The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD

Novartis Anti-Counterfeiting Program

GENUINE

COUNTERFEIT

UNCTAD Illicit Trade Forum

The role of the private sector

Geneva 04 Feb 2020 Stanislas Barro Global Head of Anti-counterfeiting



Pharmaceutical crime at a glance

Impact on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals



Hinders access to affordable, qualityassured medicines for life-threatening

diseases E.g. The large majority of **falsified medicines seized** and tested were found to have **no API-** having **severe patient safety** impact. As such tackling falsified medicines is part of **WHO's top 10 urgent** health challenges under the umbrella of access to medicines¹.

Urgent health challenges for the next decade World Health Organization





Hinders economic growth and development, impacts government revenue (Healthcare)

E.g. EUIPO estimates that counterfeiting costs the EU pharma sector 10.2 billion each year, 90,000 jobs, and 1.7 billion in lost government revenue².

€10.2 billion lost every year across the EU due to fake

medicines PRESS RELEASE September, 29, 2016





Undermines investment in R&D of new drugs and has a negative impact on innovation and access to affordable medicines

E.g. According to the **OECD** counterfeiting reduces **incentive** to **invest** and **innovate** and lowers funding for **R&D-** further it disproportionately **impacts innovation** in **developing countries**³.



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¹ <u>https://www.who.int/news-room/photo-story/photo-story-detail/urgent-health-challenges-for-the-next-decade</u>

https://euipo.europa.eu/tunnel-web/secure/webdav/guest/document_library/observatory/resources/research-and-studies/ip_infringement/study9/Press_release-pharmaceutical_sector_en.pdf

⁵ <u>https://anticorruption-integrity.oecd.org/reports/illicit-trade-converging-criminal-networks-aci.html</u>

Pharmaceutical crime at a glance

Impact on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals



Hinders the ability to reduce inequalities & maintains disparities regarding access to health/ social services

E.g. According to **PwC**, the proportion of **fake pharmaceuticals** in some developing regions such as in Africa can be as high as **70%**. Further a **WHO** commissioned study found that fake antimalarials in **SSA** cost patients and health systems on average **\$38.5m per yr¹**.

Fake drugs: How bad is Africa's counterfeit medicine problem?

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Transnational Organized Crime in Southeast Asia: Evolution, Growth and Impact



Undermines sustainable consumption and production patterns and safe waste management

E.g. **Benin Health Authorities** with the support of **USAID** destroyed **118** tons of **counterfeit** pharmaceuticals during a single seizure².

BENIN DESTROYS 118 TONS OF COUNTERFEIT PHARMACEUTICALS



Crews prepare chemicals USAID Thursday, January 25, 2018



Perpetuating violence, corruption, and undermining trust in institutions

E.g. **UNODC** reported a growing link between counterfeiting and **organized criminal groups.** In recent years a number of initiatives were aimed at dismantling these groups e.g. Operation **Viribus** dismantled **17** organized criminal groups^{3.}

Study backs organised crime links to counterfeit medicines





2;https://www.unodc.org/documents/southeastasiaandpacific/Publications/2019/SEA_TOCTA_2019_web.pdf; https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-51122898

https://www.usaid.gov/benin/news/benin-destroys-118-tons-counterfeit-pharmaceutical

³ <u>https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/keeping-sport-safe-and-fair-38-million-doping-substances-and-fake-medicines-seized-worldwide; https://www.securingindustry.com/pharmaceuticals/study-backs-organised-crime-links-to-counterfeitmedicines-seized-worldwide; https://www.securingindustry.com/pharmaceuticals/study-backs-organised-crime-links-to-counterfeitseized-worldwide; https://www.securingindustry.com/pharmaceuticals/study-backs-organised-crime-links-to-counterfeitseized-worldwide; https://www.securingindustry.com/pharmaceuticals/study-backs-organised-crime-links-to-counterfeitseized-worldwide; https://www.securingindus</u>

https://unctad.org/meetings/en/Contribution/DITC2019 TRACIT IllicitTradeandSDGs fullreport en.pdf

Pharmaceutical crime trends

Continuously adapting to a volatile environment











Mixed genuine/counterfeit

Example: Primary packaging genuine while the actual compound is counterfeit. Or primary packaging falsified while the actual compound is genuine (i.e. generally expired or stolen).

Public sector theft (and/or non destruction)

Example: Large scale media exposed 2018 cases in Italy and Greece. The Greek case shows that cancer drugs were stolen by criminal gangs from public hospitals (e.g. Egypt) and smuggled them into the EU for resale at mugh higher prices. Involving 500 Pharmacists and 100 clinics. Recent incident in India with PAP's.

«Full salt, half salt, chalk-mitty?»

