



# TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL - PAKISTAN

Plot 72-F/2, 1st Floor, 9th Street, Jami Commercial,  
Phase VII, Defence Housing Authority, Karachi  
Phone: +92-21-35390408, 35311898  
Fax: +92-21-35390410  
Email: ti.pakistan@gmail.com  
Website: www.transparency.org.pk

15<sup>th</sup> July, 2021

TL/0715/1A

Muhammad Azam Khan,  
Principal Secretary to Prime Minister,  
PM House, Islamabad

**Subject: Efforts to counter Prime Minister's Policy to purchase and prescribe medicines with generic name only, to save annually Billion of rupees of the exchequer and also citizens.**

Dear Sir,

Transparency International Pakistan refers to its letter No.TL21/06/09/1B, dated 9 June, 2021, on the implementation of policy decided by the Prime Minister of Pakistan that drugs/medication be made available to the ordinary citizens at the cheapest price possible, the Chief Executive Officer of DRAP issued an advisory to all provinces and federal controlled units, on 16th April 2021, to ensure that doctors prescribe medicines with their generic names instead of brand names, in the public and private sector throughout the country as this practice adds to the economic burden of the country.

Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan Act, 2012 (DRAP Act), under Article 7, Powers and functions of the Authority, DRAP is the only approving authority in Pakistan for quality of medicines and to determine MRP, retail market price.

TI Pakistan sent a letter to MD PPRA on 22 April, 2021, with request to implement DRAP's advice for procurement of Drugs/Medicines on generic names only. PPRA agreeing with DRAP, on 2 June 2021, directed all Federal Secretaries to comply with DRAP advise vide letter dated 16 April 2021.

Transparency International Pakistan appreciates PM's initiative, DRAP action and PPRA directions, to make all procurement of medicines on generic names, and at the lowest evaluated cost, which will economies the medicines expenditure of all procuring agencies.

Transparency International Pakistan is striving for across the board application of Rule of Law, which is the only way to stop corruption, and achieve against Zero tolerance against Corruption,

With Regards,

Jus (R) Nasira Iqbal,  
Sitara-e-Imtiaz  
Vice Chairperson  
Transparency International Pakistan

Copies forwarded for the information with request to take action under their mandate to in all the provinces and their PPRA Rules also:

1. Dr. Faisal Sultan, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Health, Ministry of National Health Services Regulations and Coordination, Islamabad
2. Chairman, National Accountability Bureau (NAB), Islamabad
3. Registrar, Supreme Court of Pakistan
4. MD, PPRA, Islamabad

**A NON-PARTISAN, NON-PROFIT COALITION AGAINST CORRUPTION**

Donations exempted from tax U/S 2 (36) (c) of I. Tax Ordinance 2001





Government of Pakistan  
**Public Procurement Regulatory Authority**  
(Monitoring & Evaluation Wing)  
<><><>



No: 11(160)/M&E/PPRA/2018/222

Islamabad, June 02, 2021

Subject: **PROCUREMENT OF DRUGS WHICH ARE REGISTERED AND APPROVED BY DRAP**

I am directed to refer to Transparency International Pakistan's letter No. TL21/04/22/1A dated April 22, 2021 addressed to this Authority, wherein Transparency International Pakistan has made certain observations regarding adoption of Quality Based Selection method for the procurement of pharmaceutical goods by the procuring agencies.

2. It is apprised that, the Authority is in process of developing Standard Bidding Documents (SBDs) for the procurement of pharmaceutical goods for which feedback from the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) and other stakeholders including relevant experts would be taken into account. Meanwhile, all the directions issued by DRAP including the one issued vide letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021 be complied with subject to the fulfillment of guidelines on the quality (of the products) issued by the same Authority. However, it may be ensured that the whole process is not in conflict with any provision of the Public Procurement Regulatory Framework.

3. Furthermore, after procurement, random testing of drugs should be conducted through designated drug testing laboratories to ensure that the samples are in accordance with the required specifications and meet all requisite quality standards as approved by DRAP.

(Engr. Muhammad Saleh Izhar)  
Deputy Director (M&E)

**All Federal Secretaries**

CC:

- ✓ i. **Justice (R) Nasira Iqbal (SI)**, Vice Chair, Transparency International Pakistan, Plot 72-F/2, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Jami Commercial, Phase VII, Defence Housing Authority, Karachi.
- ii. **Director (MIS) PPRA**, with request to upload the same on the Authority's Website.