



Република Македонија
Министерство за правда
Republika e Maqedonisë
Ministria e Drejtësisë
Republic of Macedonia
Ministry of Justice



European Directorate
for the Quality
of Medicines
& HealthCare | Direction européenne
de la qualité
du médicament
& soins de santé



МИНИСТЕРСТВО ЗА ЗДРАВСТВО
РЕПУБЛИКА МАКЕДОНИЈА

27 June 2014

REGIONAL CONFERENCE

MEDICRIME CONVENTION: A KEY TOOL AGAINST ORGANISED CRIME

PROGRAMME

19-20 June 2014
Skopje

www.coe.int/medicrime

Background and objectives

The Council of Europe has drafted a convention which constitutes, for the first time, an international treaty in the criminal law field on the counterfeiting of medical products and similar crimes involving threats to public health (the MEDICRIME Convention).

Safeguarding public health through penal measures against criminal behaviour, the protection of victims, the promotion of co-operation at national and international levels, and providing preventive measures are the principal aims of the above convention.

The core values of the [Council of Europe](#) are the protection of human rights and essential freedoms and the promotion of the rule of law and democracy. The organisation is aiming to identify solutions to the challenges faced by today's society.

The counterfeiting of medical products and similar crimes threaten the right to life enshrined in the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ECHR). Incidences of counterfeit medical products and similar crimes undermine public trust in healthcare systems and the authorities' surveillance thereof.

The counterfeiting of medical products and similar crimes have spread worldwide, no country has been spared.

The Council of Europe has long been concerned about the absence of harmonised international legislation, non-deterrent sanctions in proportion to the harm caused to patients, and the involvement of criminal organisations which operate across borders.

Thanks to its pan-European membership and co-operation with states and regions beyond Europe, the Council of Europe was able to embark on developing an international criminal law treaty focusing on public health and with a truly global impact: mandated by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and supported by intersecretariat co-operation between the Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law and the Directorate General of Democracy through its European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare (EDQM), the text of the above convention was opened for signature in Moscow (Russian Federation) on 28 October 2011.

Aim of the conference

The aim of this conference is make significant advances in the fight against counterfeit medical products and similar crimes in Europe and worldwide through promoting political support for the practical implementation of the MEDICRIME Convention. The objectives are the following:

1. to encourage states to sign and ratify the Convention;
2. to raise awareness among members of parliament, law enforcement agencies, NGOs, the media and professionals working in the field;
3. to discuss the benefits and challenges in ratifying the Convention;
4. to exchange experiences, know-how and networking.








Target audience

The target audience of the conference includes officials responsible for policy-making, representatives of judicial, health and enforcement authorities as well as State Prosecutors, Heads of Police and Customs Agencies, Heads of Medicines Agencies and members of relevant international and European institutions and organisations.

Speakers

Details of the speakers are listed in the appendix to this programme.

Organisation

<i>Venue</i>		Hotel Stone Bridge
<i>Registration</i>		09.15 – 09.45 a.m.
<i>Coffee break</i>		Conference venue
<i>Lunch</i>		13.00 pm
<i>Dinner</i>		20.00 pm
<i>Interpretation</i>		Simultaneous interpretation (English/Macedonian) for all sessions
<i>Proceedings</i>		The proceedings will be published online
<i>Press conference</i>		10.30 am

09.15-09.45  Arrival and registration of participants**10.00** **OPENING SESSION**

- Mr Adnan Jashari, Minister of Justice
- Mr Nikola Todorov, Minister of Health
- Mr Oscar Alarcón Jiménez, Co-Secretary, European Committee of Crime Problems (CDPC), Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law (DG I), Council of Europe
- Ms Sabine Walser, Scientific Officer, European Directorate for the Quality of medicines & HealthCare (EDQM), Directorate General of Democracy (DG II), Council of Europe

10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.

 Press conference

10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.

