



# 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 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*

HPC	Location: offices or warehouses	Operating
Association régionale d'approvisionnement en médicaments essentiels (ASRAMES)	DRC	DRC
Beschaffungsgesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung für kirchliche, caritative und soziale Einrichtungen (BEGECA)	Germany	Worldwide
Centrale Humanitaire Médico-Pharmaceutique (CHMP)	Kenya	Worldwide
Deutsches Medikamentenhilfswerk Action Medeor (Action Medeor)	Germany	Worldwide
Farmacéuticos mundi - Área Logística Humanitaria (Farmamundi)	Spain	Worldwide
International Dispensary Association (IDA Foundation)	Netherlands; India; Nigeria; Kenya; Afghanistan; Chile; USA & China	Worldwide
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Global Logistics Service (IFRC-GLS)	Switzerland; United Arab Emirates; Malaysia; Panama; Canary Islands (Spain) and several sub-regional locations	Worldwide
Mission for Essential Drugs and Supplies (MEDS)	Kenya	Africa
Médecins sans Frontières Logistique (MSF Logistique)	France	Worldwide
Médecins sans Frontières Supply (MSF Supply)	Belgium	Worldwide
Oxfam GB (OXFAM)	United Kingdom	Worldwide
WFP/UN Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD)	Italy (Rome & Brindisi), UAE (Dubai), Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur), Panama, Ghana (Accra), Spain (Las Palmas)	Worldwide
United Nations Children's Fund, Supply Division (UNICEF SD)	Offices: Denmark (Copenhagen) & USA (New York). Warehouses: Denmark (Copenhagen); United Arab Emirates (Dubai); China (Shanghai) & Panama (Colon)	Worldwide
United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)	Offices: Worldwide.	Worldwide

# 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*