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Prescrire's Solidarity Support Programme

Helping to foster independent, reliable healthcare information

The principal aim of Prescrire's Solidarity Support Programme is to help develop quality pharmaceutical and medical information in countries where scarce economic resources present an obstacle (a).

Grants go for documentary materials, editorial internships, etc. The programme enhances access to Prescrire's information resources, already facilitated by Solidarity subscription Rates, in countries where healthcare professionals' income is very low (b).

The funding for the Solidarity Support Programme comes from donations, most often from Prescrire subscribers. During 2009, the Solidarity Support Programme received 173 donations totalling 8 525 euros. These donations came primarily from Prescrire subscribers who contributed vouchers they received for bringing in new subscribers, or for reviewing drafts of Prescrire texts (c).

Subsidies went towards :

- *Prescrire* or *Prescrire International* subscriptions for Cambodia, Madagascar, Poland and elsewhere;
- Assistance to the drug bulletin *La Lettre du Cedim*, financing travel for editorial training (d);
- Funding for 10 Prescrire subscribers from Algeria to attend the 2010 Rencontres Prescrire, in the name of fostering independent continuing education in this country.

Certain drug bulletins outgrow the need for assistance from the Solidarity Support Programme. That was the case in 2009 for Cuba's *Boletin de información terapéutica para atención primaria de salud*, which met the conditions to become an associate member of the International Society of Drug Bulletins (ISDB).

Prescrire subscribers are encouraged to put forth ideas for activities that might benefit from Prescrire's Solidarity Support Programme (international@prescrire.org)

Prescrire

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a- The programme rules are available online at www.prescrire.org.

b- For details on the Solidarity Subscription rates, see reverse.

c- Reviewers of draft texts for Prescrire receive, as a thank-you gift at the end of each year, one or more Prescrire vouchers for a value of 35 euros each.

d- *La Lettre du Cedim* is the quarterly publication of the Centre de documentation et d'information sur le médicament (Burkina Faso). This bulletin is a member of the ISDB.