Quality of Medicines

Harmonising practices in humanitarian assistance
Special provisions for the procurement of medicines (FPA)

**Humanitarian Procurement Centre**
- Negotiated procedure with a single offer

**Procedure with pre-certified candidates**
- Cost comparison
- Internationally recognised standards such as GDP, GMP etc.
- Quality management system
- Respect of national drug regulations
Humanitarian Procurement Centre (HPC)

- **Non-profit** organisation specialising in the procurement of supplies necessary for the delivery of humanitarian aid
- Not only medicines, but the procurement of medical supplies is the most important
- May be an independent entity or a specialised supply or procurement department of an NGO or an international organisation
HPC Assessments
2 parts

**Internal Control Systems**
- European Commission rules
  (Annex III of the Framework Partnership Agreement)

**Model Quality Assurance System (MQAS) for Procurement Agencies**
- WHO standards
  (done by specialists – pharmacists)
HPC – criteria for ECHO recognition

- Legal personality and registration
- Non-profit nature
- Non-discriminatory sales policy
- Fair-pricing methodology (mark-up)
- Expertise in procurement
- Well documented procurement procedures
- Quality assurance provisions
- Adequate financial and administrative capacity
Register of HPCs recognised by DG ECHO

- To become HPCs, candidates have to accept assessment by DG ECHO
- Have 6 months to reply to ECHO recommendations
- Recognised HPCs are assessed every 4-5 years
- 14 HPCs recognised by DG ECHO
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HPC</th>
<th>Location: offices or warehouses</th>
<th>Operating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Association régionale d’approvisionnement en médicaments essentiels (ASRAMES)</td>
<td>DRC</td>
<td>DRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beschaffungsgesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung für kirchliche, caritative und soziale Einrichtungen (BEGECA)</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centrale Humanitaire Médico-Pharmaceutique (CHMP)</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deutsches Medikamentenhilfswerk Action Medeor (Action Medeor)</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmacéuticos mundi - Área Logística Humanitaria (Farmamundi)</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Dispensary Association (IDA Foundation)</td>
<td>Netherlands; India; Nigeria; Kenya; Afghanistan; Chile; USA &amp; China</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Global Logistics Service (IFRC-GLS)</td>
<td>Switzerland; United Arab Emirates; Malaysia; Panama; Canary Islands (Spain) and several sub-regional locations</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission for Essential Drugs and Supplies (MEDS)</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Médecins sans Frontières Logistique (MSF Logistique)</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Médecins sans Frontières Supply (MSF Supply)</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxfam GB (OXFAM)</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFP/UN Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD)</td>
<td>Italy (Rome &amp; Brindisi), UAE (Dubai), Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur), Panama, Ghana (Accra), Spain (Las Palmas)</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Nations Children’s Fund, Supply Division (UNICEF SD)</td>
<td>Offices: Denmark (Copenhagen) &amp; USA (New York). Warehouses: Denmark (Copenhagen); United Arab Emirates (Dubai); China (Shanghai) &amp; Panama (Colon)</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)</td>
<td>Offices: Worldwide</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Harmonising purchase policies?

• **DG ECHO does not purchase directly**

• Harmonising the recognition of HPCs rather than harmonising policies would allow having more HPCs (choice, competition)

• Some of ECHO recognised IPCs are also recognised by USAid