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Thu 2020/09/03 12:47
Henriette Wagener

FW: Media Release' - Fake vaccines, medicines, and other medical products can kill you, says world academies network

To Henriette Wagener

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Fake vaccines, medicines, and other medical products can kill you, says world academies network

The toll from falsified and substandard medical products may be as high as a million lives lost per year: The InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) recommends a set of actions and urges politicians and all stakeholders to join forces and solve this urgent issue.

EMBARGOED UNTIL 03 September 2020 3PM CET

TRIESTE, ITALY. Falsified and substandard medical products – products such as vaccines, medical devices and veterinary products that are ‘fake’ or of poor quality – are an increasing global scourge that threaten life, health and security in significant ways. This is because patients receiving these products not only get ineffective treatment but are also often exposed to serious harm.

Today, under the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), medical, scientific and engineering academies from around the world urge political decision-makers at all levels, in concert with regional and international organisations, to work with medical product regulatory authorities, national and international law enforcement agencies, manufacturers, importers, distributors, health professionals and patients to solve this urgent issue.

The new IAP Statement ‘A Call to Action: Furthering the fight against falsified and substandard medical products’ (available online at www.interacademies.org/medical_products) supports the call for a comprehensive, well-resourced, international effort to address this devastating problem.

A GLOBAL PROBLEM.

It is difficult to give precise numbers but it appears that in many low-income countries a large proportion of the medical products available are falsified or substandard. Estimates of 20-30% in