



Wilton Park
USA

Program

Assurance for safe medicines and health products: protecting public health through unified global action

Monday 13 – Wednesday 15 February 2017 | WP1528

Held in the Sheraton Hotel Abuja, Nigeria

The provision of safe and effective medicines and health products represents a core component of a functional health system and is also fundamental to the mission of international health financing organizations, including multilateral and bilateral institutions. The transnational challenge posed by substandard; spurious; falsely-labelled; falsified; and counterfeit (SSFFC) medicines and health products and underperforming medical product supply chains places a disproportionate burden on less developed countries and threatens to undermine hard-won gains made by global public health organizations. SSFFC medicines are also a critical factor in the rise of deadly drug resistant infections globally. Underdeveloped supply chain assurance, weak health systems, lack of transparency, and inconsistent medical regulatory capacity erode sustainable efforts to protect public health and prevent diversion of medical products.

This Wilton Park conference follows the successful 2013 “Pathways to safe medicines” conference and will promote public and private sector stakeholder collaboration around enhanced quality assurance for medical products, particularly in emerging markets. The Global Steering Committee (GSC) for Quality Assurance of Health Products represents a voluntary coalition of health financing and other international organizations that work in growing collaboration with national authorities and the private sector. The meeting will galvanize senior policy support for joint GSC initiatives that are practical, outcome oriented, and sustainable solutions for combating the production and distribution of SSFFC medicines and health products.

Participants will evaluate the appropriate roles played by public health organizations, private sector, regulatory and enforcement bodies, as well as civil society and academia. Prioritization of jointly resourced initiatives will help outline steps that stakeholders may pursue through the GSC and in collaboration with one another.

Sponsorship of individual participants by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria

Monday 13 February

1400 onwards

Participants arrive

1800-2300

Dinner available in hotel for participants

Tuesday 14 February

0600-0845

Breakfast for participants staying in hotel

0900

Welcome and introduction

Richard Burge

Chief Executive, Wilton Park; Chairman, Global Health Assurance Partnership, Steyning

Tom Woods

Chairman, Wilton Park USA Foundation, Visiting Programme Director, Washington DC

Paul Thomas Arkwright

British High Commissioner to Nigeria, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Abuja

Video Message: Norbert Hauser

Chair of the Board, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Geneva

0915-1045

1. SSFFC medicines and health products in Africa: How do we understand the threat?

National authorities confront the challenges posed by porous borders, well-financed criminal networks, and under resourced enforcement capacity. Beyond safety and security, national agencies seek to combat the linked challenges of growing drug resistance, supply chain integrity, and the need for regional cooperation.

Session Chair: Tom Woods

Chairman, Wilton Park USA Foundation, Visiting Programme Director, Washington DC

Donna Kusemererwa

Director General, National Drug Authority of Uganda, Kampala

Heran Gerba Borta

Deputy Director General, Food Medicine and Health Care Administration and Control Authority of Ethiopia (FMHACA), Addis Ababa

1045-1130

Photograph followed by tea/coffee

1130-1300

2. Model engagement between health financing institutions and national authorities: how do we build joint capacity to protect against SSFFC products?

Health financing institutions have joined together through the Global Steering Committee (GSC) to support national authorities and protect their own medical supply procurement. Is there a model for enhancing quality assurance of medical products through international support and collaboration?

Andreas Seiter

Senior Health Specialist, The World Bank Group, Washington DC

Martin Cinnamond

Global Health Assurance Partnership (GHAP), Geneva

Luis Socorro

Investigations Advisor, United Nations Department of Political Affairs (UNDP), New York

1300-1430

Lunch

1430-1600

3. Strengthening supply chain assurance: how to prevent the spread of SSFFC and diverted medicines and health products

International health financing institutions and bilateral agencies spend hundreds of millions of dollars to procure and distribute life saving medical products each year. How can these

agencies provide greater supply chain integrity for their own medical products while also contributing to sustainable health systems in the countries where they operate?

Emmanuel Ogwuche

Logistics and Commodities Program Manager, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Abuja

Martin Ellis

Head, Supply Chain, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Geneva

Enoma Alade

Founding Partner, Anadach Group, Abuja

1600-1630

Tea/coffee

1630-1800

4. Capacity building for medical regulatory and national enforcement authorities

National Medical Regulatory Authorities are on the front lines of the effort to combat SSFFC medical products, but they often lack the training, equipment, and human resources to fulfil their mandates. What do these agencies require to protect populations from SSFFC medical products and how would they prioritize these needs?

Chikuta Mbewe

Acting Managing Director, Medical Stores Limited (MSL), Lusaka

Martin Cinnamond

Global Health Assurance Partnership (GHAP), Geneva

Patrick Holland

Special Agent In Charge, US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA), Maryland

1900

Reception followed by dinner

Wednesday 15 February

0600-0845

Breakfast for participants staying in hotel

0900-1030

5. Raising public awareness: whose responsibility

National Medicine Regulatory Authorities and international health financing institutions have an obligation to share timely lifesaving information about specific threats posed by SSFFC medical products. How should each pursue a coordinated approach to informing civil society organizations, the general public, and each other about SSFFC medicines and health products?

Michael Deats

Group Lead, World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva

Anna McCartney-Mestad

Chief of Party, Health Communication Collaborative (HC3) Nigeria, Center for Communication Programs, Johns Hopkins University, Abuja

1030-1100

Tea/coffee

1100-1230

6. Enforcement against SSFFC medical products: how can front line agencies act locally but think globally?

National enforcement authorities are empowered to investigate and prosecute crimes involving SSFFC and diverted medicines and health products. They operate in a context of national boundaries against international crime syndicates that are well financed, agile, and often global in reach. How can national and local enforcement authorities enhance their

access to timely information, take appropriate actions, and seek convictions that punish and deter pharmaceutical crime?

Zuma Munkombwe

Director, Zambia Medicines Regulatory Authority (ZAMRA), Lusaka

Wilford Mathiya

Acting Chief Drug Inspector, Pharmacy, Medicines and Poisons Board (PMPB), Lilongwe

Austin Tabangoni Kumwenda

Controller, Internal Audit and Drug Theft Investigations, Ministry of Health, Lilongwe

1230-1240

7. eQuestionnaire

Completion of online eQuestionnaire

1240-1330

Lunch

1330-1500

8. Resources and Conclusions

National authorities and international donor agencies share a common concern to protect lives from the dangers of SSFFC medicines and health products. How will the various entities continue to build cooperation that is regionally appropriate, resourced, and effective in the fight against these illicit products?

Richard Burge

Chief Executive, Wilton Park; Chairman, Global Health Assurance Partnership, Steyning

Tom Woods

Chairman, Wilton Park USA Foundation, Visiting Programme Director, Washington DC

1500

Participants depart from hotel