Example: options offered by counterfeit manufacturers to include the «right» dosage of API, a portion of it or none according to business model and destination countries targeted

Off label use

Example: Opiods analgesics, Human Growth Hormone, ADHD treatments and ovarian stimulation treatments are among the few therapeutic areas highly targeted by criminal network, notably on the internet.

Breached LSC

Example: Succession of cases reaching hospital, clinic and pharmacy level occuring on all continents. Particular situation of the EU with a series of incidents of falsified medicines found in the supply chain of parallel traders._



Most impacted therapeutic areas

Counterfeit cases with critical patient safety impact



Patient Safety

Measuring the patient safety impact



≥90%

Incidents reaching Level 3 Highest risk – life threatening causing serious harm and/or leading to death

Harmful ingredients found during tests on falsified Novartis medicines



≈1,200,000**

Patients projection (i.e. in treatment equivalent terms) for which safety risks have been mitigated due to seized falsified medicines

** Very conservative number exclusively focused on falsified Novartis medicines seized since 2017

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Governance & Reporting

Ensuring accountability and delivery on strategic priorities

NOVARTIS IN SOCIETY

Program featured in the company's annual corporate responsibility report outlining projects, key achievements, and challenges





NOVARTIS ANNUAL RISK

Counterfeiting featured as an emerging risk in the 2019 report together with a mitigation plan

NOVARTIS POSITION

Publicly states the company's position and approach on tackling counterfeit/falsified medicines





ANTI-COUNTERFEITING STEERING COMMITTEE

3 executive committee members and 7 function heads governing the program strategy and operations



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Governance & Reporting

Anti-counterfeiting working groups accelerating delivery



Intelligence

Continuous market monitoring of Novartis products

ONLINE

- Monthly online monitoring of top 25 Novartis Pharmaceutical, Oncology and Sandoz products on:
 - ✓ Rogue online pharmacies (ROLPs)
 - ✓ Marketplaces
 - ✓ Social media platforms
- PSI Disruption program: working jointly on disrupting rogue online pharmacies (incl. social media and commercial platforms)

OFFLINE

- Continuous monitoring of suspected counterfeit/falsified products in key markets
- Example of country market surveys conducted in 2019 to detect falsified medicines



Enforcement

Protecting Novartis patients and reputation worldwide

SOCIAL SECURITY FRAUD SCHEME

Colombia, 4 cities

13 arrests Media coverage Mix of falsified medicines Ongoing prosecution ORGANIZED CRIMINAL GROUP

Italy, multiple cities

Hospital theft 34 raids & 14 arrests 834 units seized

Ongoing prosecution

MARKET SURVEY ANTI-MALARIAL

Cameroon, 3 cities

Proactive market survey 58 samples, 17 falsified Escalated to HA & WHO

No API

ILLEGAL MANUFACTURING

India, Mumbai

Raid on a printing shop Over 27,449 labels seized 9 printing plaques seized

No API



🕑 NOVARTIS







Prevention

Forensic tools used for product authentication

PROVE & MOVE



SPECTROMETRIC TOOLKITS



Mobile laboratories containing vibrational spectroscopy enabling fast time authentication of suspected products

AUTHENTIFIELD BY NOVARTIS





Mobile cloud based costeffective spectrometric sensor empowering LMICs with fast time product authentication



¹¹ Novartis Business Assurance & Advisory (NBAA) | Global Security

Prevention

Global footprint of our forensic capabilities





Stakeholder Engagement

Engaging on multiple fronts

Public Awareness

- Sponsor of the INTA Unreal Campaign focusing on raising awareness about the dangers of counterfeit products amongst teenagers and young adults
- Supporting the IFPMAs Fight the Fakes campaign raising awareness about the dangers of falsified medicines

FIGHT THE FAKES

SPEAK UP ABOUT FAKE MEDICINES



Capacity Building

- Implemented a train the trainer format to train Novartis Quality and Regulatory associates on counterfeit detection, who will train law enforcement
- Sharing Best Practices with International law Enforcement (E.g. panel with FBI, Interpol and Spanish Police during INTA 2019)

Policy & Advocacy

- Advance policy and advocacy with effective collaboration with OECD, WHO, UNCTAD, and PhRMA
- Working with Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade (TRACIT) to advance our messaging on the impacts of illicit trade (i.e. falsified medicines) on

the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs)







UNITED NATIONS

OECD Task Force on Countering Illicit Trade

« The OECD High Level Risk Forum approved the creation of the Task Force on Countering Illicit Trade as a sub-body to advance the policy agenda for enhancing national resilience and responsiveness to illicit trade and all forms of trafficking with linkages to transnational organised crime. »

OECD Public Governance Directorate High Level Risk Forum

