- Hosting a dedicated session on Environmental Sustainability to highlight global trends and efforts during the CHPA Self-Care Leadership Summit 2023.

- Actively contributing to emerging state legislations related to Environmental Sustainability.

- Featuring member best practices in a series of association newsletter articles.
As the urgency of climate change accelerates, Food, Health & Consumer Products of Canada remains steadfast in its commitment to the GSCF Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care and each of its pillars. We are firmly committed to sustainability, recognizing that it not only meets the expectations of Canadians but is also essential for the well-being of our planet and the success of our businesses.

FHCP continues to work with members, partners and governments across Canada on the development of policies and programs to advance a circular economy for plastics. Our efforts are focused on packaging innovation to eliminate plastic waste through design, and the introduction of full extended producer responsibility for residential and curbside recycling across the country.

Our efforts to reduce the presence of pharmaceuticals in the water includes working collaboratively with partners and governments to introduce provincial take-back programs for unused, unwanted and expired medicines, and to provide members with resources to support engagement in these programs.

FHCP will continue to promote the Charter to our members and develop resources to assist them in achieving regulatory compliance and corporate commitments to improve environmental outcomes.
Haleon is committed to helping tackle the social and environmental barriers that hold people back from better everyday health. By reducing its environmental impact, Haleon wants to help make better everyday health more sustainable and is focused on delivering on its goals to help do this.

**We aim to develop solutions for all product packaging to be recyclable or reusable by 2030*.**

Around 65% of Haleon’s packaging was recycle-ready (Reporting period = 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022).

Haleon is actively involved in the GSCF Task Force on Plastics and Packaging, supporting the work on evaluating the recyclability of blisters and other challenges associated with it (such as understanding the impact of contaminants).

Haleon joined the Ellen Macarthur Foundation Network and WRAP to support system-level action to help drive the transition towards a circular economy for consumer health packaging. Haleon is also part of the Sustainable Medicines Partnership, working to define standards for, and explore approaches to, developing recycle-ready blisters.

**We aim for all of our key agricultural, forest and marine-derived materials used in our ingredients and packaging to be sustainably sourced and deforestation free by 2030.**

92% of our palm-oil derivatives were RSPO mass-balance certified (Reporting period = 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022. Scope includes Haleon’s globally managed spend).

With mint being a key ingredient in the mint flavours featured in many of Haleon’s products, Haleon announced a 5-year partnership with Save the Children company to positively impact the farming communities from which its suppliers source mint.

**We aim to reduce our net Scope 1 and Scope 2 carbon emissions by 100% by 2030**

41% reduction in net Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions versus 2020 (Reporting period = 1 December 2021 to 30 November 2022). This performance was driven by steps such as reaching 100% renewable electricity across all the sites Haleon owns and controls through purchasing Renewable Electricity Certificates, signing Purchase Power Agreements, and directly generating renewable electricity.

Haleon signed The Climate Pledge, which is a commitment by companies to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2040 - a decade ahead of the Paris Agreement’s goal of 2050.

For more, access Haleon’s recent responsible business reporting [here](#).
ILAR - The Latin American Association of Responsible Self-Care, is a regional non-profit organization leading to promote the development of responsible self-care as best way to get and stay healthy as well as to ensure access to over the counter (OTC) medications. ILAR is a member of the Global Self-Care Federation (GSCF), international non-governmental association in official relationship with the World Health Organization (WHO). Founded in December 2001, the Association is formed by manufacturers of products and leading pharmaceutical companies in the region as well as National OTCs Associations, committed to the proper use of OTCs medicines in Latin America.

ILAR is conscious about the Environmental challenges that our planet is facing such as Climate Change, temperature increase, biodiversity loss, among other threats. These concerns motivate us to take actions to collaborate for a more sustainable self-care sector.

In 2023, ILAR has continued to meet its pledge by:

- Ensuring members have access to information about GSCF’s continued efforts through regular meetings and consultations launched on GSCF initiatives and deliverables.

- Hosting a dedicated session on Environmental Sustainability during the 1st Latin American Self-Care Congress, highlighting the relationship between self-care and sustainability, as well as showing the relevance of the GSCF Environmental Charter for the health sector.

- Contributing to regulatory discussions in LATAM region on e-labeling through local research.
Established in 1985, Japan Self-Medication Industry (JSMI) is the national association of over-the-counter (OTC) drugs manufacturers with 76 members. JSMI has been contributing to the country’s public health through enhancing the role and function of OTC medicines as well as promoting self-medications. JSMI is a member of the Global Self-Care Federation (GSCF).

