

**Forum:** Economic and Social Council

**Question of:** Responding to the Increasing Problem of Counterfeit Medications and Foods



**Submitted by:** Colombia

**Co-submitted by:** Andorra, Armenia, Brazil, Chad, China, Ecuador, India, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mexico, Morocco, Russia, Turkmenistan

- 1 The Economic and Social Council,  
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3 *Approving* the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal No. 3 “Good Health”,  
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5 *Reaffirming* article 3 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights granting everyone the right  
6 to life, liberty and the security of person,  
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8 *Noting with deep concern* the significant public health threat precipitated by counterfeit drugs,  
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10 *Alarmed by* the large number of deaths caused by poisoned or inactive ingredients,  
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12 *Noting with regret* the expansion of the counterfeit drug industry to a global market worth an  
13 estimated \$75 billion,  
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15 *Concerned by* the negative impact of illegal trade with fake drugs on the pharmaceutical indus-  
16 try, especially regarding its credibility and reputation,  
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18 *Regretting* the large economic losses for legitimate manufacturers,  
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20 *Advising* not to generalize and not to exaggerate the problem but to confront it objectively and  
21 rationally,  
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23 *Pointing out* not to undermine the importance of lifesaving treatments to be affordable,  
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25 *Emphasizing* the urgent need for easily accessible and affordable medications,  
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27 1. **Encourages** all member states to recognize the definition of counterfeits by the Inter-  
28 national Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and associations;  
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30 2. **Encourages** member states to allow organizations to observe the situation on the  
31 global medication market and to publish studies and reports concerning the develop-  
32 ment of counterfeit medications and food;  
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34 3. **Proposes** to build public and governmental awareness as well as cooperation between  
35 stakeholders and national enforcement agencies by but not limited to:  
36 a. educating pharmacists and citizens to detect counterfeit products,  
37 b. developing campaigns on the Internet and social media as these medias reach  
38 many people all around the world;

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4. **Recommends** that all nations establish laws to protect medicines and take police action against counterfeiters by setting higher penalties in the case of counterfeiting of medications for life-threatening diseases than for medications with less active ingredients;
  5. **Requests** more serious efforts to lower the cost of lifesaving treatments as everyone has the right to such treatment regardless of his or her financial status or origin by but not limited to:
    - a. revising universal patent laws in terms of shortening the time period in LEDCs in which a company is granted the sole right to sell the product in order to:
      - i. increase competition,
      - ii. enhance investments for the production of medications in LEDCs while they are not allowed to export these products,
    - b. establishing an International fund for High Quality Medication (IFHQM) which:
      - i. generously supports reliable and high-quality pharmacies and pharmacy-websites in poorer regions financially, pursuing the intention of lowering costs for high quality medications in these regions,
      - ii. advises the pharmacies to buy generic medications;
  6. **Recommends** financial and technological aid from the UN for LEDCs aiming at:
    - a. supporting local legitimate manufacturers in fulfilling hygienic and production standards,
    - b. expanding the drug production to more countries worldwide by allowing more states access to the market as opposed to strengthening few oligopolies that keep prices soaring,
    - c. allowing more people to access lifesaving medications,
    - d. ending their dependency on few American Pharma industries, which make them an easy target for counterfeit products;
  7. **Recommends** all nations to create a United Nations Health Regulatory Agency (HER-EGULAG);
  8. **Recommends** the reaffirming of the international monitoring-system for medications in order to ensure an access to high quality and secure medicines all over the world, which:
    - a. is supervised and organized by WHO,
    - b. creates a data-cloud which gathers information about such as but not limited to:
      - i. the origin of production,
      - ii. location of the product in the chain of distribution,
      - iii. expiry date,
    - c. includes an application, allowing consumers to scan a QR-Code on products of all legal companies, which has to be located on the packaging, to verify whether the medication is counterfeit or not,
    - d. if the product is counterfeit, the-WHO has to report to the concerned states to start investigations;
  9. **Urges** all member states to pass sufficient legislation and penalize according to such legislation unrighteous and illegal websites especially ones that sell medicines without permission;

- 89       **10. Refrains** from all requests to establish a universal control system as it would:  
90               a. not properly address local circumstances and local factors,  
91               b. result in ineffective controls;  
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93       **11. Condemns** overregulation.