

**RECOMMENDATION No. 6**

**Subject:** Coordinating regional actions to combat pharmaceutical crime in Africa

The ICPO-INTERPOL African Regional Conference, meeting in Gaborone, Botswana, from 16 to 18 February 2011 at its 21st session:

CONSIDERING the serious implications for public health and safety of often unknowing consumers either obtaining or receiving counterfeit medical products, and of other pharmaceutical crimes,

BEARING IN MIND that INTERPOL associates its efforts with the World Health Organization (WHO) International Medical Products Anti-Counterfeiting Taskforce (IMPACT) and has a specific unit to face the international challenges posed by counterfeit medical products to national drug authorities, law enforcement agencies and other stakeholders,

RECALLING Recommendation No. 3 adopted at the 20th African Regional Conference to improve regional cooperation to combat counterfeit medical products through the INTERPOL-IMPACT initiative,

BEARING IN MIND the series of recommendations adopted during the EAPCCO and SARPCCO regional meetings in support of the INTERPOL-IMPACT Project and INTERPOL's MPCPC (Medical Products Counterfeiting and Pharmaceutical Crime) unit,

RECALLING Resolution AG-2010-RES-06 adopted by the INTERPOL General Assembly at its 79th session (Doha, Qatar, 2010), which indicated that fighting counterfeit medical products and other pharmaceutical crime is a law enforcement priority,

RECOGNIZING that the problem of counterfeit medical products worldwide is complex and growing unchecked, and that only a combined multidisciplinary approach among countries and agencies can bring success,

RECOMMENDS that law enforcement departments in African countries, in close cooperation with the NCBs:

1. Develop operational, multidisciplinary coordinated activities in Africa in 2011, on the model of "Operation Mamba", including training sessions and a high-level seminar;
2. Apply a systematic resource-mobilization approach by asking for joint national and INTERPOL enforcement action in implementing national projects;
3. Mobilize member countries and stakeholders at international forums to support the fight against counterfeit medical products and pharmaceutical crime.

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