Recognizing the need to promote environmental sustainability, JSMI’s progress on the pledge made under the GSCF Charter for Environmental Sustainability is highlighted below:

**JSMI Environment Committee**

**Member Companies**

The number of companies participating in the JSMI Environment Committee has increased:

- 7 companies as of August 2022.
- 13 companies as of September 2023.

**Status of each company’s initiatives**

The JSMI Environmental Committee has begun collecting information on the efforts of member companies to reduce their environmental impact.
Lif is the trade association for the Swedish research-based pharmaceutical industry and the self-care industry and has about 90 members. We work to ensure high quality care and access to medicinal treatments by strengthening the Swedish Life Science sector in collaboration with healthcare stakeholders, politicians, civil servants and patients. As a trade association, Lif represents the companies in the Swedish pharmaceutical industry on issues of shared interest.

The pharmaceutical industry strives to be transparent in all aspects of sustainability – environmental, social and financial. We are open to collaboration and dialogue on how the industry can make the greatest possible contribution to achieving society’s goals of good health and long-term sustainable economic growth, while minimizing the negative impact on the environment.

Lif is proud to support GSCF’s Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care, and pledges to promote the objectives set out in the Charter to its membership, serving as a platform for good practice sharing and collaboration. We work in accordance to our Sustainability Strategy “Sustainable Health - a central feature of the 2030 Agenda” which was launched during 2022.

Data and information from the membership was collected to report on our joint performance at the Lif Sustainability Annual Conference in November 2023. Based on the feedback received, we plan to support our SME-members and take initiatives on training and educational sessions (on general sustainability, our manifesto and the follow-up questionnaire) in 2024. Progress is also reported specifically in relation to the 9 commitments made in the Lif Sustainability Manifesto sorted in the three pillars:

1. Ethics and transparency.
2. Good health and access to medicines.
3. Reduced environmental impact.

The commitments under the third pillar – We are part of the transition to a circular economy, we aim to achieve a fossil free pharmaceutical industry, we aim to achieve reduced discharge of pharmaceutical residues into water – are well aligned with the objectives GSCF’s Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care.
As the UK trade association representing manufacturers of branded over-the-counter medicines, self-care medical devices and food supplements, PAGB is committed to supporting the UK consumer healthcare industry to drive environmentally sustainable self-care. PAGB will support and encourage its member companies to make pledges in line with the Global Self Care Federation Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care.

We will share information and intelligence with our members and will work with them to develop industry-wide positions on relevant topics.

- Providing reminders, updates, and links to PAGB members.
- PAGB Environmental Working Group established.
- Inputting into cross industry plastic / recycling initiatives including GSCF work on plastics.
- Working with key stakeholders such as DHSC and MHRA to support members with the introduction of new labeling requirements for recycling information.
- Input into relevant consultations, working with other Trade Associations where relevant.
- Participating in the cross-industry UK ePI Task Force which is working to secure the transition from printed PILs to electronic alternatives with the potential benefits that brings to the environment.

- Influencing policy development in the UK and the EU via our expert consultant.
- Providing members with updates on policy developments in EU and UK.
- Attended cross-industry meeting with DEFRA and UK Environment Agency.
- Work with Baroness Bennett on Pharmaceuticals in the Environment involving a private members’ bill in the House of Lords.

Continually striving to reduce our office CO₂ Footprint including:
- Using less plastic.
- Reduce, reuse and recycle.
- Using renewable energy.
- Reviewing our banking and pension plans to ensure they promote sustainability.
P&G Personal Healthcare is committed to improving all lives through trusted, preferred, quality healthcare brands, enabling every product to deliver a positive impact on people’s lives while aiming to lower environmental footprint. We believe that for people to thrive and our planet to flourish, we must go beyond business as usual. Through our actions and products, we strive to be a force for good that helps restore the health of people, while considering the planet in our decisions today and tomorrow.

Lower our environment lifecycle impact by encouraging and enabling responsible consumption and disposal.

100% recyclable or reusable packaging by 2030.
We continue to make progress towards making more of our packaging recyclable. We have established partnerships to address two of the most challenging packaging forms for recyclability:

- **GSCF Blister Task Force**: Work group assessing materials and infrastructure needs to make blisters recyclable.
- **The Sustainability Consortium**: Work group assessing technology needs and techno-economics to bring value to the collection, sorting, and processing of small format packaging (less than 50mm x 50mm).

