



PhRMA Chair Ramona Sequeira Underscores Industry’s Commitment to Enhance Japan’s Biopharmaceutical Innovation Ecosystem

(Tokyo, October 27, 2022) — This week, Ramona Sequeira, President of Takeda’s Global Portfolio Division and Chair of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America’s (PhRMA) Board of Directors, held meetings in Tokyo with senior government officials, members of patient advocacy organizations and other key industry leaders as part of PhRMA’s annual “PhRMA Days” activities, underscoring the industry’s commitment to working with Japan to strengthen its biopharmaceutical innovation ecosystem and ensure that patients benefit from medical innovation.

During her meetings, Sequeira shared with policymakers how the rapid pace of scientific and technological advances is propelling a new era in biopharmaceutical innovation. With nearly \$1.7 trillion of industry investments in research and development worldwide over the past decade, including \$100 billion (14 trillion yen) in Japan, there are now more than 8,000 medicines in clinical development globally. Of this global pipeline, 74% of the medicines in development have the potential to be first-in-class products.

“Around the world, people are waiting for the next breakthrough medicine to help them or their loved ones overcome the debilitating effects of devastating diseases,” said Sequeira. “To meet the needs of patients and continue improving public health, it is vital to have a sustainable ecosystem that rewards innovation and provides clear regulatory pathways and policies aligned with the pace of scientific discovery.”

In addition, Sequeira noted how the implementation of policy changes in Japan have begun to disincentivize investment and undermine early access to innovative medicines. As Japan considers improving its biopharmaceutical innovation ecosystem, including its drug pricing and distribution systems to better prioritize innovation, Sequeira called on the Japanese government to establish a new forum that allows for routine and substantive dialogue between the public and private sectors, including at the CEO-level.

“Sustainable policies that support a strong ecosystem emerge when all stakeholders come together as partners and work towards a common goal – serving patients,” added Sequeira. “PhRMA and its members remain committed to working with Japan to find solutions that welcome the science of today, fuel the science of tomorrow and continue to address unmet medical needs.”

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About PhRMA

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) represents the country's leading innovative biopharmaceutical research companies, which are devoted to discovering and developing medicines that enable patients to live longer, healthier and more productive lives. Since 2000, PhRMA member companies have invested nearly \$1.1 trillion in the search for new treatments and cures, including an estimated \$102.3 billion in 2021 alone.

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