

NEWSLETTER #36 – April 2006

PHARMACIENS SANS FRONTIERES COMITE INTERNATIONAL

Interagency Emergency Health Kit (IEHK)

The third edition of the WHO Emergency Health Kit, which was the first such kit when it was launched in 1990, can be downloaded from the WHO web site <http://www.who.int/medicines/publications/mrhealthkit.pdf>

The second kit, the new emergency health kit 98, was revised and further harmonised by WHO in collaboration with a large number of international and non-governmental agencies.

The aim is to encourage the standardisation of medicines and medical supplies in emergencies to permit a swift and effective response and to cover the basic health needs of 10,000 people for three months.

Over the years, the concept of the emergency health kit has been adopted by many organisations and national authorities. The WHO invites all countries, organisations and donors to use it to meet priority health needs in disaster situations.

EVENTS

PSFCI General Meeting

This year, the PSFCI Annual General Meeting and PSF Congress will be held in Clermont-Ferrand on 17 and 18 June, respectively

The Elizabeth Couturier Fine Art Gallery (12 rue de Stalingrad in Bourgoin-Jailleu, France) invites you to attend the vernissage of the exhibition “*Brillantes Utopies*” by painter Arthur Djouroukian on Saturday 17 June from 6:30 pm in the presence of the artist. A cocktail will be offered on Sunday 18 June from 11am to 1pm. The exhibition will last until 15 July.

The Elizabeth Couturier Fine Art Gallery donates 5% of its commissions to Pharmaciens Sans Frontières Comité International.

MISSIONS

Cambodia:

In the framework of the programme funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, a second pharmacy specialising in antiretroviral and opportunistic disease treatments will open in June at the public hospital in Kosamak.



Haiti:

The development programme should start in May with funding from the European Development Fund (EDF) in the amount of 2 million euros. The programme will last 2 years and will focus on ensuring access and availability of subsidised quality essential generic drugs for the population living in the Department of the Artibonite (1,070,397 people).

One departmental depot, 6 Community Health Unit depots, and their client health facilities are targeted by this programme: renovation and redesign of facilities, implementation of management tools, training/re-training of staff, initial allocation to the departmental depot, introduction of a system of declining subsidies until a cost-recovery system is in place, public education, monitoring.

After a period of free access to medicines following the tropical storm Jeanne, cost-recovery cannot be implemented immediately because of the loss felt by the population. For this reason, PSFCI proposed to provide declining subsidies during the two-year transition period between post-emergency and the implementation of cost-recovery under the National Health Policy of the country. This period will be used to rebuild an essential generic drug supply and distribution system weakened by years of economic and political instability. Today, nearly 66% of the population in Haiti live under the poverty line.

Chad:

Tensions have been high in Chad. On 13 April, PSFCI evacuated its expatriate staff. Activities are temporarily suspended and will resume when the situation. The mid-term evaluation of the 2004-2007 programme is postponed.



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)