Meaningful increase in responsibly sourced bio-based, recycled or more resource efficient materials by 2030.

- We have launched our Vicks Throat Drop Jars in the India market with 100% PCR expecting to reduce more than a thousand tons of virgin plastic.
- We have launched our first products in North America using 99% PCR in our packaging.
- We continue to explore alternative resins to reduce the use of virgin petroleum-based plastic on our OTC business.
Lower our environment lifecycle impact by encouraging and enabling responsible consumption and disposal.

Actively participate in programs with key partners and stakeholders to educate and encourage proper disposal (ie AESPG, PPSWG):

- Continue to comply with drug take back programs in key countries (e.g. US, France, Germany).
- Collaboration with Recycle India to recycle packaging in Indian pharmacies (test underway).

Reduce our environmental footprint and strive for circular solutions.

We are maintaining strong results in our manufacturing targets on zero waste to landfill, purchased renewable electricity, and greenhouse gas emissions reduction:

- Zero manufacturing waste to landfills in all our manufacturing sites.
- 100% renewable electricity purchased in all our manufacturing sites.
- 52% reduced emissions (vs. 2010) in all our manufacturing sites.

Piloting solutions to address water consumption and energy efficiency targets in one of our most important manufacturing site:

- Emissions powered by biomass and the sun avoiding fossil fuels and reducing carbon.
- Energy efficient heat pumps reducing fixed energy loads saving 5 million kWh of energy.
- Rainwater reuse and circularity reducing underground water dependency by more than 10,000 liters.
Progress on Commitments So Far

Reckitt’s purpose is to protect, heal and nurture in the relentless pursuit of a cleaner and healthier world. It’s the basis of our business strategy, and our sustainability agenda frames our ambition to make a positive and lasting impact to society and the planet.

Reckitt is actively taking steps to help tackle climate change, reduce the impacts associated with packaging and support the communities where we work. We are pleased to work with partners and GSCF on these issues, recognizing that collaboration is essential in tackling shared challenges. Further information about our Sustainability Ambitions can be found in our Sustainability Insights.

Packaging protects our products and keeps them safe for consumers. But it’s a top priority for us to help reduce plastics and packaging waste. We reduce our footprint by using fewer and more easily recycled materials, by using just one type of material, especially in laminates, and removing colours which can make recycling harder. We have removed the pink plastic shrink sleeve from Gaviscon Double Action glass bottles, and moved to a coated glass bottle, saving around 40 metric tonnes of plastic packaging. In 2022, we reduced the total virgin plastic in our packaging vs. 2020 by 7% and over 76% of packaging is recyclable or reusable. We continue to look for new, transformational ways to get products to consumers using less virgin plastic. Further information can be found in our Plastics and Packaging Insight.

Reckitt remains committed to minimizing the possible environmental impact of Pharmaceuticals and continues to collaborate with stakeholders across sectors, including governments, policymakers, regulators, healthcare professionals, industry, and consumers, to advance progress in PiE while safeguarding the availability of OTC medicines. In 2023, Reckitt joined the Innovative Health Initiative PREMIER research project, a ten million Euro private-public sector collaboration to support transparency and consistency in assessing the environmental risks of novel and generic active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs).

More broadly, we are committed to reducing our environmental footprint from our operations and we focus on minimizing our water use and waste generation from our manufacturing sites as a priority. In 2022, we achieved 5% reduction in water use per tonne of product (vs 2015), 94% of manufacturing sites sent zero waste to landfill and we have reduced the amount of waste generated per tonne of product by 21% (vs 2015).

In 2022, we continued to meet our validated Science-based Target, with a 66% reduction of GHG emissions from manufacturing and warehousing operations (Scope 1 & 2), compared with our emissions in 2015. This is driven by energy savings and increased reliance on renewable energy, with 93% of electricity use now from renewable sources. We are continuing with our decarbonization programme, while also strengthening our scope 3 modeling and data, and remain committed to reducing our emissions and achieving net zero by 2040. More information is contained within our Climate Change Insight.
Sanofi Consumer Healthcare recognizes the urgent need to promote environmental sustainability to foster global health for the planet and our society. We pledge to scale up our ambitions and actions to minimize the impact of our activities and medicines on the environment, covering the entire lifecycle of our products.