 Coffee break**SESSION 1****OBJECTIVES AND BENEFITS OF THE MEDICRIME CONVENTION**

Chair: Mr Toni Pavloski, Deputy Permanent Representative,
Permanent Representation to the Council of Europe

11.15	Strategy against counterfeiting of medical products Ms Katerina Aleksoska, Director of Drug Bureau, Ministry of Health
11.30	The counterfeiting of medical products and similar crimes in the Balkan region –the added value of the MEDICRIME Convention Mr Cyrille Baumgartner, French Embassy in Serbia
11.45	Discussion

SESSION 2**PROTECTING THE VICTIMS OF COUNTERFEITING MEDICAL PRODUCTS**

Chair: Ms Macolic Sarinic
Head Halmed, Medicines Agency Croatia

12.00	A break-through for victims' protection - the MEDICRIME Convention Ms Lynda Scammell, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), United Kingdom
12.15	Victims of counterfeit medical products, pilot study EDQM: results from the Balkan region Mr Nenad Dikic, Sports Association of Serbia
12.30	Industry's role in protecting the public from counterfeit & illicit medicines Mr Ashley How, Director EMEA, Pharmaceutical Security Institute, PSI
12.45	Discussion

13.15 p.m. – 14.30 p.m.

 Lunch break

SESSION 3
ROUND TABLE

Chair: Mr Oscar Alarcón Jiménez
Co-Secretary of Council of Europe's Committee of Crime Problems (CDPC)

14.30	Implementing the MEDICRIME Convention into national legislation: a useful approach Ms Verica Trbic, Ministry Internal Affairs , Bosnia-Herzegovina
14.45	State of play of the signature/ratification of the MEDICRIME Convention The following delegations will take the floor after the address of the host country: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia. These delegations are requested to make a statement indicating the state of play of the MEDICRIME Convention in their country

SESSION 4
TACKLING A TRANSBORDER CRIME

Chair: Mr Asier Urruela Mora,
Professor of Criminal Law, University of Zaragoza, Spain

15.30	Operation PANGEA: how to combat counterfeit and illicit medicines? Ms Verica Trbic, Ministry Internal Affairs , Bosnia-Herzegovina
16.00	A customs approach to combat trafficking in counterfeiting of medicines Ms Junko Yamamoto, Technical Attaché, World Customs Organisation

16.15 p.m. – 16.30

 **Coffee break**

16.30	The experience in tackling the counterfeiting of medical products Mr Sasho Jovanovski, Chief of money laundering and financial investigations into financial crime sector, Ministry of Interior
16.45	Facing challenges in the combat against counterfeiting medical products Mr Ardian Zhuta, Department of Investigation, Sector Control and Investigations, Customs Administration
17.00	Discussion

End of Day 1

20.00 p.m.

Social Event

SESSION 5

**COMBATING FALSIFIED MEDICINES THROUGH CRIMINAL LAW:
THE CRIMINAL OFFENCE AND PROSECUTION OF THE PERPETRATORS****Chair:** Mr Oscar Alarcón Jiménez

Co-Secretary of Council of Europe's Committee of Crime Problems (CDPC)

09.30	The role of the European Court of Human Rights Ms Ksenija Turkovic, Judge at the European Court of Human Rights in respect of Croatia
09.45	Substantive Criminal Law provisions contained in the MEDICRIME Convention Mr Asier Urruela Mora, Professor of Criminal Law, University of Zaragoza, Spain
10.00	Combating falsified medicines through criminal law: the criminal offence and prosecution of the perpetrators Ms Spasenka Andonova, Basic Public Prosecutor's Office for Prosecuting Organised Crime and Corruption
10.30	Consideration of the MEDICRIME Convention and relevance to medicines and devices sectors Mr Jeton Halili, Ministry of Justice Ms Lynda Scammell, MHRA, United Kingdom
10.55	Discussion

11.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.

 **Coffee break**

SESSION 6

REINFORCING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**Chair:** Ms Sabine Walser,

European Directorate for the Quality of Medicine & HealthCare, Council of Europe

11.30	Measures for multisectorial cooperation and prevention within a state and across borders – pre-requisite for health protection and effective prosecution Ms Viola Macolic Sarinic, Head Halmed, Croatia
11.45	The example of the Official Medicines Control Laboratories (OMCL) Network Ms Vera Simic, B. Sc. OMCL Alims Serbia
12.00	Analytically approaches for detection of counterfeit medicines and the involvement of the Center for drug quality control in the activities of the OMCL network in combating counterfeit medical products Ms Katerina Brezovska, "University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius", Faculty of Pharmacy
12.15	Laboratory control of seized medicines Ms Maja Shishovska, Institute for public Health, Quality control department
12.30	Discussion

CLOSING SESSION

12.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr Jovica Andovski, Deputy Minister of Health ➤ Mr Oscar Alarcón Jiménez, Council of Europe ➤ Ms Katerina Aleksoska, Director of Drug Bureau, Ministry of Health
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13.00 End of the conference