Bernard Leroy appointed Director of the Institute of Research Against Counterfeit Medicines

As of July 1st 2013, the Institute of Research Against Counterfeit Medicines (IRACM) is pleased to announce the appointment of Bernard Leroy as the new Director of the institute for a term of three years. He succeeds Jacques Franquet who retires after having directed the Institute since its foundation in October 2010.

Under the direction of Jacques Franquet, the Institute of Research Against Counterfeit Medicines became a center of excellence in the fight against counterfeit medicines, training over a thousand highly placed agents in customs, police and health agencies, of more than 50 different nationalities, and raising public awareness of the dangers of fake medicines.

Bernard Leroy’s appointment comes at a time when there is a need to improve the efficiency of national legislations against counterfeit medicines and transnational organized crime trafficking through strengthened judicial mutual assistance.

Due to his extensive experience in fighting transnational organized crime, Bernard Leroy will contribute to the mobilization of all stakeholders to protect the health of millions of patients worldwide. His mission will be to pursue and develop the actions already begun to make IRACM a catalyst of international action, in synergy with international organizations and mobilizing governments. IRACM will also focus on increasing awareness and mobilizing public opinion.

BIOGRAPHY OF BERNARD LEROY

Bernard Leroy acted as Specialized Investigating Judge against drugs from 1979 to 1988, Advisor for legal and international affairs in MILTD from 1988 to 1990, Judge seconded to the UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) from 1990 to 2010, and Deputy General Prosecutor at the Versailles Court of Appeal from 2010 to 2013.

In 1989, during the preparation of the Summit of the Arche in Paris, he played a leading role in setting the first political coordination against drugs among the 12 States of the European Union, i.e. the European committee to combat drugs (CELAD, now called Dublin Group).

In the United Nations, he created and led for 20 years the Legal Assistance programme which assisted a large number of Member States, of which Afghanistan, in the adoption process of modern national drug control laws in the fight against the production and illicit traffic of narcotics.

In 2008, based on his performance, he was appointed to lead the common UN and World Bank group created for the asset recovery of funds diverted to Switzerland by the former dictator Duvalier of Haiti. Recently, he has been requested to join a working group of general prosecutors established by the French government to fight against medicine trafficking.
ABOUT THE IRACM

A non-profit association, the Institute of Research Against Counterfeit Medicines (IRACM) was created in October 2010. Its mission: to raise public and authorities awareness concerning the scourge that counterfeit medicines represents, to train the committed actors in the fight against fake medicines, to centralize knowledge, good practices and know-how and to serve as a proactive interlocutor and advisory body proposing advice and solutions to national and international political and judiciary authorities.

For more information visit: www.iracm.com

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