In July 2023, we are very proud to announce that Sanofi Consumer Healthcare North America achieved B Corp certification, helping lead a global movement for a healthier world.

We are embedding our commitment to protect the planet into our broader sustainability strategy with ambitious objectives and quantitative targets. As part of the GSCF Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care, we would like to share an update on the key areas below.

- **Sanofi** has been developing an *eco-design digital tool to support the assessment and integration of environmental aspects into product design* that follows a life cycle assessment approach. Until this tool is available, a tool dedicated to *eco-packaging* was launched in 2021 and has been complemented with packaging sustainability guidelines in 2023.

- **Several circularity & plastic use reduction programs have been initiated:** they include design for recyclability for blister packaging which is part of the GSCF plastics and packaging Task Force, and we also engaged in the dry-molded fiber bottle collective to develop paper-based packaging solutions.

- For secondary packaging, plastic windows are removed from folding boxes, and we are implementing certified sources for paper-based packaging.
• As of 2022, Sanofi Consumer Healthcare manufacturing sites have engaged specific programs targeting pharmaceutical residues in the water stream. As an example, completed the upgrade of our wastewater treatment in our site in Compiègne (France), with active carbon technology to reduce concentrations of pharmaceutical ingredients being discharged to the environment.

• In France, Sanofi Consumer Healthcare's iconic brand of Doliprane, is in partnership with Cyclamed to encourage the proper disposal of medicines.

• Sanofi Consumer Healthcare reduced by 41% (vs 2019) GHG emissions at their manufacturing sites end of 2022. By end of 2023, we expect to reduce by 50% (vs 2019).

• At global level, we are using 86% of renewable electricity in 2023 vs 74% in 2022. All our sites in Europe, United States, Latin America, Vietnam and Japan procure electricity from renewable sources. The Virginia site in Australia has installed, in early 2023, rooftop solar panels which cover 15% of the site electricity needs, saving around 700 tons of CO₂. A second phase is ongoing with car park solar panels to go up to 25% of the site needs and avoid additional CO₂ emissions. Similar solar panel projects are underway in other sites.

• Sanofi Consumer Healthcare identified GHG emissions hotspots along its value chain. More than 70% of its business’ overall carbon footprint is generated through purchased good and services, with the highest impact coming from the main active ingredients. As of today, Sanofi Consumer Healthcare assessed the Top 100 suppliers’ emitters maturity in climate change and are working towards their improvement and further commitment on climate change. In parallel, we are engaging with our main active ingredients and packaging suppliers on carbon reduction levers.
The Self-Care Association of South Africa represents and supports companies involved in the manufacture, sale, distribution, and consultation of healthcare products (including over-the-counter (OTC) medicines, complementary medicines, health supplements and self-care medical devices or IVDs), that enable the public to better manage their health and wellbeing. The association maintains close contact with the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) and advocates for a regulatory environment which provides for safe, efficacious, and quality self-medication products.

Additionally, the Self-Care Association of South Africa regularly meets with the National Department of Health to ensure we represent the best interests of our members, and in so doing the interests of the South African consumer when it comes to self-medication. The Self-Care Association of South Africa is a member of the Global Self-Care Federation, a non-government organization in official relations with the WHO.

- Working with the regulatory and our prescription colleagues to commence phase 2 of the online medicines directory launched last year to include prescription only medicines.
- Working with SAHPRA on a white paper to pilot taking the paper leaflet out of pack and replacing it with an e-leaflet accessible via a QR Code.
- Working with a local pharmacy association on a safe disposal of medicines’ project.
- Provided environmental law training to all Self-Care Association of South Africa members conducted by the leading environmental law firm in South Africa in a series of workshops.
Taisho sees sustainability as an imperative part of our corporate activities and actions on environmental issues have been set and monitored for years. We pledge to care for the environment and biodiversity in all corporate activities from product R&D, manufacturing, disposal, distribution, and sales. As part of the GSCF Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care, we pledge to:

### Reduced 2.9 tons of the amount of the materials by:
- Reducing the weight of the packaging box for the energy drinks.
- Reducing the weight of the outer cardboard to transport the medicine.

