DIA Europe, Middle East & Africa, and the African Regulatory Network (ARN), an ad-hoc network of the Regulatory Policy and Technical Standards Committee of the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA), are working together to organize the 4th African Regulatory Conference: Moving Towards Regulatory Harmonization to Enhance Access to Medicines in Africa. The event will take place April 27-28 in the King Fahd Palace Hotel in Dakar, Senegal.

DIA and IFPMA have a successful history of collaborating on educational programs that have helped advance regulatory science and harmonization around the world:

- They served with the APEC Harmonization Center to co-organize the 2011 Asia Regulatory Conference;
DIA and IFPMA are also pleased to announce that the conference will be co-chaired by Dr. Vincent I. Ahonkhai (Senior Advisor, Global Health, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) and Dr. Corneille Traore (Director, West African Economic & Monetary Union, Burkina Faso).

Simultaneous translation into French and English will be provided.

“Today there is consensus over the need to remove regulatory hurdles, especially as there is no one single regulatory system or regulatory process that is applicable to all countries. Improved regulatory policy and harmonization efforts will lead to a reduction in duplicative activities and optimize resources for both regulators and industry. Such efforts will also improve access to new and better quality medicines, and ultimately better health outcomes for Africa,” Ms. Mendy concludes. “If you’re interested in or are working for improving quality and safety of medicines, or you’re interested in the aspects surrounding the registration of medicines and harmonization initiatives, come and join us and have your say in Dakar, Senegal.”