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Note for the Editors: The mission of the European Pharmacopoeia and the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare (EDQM), a Directorate of the Council of Europe responsible for the Secretariat of the European Pharmacopoeia, is to protect and promote public and animal health through the elaboration of quality standards for medicines for human and veterinary use. Medicines need to be safe, effective and of good quality in order to produce the expected therapeutic effect. The EDQM works closely with its international and European partners to ensure that sub-standard or counterfeit medicines do not reach the marketplace. Its networks collaborate on a daily basis with all authorities involved in the standardisation, regulation and control of medicines for human and veterinary use. For more information, please go to: www.edqm.eu.

MEETING HELD BETWEEN THE EDQM AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE 'CHILEAN PHARMACOPOEIA PROJECT' TO DISCUSS OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN THEIR INSTITUTIONS

The European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare (EDQM, Council of Europe) and the 'Chilean Pharmacopoeia Project', University of Valparaiso held a meeting recently to discuss how to strengthen their working relationship in order to share knowledge and expertise to improve the quality of medicines in Europe and Chile. The state of Chile has a plan to create a new Pharmacopoeial institution (named "the Chilean Pharmacopoeia Project"), an authority that will be responsible for setting standards and specifications for pharmaceuticals in Chile.

Dr Susanne Keitel, Director of the EDQM and a delegation representing different EDQM departments, met with Mrs Patricia Carreño González and Dr Caroline Weinstein Oppenheimer, respectively Vice Director and Associate Director of the 'Chilean Pharmacopoeia Project', in Strasbourg, to share information on the European regulatory framework and the role of the EDQM. The work of the European Pharmacopoeia and the general organisation of the pharmacopoeia activities are of great interest as the current Chilean Pharmacopoeia was last published in 1942, therefore needs to be restructured to face the new challenges in the field of public health. A tour of the EDQM's laboratories and the Reference Standards facilities was also organised. Afterwards, Dr Keitel said, "This meeting was a great opportunity to exchange views on how pharmacopoeias today can cope with the emerging risks of public health especially due to globalisation."

Both institutions agreed to maintain communication links and explore areas for potential collaboration.

[A political organisation set up in 1949, the Council of Europe works to promote democracy and human rights continent-wide. It also develops common responses to social, cultural and legal challenges in its 47 member states.](#)

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