

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE

WELTGESUNDHEITSORGANISATION
REGIONALBÜRO FÜR EUROPA



ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'EUROPE

ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ
ЕВРОПЕЙСКОЕ РЕГИОНАЛЬНОЕ БЮРО

**Second Annual Meeting of the European Forum of
Pharmaceutical Associations and the World Health Organization
Regional Office for Europe**

Thessaloniki, 8 – 9 February 1993

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RESTRICTED

EUROPHARM FORUM

Declaration

At the second annual meeting of the European Forum of Pharmaceutical Associations and the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (EUROPHARM FORUM) held in Thessaloniki, Greece, on 8 – 9 February 1993, the Forum discussed pharmaceutical questions arising from the development of new structures for production and distribution of medicinal products in the countries of central and eastern Europe. The Forum resolved that, in taking decisions on the distribution and supply of medicines, governments must apply the following principles:

1. Medicines are not ordinary articles of commerce and in the interest of public health, special conditions must be applied in their distribution. They should be available only through pharmacies, where proper controls on supply will be exercised.
2. For medicines subject to supply only on medical description, there should be separation between the prescribing and dispensing functions. The patient is best served, when each professional undertakes the duties, for which he is specifically educated and trained, and the prescriber has not economic interest in the medicine prescribed.
3. Public health can only be assured, when the law provides that the pharmacist, who has the necessary education and training and is governed by strict rules of professional conduct and ethics, has control of the supply of medicines to the public and thus the pharmacist must have complete managerial control of the pharmacy, free of economic influence from non-pharmacist sources.