

To Mr. Stefanos Komninos  
Secretary General of Commerce  
Ministry of Economy, Competitiveness and Shipping  
cc: Mrs. Louka Katseli, Minister of Economy, Competitiveness and Shipping  
Mrs Athina Linou, President of Pricing Committee  
Mrs. Olga Ikonomidou, Deputy President of Pricing Committee  
Mr. M. Kakazianis, Director of the Prices for Industrial and Medicinal products  
Directory  
Mr. Haris Pampoukis, Minister of State by the Prime Minister

Halandri, April 28 2010

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

The Board of SFEE was convened today to discuss the imminent publication of the Market Decree imposing flat reduction in the prices of medicines. Following the opinion of its legal advisors, the Board became aware of the fact that there is no legal authorization for the publication of the Market Decree.

We remind you that SFEE sent you a letter proposing the proper solution for immediately solving the problem. A solution that will result in containment of resources and decrease of expenditure ensuring in parallel sufficiency of medicines in the Greek market.

The publication of the Market Decree as we pointed out yesterday, in the long meeting the Board of SFEE had with you, is illegal (contrary to article 14 of law 3840/2010 and the Market Decree in force) and will create huge insufficiency of medicines.

Furthermore, international as well as greek companies producing and importing medicines of international companies will withdraw medicines from the greek market.

The international companies have addressed an ultimatum that many medicinal products will be withdrawn immediately since their prices will be lower than the average of the three lowest prices in the EU, leading to a pan-european turbulence. Companies have repeatedly asked to be informed on the resulting prices and they don't want these prices to be published in the price bulletin.

Furthermore, the publication of this Market Decree will be a gravestone on all pharmaceutical companies which will be obliged to decrease drastically all activities within their companies.

Finally, in case this decision is adopted, the health of Greek patients will be endangered with no benefits resulting for national economy. It is unfair for patients to be "punished" for the inability of the General Secretariat to issue a price bulletin.

We are unable to understand the purpose of such a catastrophic and illegal decision when there is an optimum legal solution which can be immediately implemented leading to the same desired economic result.

We urge you to implement the law and the Market Decree in force, which is the only legal solution that can be of benefit to the country.

Sincerely yours,

Dionysios Filiotis  
President

Pascal Apostolides  
Vice President