

Dr Susanne Keitel  
EDQM Director

Dr Laurent Mallet  
Head of DBO, EDQM

Dr Guy Rautmann  
Secretary to the CD-P-TS

EDQM - Council of Europe  
Strasbourg, France

Cc:

Dr Claudio D'Amario  
Director General for Preventive Health

Dr Maria Rita Tamburrini  
Director, Office 7  
Transplants, Blood and Blood Components

Directorate General for Preventive Health  
Ministry of Health, Rome, Italy

Dr Giancarlo Maria Liumbruno  
Director General  
Italian National Blood Centre  
Rome, Italy

Dr Aldo OzinoCaligaris  
Coordinator of CIVIS  
Rome, Italy

RE: Italian policy around the collection of plasma for manufacture

The considerations expressed by the Italian National Blood Centre and the National Coordinating Committee of voluntary Italian Blood Donors' Associations/Federations (CIVIS), are shared by the International Federation of Blood Donor Organisations (FIODS/IFBDO), representing the blood donors' organizations of 81 countries globally, 18 million blood donors in the world who donate around 25 million blood and plasma units yearly.

The FIODS notes that similar considerations for other systems based on voluntary unpaid blood and plasma donations have already been elucidated by itself and the countries concerned. These considerations confirm that the proposed increase of the donation frequency for plasmapheresis donors to sixty donations yearly is in variance with the voluntary blood donation sector and approaches more closely to the commercial collection of plasma, particularly in the USA. In the European volunteer-based environment, maintaining the current EDQM standard of 33 donations yearly will be compatible with the ethos of this environment. The FIODS is confident that application of this goal will contribute to ensuring that enough plasma can be collected to enhance the attainment of European self-sufficiency without generating unnecessary risks for donors and patients alike.

Rome, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Gian Franco Massaro,  
President of FIODS/IFBDO