### Conducted waste management self-checks at 13 facilities.

### Decreased CO₂ emissions by 3.5% vs. the previous year by:
- Upgrading the equipment to a higher energy efficiency.

### Decreased the energy consumption rate by 1.0% vs. the previous year by:
- Expanding the use of railway rather than the motortruck (modal shift).
Stakeholder commitment

POST LAUNCH COMMITMENTS
Commitments by

Formed in 2014, Foundation Consumer Healthcare is dedicated to improving consumers’ lives by developing and growing a portfolio of differentiated over-the-counter (OTC) products. Environmental stewardship is a core value of Foundation Consumer Healthcare. As part of the GSCF Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care, we pledge to:

- **Continue reducing emissions, conserving energy and other resources, and reusing or recycling byproducts, as well as involvement in community partnerships that protect and preserve natural resources.**

- **As a responsible company with growing portfolio, strive to reduce the environmental impact of our products throughout their value chain.**

- **Promote strict internal policies** where Foundation employees comply with all environmental laws and regulations, as well as our environmental policies, practices, procedures and initiatives.

- **Work alongside suppliers to ensure that suppliers:**
  - Maintain all the appropriate environmental permits and approvals and their operations are conducted in environmentally responsible manner and in accordance with applicable environmental laws.
  - Consider the environmental impact of their operations and seek to reduce its carbon footprint, reduce energy, water, and waste wherever possible, in line with recommendations from GSCF’s work on supply chain guidance.

We continue to work with partners and stakeholders to create a positive impact and march towards better human and planetary health.
Perrigo is committed to taking purposeful and sustainable actions to address climate change and related environmental issues associated with our business operations. We believe this commitment as an integral part of our Vision: “To make lives better by bringing quality, affordable Self-Care Products that consumers trust everywhere they are sold” That’s why we are proud to support the Global Self Care Federation’s Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care.

Perrigo is committed to Sustainable Packaging with the below goals by 2025:

- 80% to 100% recycle-ready, reusable, or compostable packaging.
- 20% to 30% consumer packaging contains recycled content (where regulations allow).
- All paper cartons, leaflets and labels come from certified sustainable sources.
- Since 2021, Perrigo has set annual targets to reduce virgin packaging weight. For example, in 2022 we set a goal to reduce at least 460 metric tons of virgin packaging (and achieved 580).

We are committed to being responsible, supporting drug take-back initiatives and educating our consumers and employees regarding disposal of unused pharmaceuticals where it makes sense to do so.

Perrigo have set a goal to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2040. As part of this commitment, we have set the following targets for our global operations:

- 100% of the electricity will be from renewable sources by 2026.
- 10% reduction in energy, water, and waste by 2026.
- 42% reduction in Greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.
Sato Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., based on its corporate philosophy of “promoting healthcare innovation”, contributes to people’s health through its main health-related business and strives to protect the global environment through its overall corporate activities to realize a sustainable society. We pledge to contribute to the creation of a healthy society.

As part of the GSCF Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care, we pledge to:

**Resource circulation and waste reduction**

In order to contribute to the transition to a recycling-oriented society that is considerate of the global environment, we will promote the recycling of waste plastics and promote the 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle). We will also promote paperless operations within the company.

**Promoting carbon neutrality**

As a measure against climate change, we will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote the use of renewable energy, and promote the introduction of high-efficiency air conditioners and heat source equipment.
Ongoing member campaigns
Ongoing member campaigns

Our members have implemented campaigns that touch on a wide variety of sustainability topics. One example is the work of Sanofi Consumer Healthcare North America towards sustainability within the healthcare ecosystem. In July 2023, Sanofi Consumer Healthcare North America announced it had earned B Corp Certification. This designation follows a rigorous evaluation and is the first time such certification has been granted to a large consumer healthcare company.

Businesses certified by B Lab, a third-party non-profit, are leaders in the global movement for an equitable, sustainable economy. B Lab measures a company’s entire social and environmental impact and attaining B Corp Certification means a company meets high standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency.

Sanofi Consumer Healthcare North America earned B Corp Certification because of its continued commitment to social impact and sustainability, including:

**Eliminating 35 tons of plastic packaging per year** by removing plastic windows on Allegra®, Nasacort®, and other products as part of the goal to reduce the environmental footprint of our products and increase packaging recyclability.

**Attaining 41% representation of women in senior leadership roles** as part of the goal to reach 50/50 gender parity in senior leadership positions by 2025.

**Reducing operational (scopes 1 and 2) greenhouse gas emissions of its North American manufacturing site by 77% since 2019** as part of the goal – across all scopes – to build a road to carbon neutrality by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2045.

**Renovating basketball courts in under resourced communities** via the “Comebaq Courts” initiative with Icy Hot and the Shaquille O’Neal Foundation.

