

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

CO-OPERATION IN HEALTH MATTERS

ARTICLE 110

Scope of Co-operation

1. The Member States agree to undertake concerted measures to co-operate in health through:
 - (a) the control of pandemics or epidemics, communicable and vector borne diseases that might endanger the health and welfare of citizens of the Common Market;
 - (b) the facilitation of movement of pharmaceuticals within the Common Market and control of their quality;
 - (c) joint action in the prevention of drug trafficking;
 - (d) the training of manpower to deliver effective health care; and
 - (e) the exchange of research, development and information on health issues.

2. For the purposes of paragraph 1 of this Article, the Member States undertake to:

- (a) devise and implement systems to ensure that pharmaceuticals entering the Common Market from third countries, produced in the Common Market or moving within the Common Market conform to internationally acceptable standards in terms of quality and therapeutic value;
- (b) evolve mechanisms for joint action in combating outbreak of epidemics such as aids, cholera, malaria, hepatitis and yellow fever as well as co-operation in facilitating mass immunization and other public health community campaigns;
- (c) designate national hospitals to be Common Market referral hospitals;
- (d) develop a national drug policy which would include establishing quality control capacities, national formularies and good procurement practices;
- (e) harmonise drug registration procedures so as to achieve good control of pharmaceutical standards without impeding or obstructing the movement of pharmaceuticals within the Common Market;

- (f) accord each other mutual recognition of drugs registered in the Common Market;
- (g) encourage research and development on drugs and medicinal plants;
- (h) co-operate, within the framework of co-operation in industrial development, in the local production of pharmaceutical products;
- (i) apply the World Health Organisation Certification on the quality of pharmaceutical products dealt with in international trade; and
- (j) establish an audit team to assist local pharmaceutical industries to produce high quality products that are safe, effective and free from harmful side effects and to assist the Member States in controlling the standards of pharmaceuticals manufactured within their territories in conformity with the WHO Certification.

ARTICLE 111

Illicit Drug Trafficking and Use of Banned Ingredients

The Member States agree to develop a common approach

through the education of the general public and in collaboration with their law enforcement agencies in controlling and eradicating illicit drug trafficking and the use of harmful or banned ingredients in drugs.