Quality of Medicines

Harmonising practices in humanitarian assistance
## Special provisions for the procurement of medicines (FPA)

| Humanitarian Procurement Centre | Procedure with pre-certified candidates |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Negotiated procedure with a single offer | - Cost comparison |
|                                  | - Internationally recognised standards such as GDP, GMP etc. |
|                                  | - Quality management system |
|                                  | - Respect of national drug regulations |
Humanitarian Procurement Centre (HPC)

- **Non-profit** organisation specialising in the procurement of supplies necessary for the delivery of humanitarian aid
- Not only medicines, but the procurement of medical supplies is the most important
- May be an independent entity or a specialised supply or procurement department of an NGO or an international organisation
HPC Assessments
2 parts

**Internal Control Systems**
- European Commission rules
  (Annex III of the Framework Partnership Agreement)

**Model Quality Assurance System (MQAS) for Procurement Agencies**
- WHO standards
  (done by specialists – pharmacists)
HPC – criteria for ECHO recognition

- Legal personality and registration
- Non-profit nature
- Non-discriminatory sales policy
- Fair-pricing methodology (mark-up)
- Expertise in procurement
- Well documented procurement procedures
- Quality assurance provisions
- Adequate financial and administrative capacity
Register of HPCs recognised by DG ECHO

- To become HPCs, candidates have to accept assessment by DG ECHO
- Have 6 months to reply to ECHO recommendations
- Recognised HPCs are assessed every 4-5 years
- **14 HPCs** recognised by DG ECHO
| HPC                                                                 | Location: offices or warehouses                                                                 | Operating |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Association régionale d’approvisionnement en médicaments essentiels (ASRAMES) | DRC                                                                                           | DRC       |
| Beschaffungsgesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung für kirchliche, caritative und soziale Einrichtungen (BEGECA) | Germany                                                                                       | Worldwide |
| Centrale Humanitaire Médico-Pharmaceutique (CHMP)                    | Kenya                                                                                         | Worldwide |
| Deutsches Medikamentenhilfswerk Action Medeor (Action Medeor)         | Germany                                                                                       | Worldwide |
| Farmacéuticos mundi - Área Logística Humanitaria (Farmamundi)        | Spain                                                                                         | Worldwide |
| International Dispensary Association (IDA Foundation)               | Netherlands; India; Nigeria; Kenya; Afghanistan; Chile; USA & China                            | Worldwide |
| International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Global Logistics Service (IFRC-GLS) | Switzerland; United Arab Emirates; Malaysia; Panama; Canary Islands (Spain) and several sub-regional locations | Worldwide |
| Mission for Essential Drugs and Supplies (MEDS)                     | Kenya                                                                                         | Africa    |
| Médecins sans Frontières Logistique (MSF Logistique)                | France                                                                                       | Worldwide |
| Médecins sans Frontières Supply (MSF Supply)                        | Belgium                                                                                       | Worldwide |
| Oxfam GB (OXFAM)                                                    | United Kingdom                                                                                | Worldwide |
| WFP/UN Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD)                          | Italy (Rome & Brindisi), UAE (Dubai), Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur), Panama, Ghana (Accra), Spain (Las Palmas) | Worldwide |
| United Nations Children’s Fund, Supply Division (UNICEF SD)         | Offices: Denmark (Copenhagen) & USA (New York). Warehouses: Denmark (Copenhagen); United Arab Emirates (Dubai); China (Shanghai) & Panama (Colon) | Worldwide |
| United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)                  | Offices: Worldwide.                                                                           | Worldwide |
Harmonising purchase policies?

• *DG ECHO does not purchase directly*

• *Harmonising the recognition of HPCs rather than harmonising policies would allow having more HPCs (choice, competition)*

• *Some of ECHO recognised IPCs are also recognised by USAid*