**Powering North American manufacturing and distribution site with 100% renewable electricity** as part of the goal to reach this benchmark for all global manufacturing operations by 2025.

**Providing access to organized sports opportunities for Canadian youth facing socio-economic barriers** via a partnership with KidSport Canada as part of the global goal to reach 5M people by 2030 through on-the-ground programs.

Learn more about Sanofi Consumer Healthcare North America’s B Corp Certification [here](#).
Outlook for the future
Post-Launch Workstream Objectives

Climate change discussions are rarely framed within a global health lens.

Despite this, we know that there is an inextricable link between climate change and biodiversity loss and the health of populations.

The scale and speed of change that we need is only possible if all relevant actors come together to execute plans that are focused on efficacy and long-term impact. Cross-sectoral and public-private partnerships are key to tackling environmental sustainability and serve as a vital catalyst for the urgent changes we need. Collaborative actions like those that underpin the Charter for Environmentally Sustainable Self-Care are the foundations for global success.

This year, we saw critical action on two of our priority areas: Plastics and packaging and CO₂ footprint.

GSCF’s Blister Packs Task Force developed a position paper presenting the views of the consumer health sector on the transition to sustainable packaging for non-prescription medicines and food supplements. Furthermore, the Task Force has spearheaded research in order to investigate recycle ready packaging. This is the result of extensive efforts to map the capabilities of current waste streams in order to understand the infrastructure needed for blisters to go into future waste streams and API contaminants in used blister packs. We also brought together stakeholders working on different parts of collection, sorting and recycling ecosystems to have a big picture view of future strategy and learn from adjacent sectors with flexible formats.

The Supply Chain Task Force worked with partners such as the Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Initiative (PSCI), Manufacture 2030, and IFPW.

It focused on sharing key principles and resources on supply chains not only the emissions aspect but also other important areas such as water usage, packaging, human rights etc. The Task Force also developed guidance documents on supply chain and GHG emissions that GSCF members and the wider consumer healthcare industry can use to assess suppliers’ carbon footprint and develop a GHG strategy.
The Charter is an agile commitment. As GSCF, its broader membership and partners carry out more research and investigations, best practice will evolve to match the science. The Charter provides a clear platform for multi-stakeholder engagement that enables the exchange of information, ideas, and innovation. The consumer health industry supports evidence-based policies and regulations that will enable the shift towards more sustainable healthcare systems.

As we look to 2024, we aim to keep pushing in these areas. GSCF will continue to work on advocating for better guidelines and ideal infrastructure to process recycle ready blisters. We’ll also look to collaborate with partners to achieve fit for purpose policies that will take into account innovation for the future. We will continue our educational work on reduction of GHG emissions, as well work to engage with suppliers in order to ensure entire supply chains are committed. These sorts of efforts are not done alone – we’re proud to work with organizations such as PSCI and M2030, who are developing tools reduce emissions along supply chains.

As our Task Forces continue to make progress on our workstreams, we’re also aware that there are larger initiatives with a wider scope that are making efforts on this same issue. For example, the CEFLEX initiative on the flexible packaging front and Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Initiative and Manufacture 2030 in the CO₂ footprint space are examples. While we continue to advance ourselves, we will also strive to provide support to these wider international initiatives in whatever way we can.

Our Two-Year Progress Report highlights the efforts that GSCF members are making and the priority that we place on sustainability. The healthcare sector can and must continue to make strides on environmental sustainability through taking collective action. The wider healthcare landscape is in rapid evolution, and we strongly encourage stakeholders to remain adaptable and flexible towards whatever may come, as we seek to advance together towards sustainable, equitable health systems for the future.

We invite interested companies and associations from the healthcare sector to pledge to the GSCF Charter. If you are interested in supporting the Charter or would like to know more: Padma Kamath: pkamath@selfcarefederation.org
The Global Self-Care Federation exists to create a healthier world through better self-care. We represent associations and manufacturers in the self-care industry, working closely with our members and relevant stakeholder groups to ensure evidence-based self-care products and solutions are recognized as key contributors to health for individuals and systems worldwide. Our work ensures key policy and decision-makers embrace self-care, recognize its values and use its broad range of benefits as the building blocks to deliver better and more sustainable health outcomes for all.

We represent the self-care and self-medication industry and endeavor to contribute to the World Health Organization’s public health goals through our specialized expertise. GSCF is a non-State actor in official relations with WHO.