



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

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18 December 2012

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), I have the pleasure to invite you to a technical and consultative conference in Vienna, Austria, on trafficking in fraudulent medicines to be held from 14 to 15 February 2013..

The aim of this conference is to raise awareness and to discuss a joint way forward by enhancing synergies to counter the illicit trade in fraudulent medicines. The conference consists of panel discussions addressing different mandates and approaches; including the transnational organized crime dimension, in order to allow close consultation with all major stakeholders. Please note that the conference will be conducted in English and French and a draft agenda and information note for participants is enclosed.

UNODC has a unique global mandate, derived from the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, to assist Member States in the fight against trafficking in fraudulent medicines. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its 20th session held in 2011, mandated UNODC to assist Member States in fighting this illicit trade. This mandate was reiterated by the Commission at its 21st session held in 2012.

UNODC endeavours to work closely with Member States and other stakeholders to enhance cooperative synergies. As such, your participation would be extremely important. UN agencies, international and regional organizations, public institutions (enforcement and drug regulatory agencies) and civil society will also be invited to participate in the conference.

I would be grateful if you could kindly confirm your availability at your earliest convenience, and **no later than Thursday, 10 January 2013** by email to Ms. Julia Widowitsch, Staff Assistant, at julia.widowitsch@unodc.org. Should you require further substantive information, please contact Ms. Karen Kramer, Senior Expert, (karen.kramer@unodc.org, tel: +43-26060-4205) or Ms. Nicole Maric, Crime Prevention Expert, (nicole.maric@unodc.org, tel: +43-1-26060-5477).

Yours sincerely,

John Sandage
Director
Division for Treaty Affairs

Making the world safer from drugs, crime and terrorism

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