

To
the Honourable
Mr. Andreas Loverdos
Minister of Health and Social Solidarity

cc: Mr. G. Papaconstantinou, Minister of Finance
Mr. P. Sachinidis, Deputy Minister of Finance
Mr. M. Timosidis, Deputy Minister of Health and Social Solidarity
Mr. P. Efthymiou, Parliamentary Spokesperson for PASOK
Mr. I. Plaskovitis, Secretary General of the Ministry of Finance
Mr. N. Polyzos, Secretary General of the Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity
Mr. A. Dimopoulos, Secretary General of Public Health

Halandri, May 12, 2011

Honourable Minister,

SFEE must once again address the grave problem of the accumulated outstanding debts of public hospitals. While we are now in the fifth month of 2011, the invoices from 2010 still have not been settled and the flow of payments for the first quarter of 2011 has not been regular. This is apparent in the detailed report we attach herewith and which refers to debts from 01/01/2010 to 31/03/2011.

The total amount for sales of medicinal products to public hospitals amounts to 1.194 billion euro, of which only 360 million have been paid. That means that the percentage of unpaid invoices is at 70% and the debts of public hospitals to pharmaceutical companies amount to 834 million euro.

In 2010 alone, medicinal product sales amounted to about 1 billion euro, of which only 358 million have been paid until today. As such, the unpaid invoices amount to 644 million euro, which is about 65% of the total! This practically means that the pharmaceutical companies have received payments for only the first quarter of 2010!

SFEE would like to express its grave concern, as in 2011, instead of the settlement of debts in real time, the situation has become dramatic: In the first quarter of 2011, medicinal product sales to public hospitals amounted to about 192 million, of which only 2.15 million euro have been paid. In other words, only 1.12% of the invoices have been paid! The report also indicates that for the first quarter of 2011, expenditures for medicinal products at public hospitals have been reduced by about 20% in comparison to the corresponding period in 2010.

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Honourable Minister,

We greatly fear that it is only a matter of time before drug shortages on the market begin to occur.

Respectfully,

Fotis Mangalousis
Director General

Vasilios Niadas
Vice-president

Dionysios Filiotis
President

Attachment:

1. SFEE detailed report on debts of public hospitals to its member-companies – Sales, receivables and debts from 01/01/2010 to 31/03/2011