

NEWSLETTER #48 – July 2007

PHARMACIENS SANS FRONTIERES COMITE INTERNATIONAL

The list of partner companies supporting the relocation of PSFCI to Bordeaux increases. It now includes (by alphabetical order):

Acteon Group, Agence de Développement Economique de Bordeaux-BRA, Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Bordeaux, Cdiscount, Caisse d'Epargne Aquitaine Nord, Domofrance, Elyo Suez, France3 Aquitaine, Gaz de Bordeaux, Gaz de France, Groupe Eiffage, Groupe Sud Ouest, Hôtel Mercure Cité Mondiale, Laboratoires Amgen France, L'Appel Médical, MadStudio !, Médicaments Export, Novartis Oncologie, Objectif Aquitaine, Ricarimpex, Sage Assistance et Développement, Samas Office, TV7 Bordeaux

Sincere thanks to these companies which will be presented in more details within the next few months.

To those companies that still hesitate to support us, and at the exact time when large institutional donors and UN agencies realise that **it is not enough to just put medicines in warehouses**, but also to ensure that these medicines reach patients in the best possible conditions because of the risk of having to destroy them, we remind them that PSFCI's work aims to provide support to developing countries in the setting up of safe and sustainable supply and distribution systems:

- support for the establishment or strengthening of the national procurement centre, development of management procedures and tools and training of national employees assigned to manage the centre,
- construction and rehabilitation of Regional Drug Depots, District Drug Depots and community depots, equipment, development of management tools and procedures, training of staff assigned to the management of these depots and provision of initial supplies of drugs and medical equipment which will be used as a start up capital,
- rehabilitation of health facilities and training of health staff in essential medicines, rational prescribing, existing therapeutic protocols, proper use of medicines, quality of diagnosis and care, epidemiological reports, destruction of expired drugs, etc.
- training of health centre Health / Management Committees and awareness raising among people on the health system in place and on the dangers of street and counterfeit drugs,
- renovation and equipment of medical and quality control laboratories, training of technicians and prescribers, provision of reagents,
- prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, training of pharmacists specialising in the monitoring of patients living with HIV/AIDS,
- regular assessment of progress made towards the autonomy of supported facilities, and gradual withdrawal.

More than 20 million people had finally gained access to essential medicines through PSFCI's operations in 2006.

Information on partnerships is available on our website at:

<http://www.psfci.org/new/uk/Medias/bordeaux.pdf>

For more information, please contact Caroline cpedezert@bra-bordeaux.org or Nicolas n.vachez@psfci.org.

EVENEMENTS

European Parliament resolution of 20 June 2007 on the Millennium Development Goals (extracts)

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2007-0274+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN>

The European Parliament

38. Believes that health care infrastructure deserves stable and long term financial support from national budgets and international assistance in order to deliver the health-related MDGs, such as reducing infant mortality by increasing immunisation coverage, reducing maternal mortality by increasing access to skilled professionals, supporting research and development of and access to new diagnostics and therapies, providing safe drinking water and sanitation, and scaling up significantly towards the goal of universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support of HIV/AIDS, malaria, TB and other diseases by 2010, including for marginalised populations and those most vulnerable to infectious diseases;

39. Calls on the international donor community to assist developing countries in developing and implementing comprehensive health action programmes, tackling issues such as the need to secure sustainable financing for health infrastructure and salaries, increase investment in training and avoid an excessive "brain drain" through the migration of high-skilled health workers;

44. Calls on the Commission to step up its commitment to combating HIV/AIDS in developing countries and to ensure that those most affected have ever better access, at affordable prices, to prevention resources and policies, antiretroviral treatments and healthcare services (infrastructure, personnel and medicines) capable of meeting the growing demand;

47. Calls on the EU to support the full implementation of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health of the WTO Ministerial Conference of 9-14 November 2001, and to ensure that medicines are affordable for those developing countries that do take measures in compliance with the Doha Declaration, and further calls on the EU to provide technical assistance to developing countries for the implementation of pro-public-health measures in patent law;

48. Stresses the need for a comprehensive review of those systems in place that are failing to solve the access to medicines problem, to include submitting recommendations to the WTO for amendment to its rules governing the export of medicines under compulsory licence, known as the August 30th decision;

93. Believes that pharmaceutical-related TRIPS affecting public health and access to medicines which go beyond the TRIPS Agreement should be excluded from EPAs and other future bilateral or regional agreements with low-income countries;

The 67th **FIP International Congress** (International Pharmaceutical Federation) will take place in Beijing from 31 August to 6 September: www.fip.org/CONGRESS/beijing2007/index.php?id=600

MISSIONS

Chad

While the programme to support the 4 health districts of Dourbali, Bousso, Mandelia and Massenya and that will end at the end of August, a 18-month programme, co-financed by the 8th and 9th EDF, to provide support for the management of the Regional Pharmacy of OUADDAI, in Eastern Chad, will begin soon..

In addition to a large resident population, the region of Ouaddai now hosts several hundreds of thousands of displaced people and refugees from Chad and Darfur. The population in the area is therefore close to 1,000,000 people. This creates a high level of instability, particularly in the districts of Adre and Goz Beida, and adversely affects the capabilities of health services, as well as the resources available for the population.

All the population in the Ouaddai region should benefit from this project. Once the Regional Pharmacy of Abeche will be "revitalised", it should be able to effectively provide the local health facilities (ie, 46 health centres and 4 hospitals) with quality essential generic drugs and medical supplies.

In compliance with the French data protection act in the law of 6 January 1978 (CNIL), you have the right to access and correct information about yourself. You can exercise this right by writing to PSF-CI Service informatique 4 Voie Militaire des Gravanches 63100- Clermont-Ferrand (France).