



African Association of Essential Drugs National Purchasing Centres
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DAKAR DECLARATION

Preamble

The General Managers of the Essential Drugs National Purchasing Centres, members of the ACAME (African Association of Essential Drugs National Purchasing Centres), meeting this day in Dakar, would like to remind the mission entrusted to them by the authorities of their respective countries:

This mission consists in supplying, to bodies authorized by their supervising Ministries, quality generic essential drugs as well as medical and surgical consumables registered on the National Lists of their respective countries, at affordable price for the populations.

This mission includes assessing needs, undertaking contracts, control, storage and supply, in compliance with the countries pharmaceutical policy requirements.

ACAME's General Managers, meeting in Dakar, however, are concerned by the exclusion of most National Purchasing Centres from drug supply to programmes related to the three priority diseases: antiretroviral drugs (ARV), new combined artemisia-based antimalarial drugs (ACT), and tuberculosis drugs.

Therefore, they solemnly call upon their respective supervising authorities, health development partners and donors as follows:

National supply systems sustainability

Article 1

ACAME recommends that the implementation of any essential drugs supply programme in Africa, including programmes related to the provision of drugs used for the treatment of the priority diseases mentioned in the preamble, be part of the concerted approach leading to the strengthening and sustainability of national supply systems.

Provisional nature of the substitution of National Purchasing Centres by United Nations Agencies or by Western Non Governmental Organizations

Article 2

The decision to substitute national Purchasing Centres by United Nations Agencies or Western Non Governmental Organizations, regarding priority programmes' essential drugs management and/or supply, is considered to be contrary to:

- ◆ the basic principles relating to national capacity building of developing countries
- ◆ the rationalization of existing supply systems
- ◆ the pharmaceutical requirements

Article 3

This decision shall be only provisional and shall be replaced as soon as possible by a strategy for use and national Purchasing Centres capacity building.

National Purchasing Centres Assessment

Article 4

ACAME recommends that national Purchasing Centres assessment be made within a concerted framework, which further comprehensively mainstreams drug and environment context within which the Purchasing Centres evolve, and be documented in a detailed report, providing accompanying measures in case possible failures have been recorded.

Developing a strategic plan for Purchasing Centres development

Article 5

In the light of the outcomes of the Purchasing Centres assessments made by health development partners, ACAME has decided to develop a strategic plan for Purchasing Centres development.

Article 6

This strategic plan shall define the assets and weaknesses of Purchasing Centres as well as the tailored measures to be implemented for each of them, including measures related either to the institutional and legal aspects, operational and quibbling aspects or aspects related to human or financial resources.

ACAME and Health Development Partners Conference

Article 7

ACAME calls upon Authorities, Partners and Donors to politically and financially support this strategy.

Article 8

ACAME plans to organise by the end of the semester of the year 2007 in Ouagadougou a Conference with all Health Development Partners and Donors to hold constructive discussions on the following:

- ◆ broad lines of its strategic plan,
- ◆ best ways to support its implementation,
- ◆ involvement of partners within the Purchasing Centre monitoring committee.

Done in Dakar on December 8th, 2006

The General Managers of Essential Drugs Purchasing Centres, members of ACAME:

CAME Benin
CAMEG Burkina Faso
CAMEBU Burundi
CENAME Cameroon
PNAC Comoros
COMEG Congo
PSP Côte d'Ivoire
OPN Gabon
CECOME Guinea Bissau
PCG Guinea Conakry
PPM Mali
CAMEC Mauritania
SALAMA Madagascar
ONPPC Niger
UCM Central African Republic
CAMERWA Rwanda
PNA Senegal
CPA Chad
CAMEG Togo