# Press release

**28 June 2021, Strasbourg, France**

## The Council of Europe appoints future EDQM Director

The Council of Europe has appointed Petra Dörr, PhD, as future Director of the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare (EDQM). She will take over the function from the current Director, Susanne Keitel, in October 2021.

Petra Dörr comes to the EDQM with more than 25 years of international experience in the public and private sector – in the pharmaceutical industry, with a regulatory authority and more recently with the World Health Organization (WHO).

Ms Dörr is currently the Head of Unit Regulation and Safety at the Regulation and Prequalification Department, Access to Medicines and Health Products Division at WHO. This unit includes teams dealing with facilitated product introduction, incidents and substandard or falsified medical products, laboratory services and networks, pharmacovigilance, regulatory convergence and networks, and regulatory system strengthening.

Ms Dörr trained as a pharmacist and spent the first 10 years of her career in the medical products industry, working in international regulatory affairs. She joined Swissmedic, the Swiss Agency for Therapeutic Products, in October 2004 as the Head of International Affairs. In July 2007, she was promoted to Head of Management Services & Networking and became a member of the Management Board. In this position, she was responsible for quality management systems and planning and controlling, in addition to steering national and international collaboration and communications activities. From January 2014 to June 2019, she held the position of Head of Communication & Networking and Deputy Executive Director. Among other responsibilities in external relations, she oversaw the international activities of Swissmedic with other agencies and international organisations.

Between 2013 and 2016, she served as the chair of the International Pharmaceutical Regulators Forum (IPRF), now known as the International Pharmaceutical Regulators Programme (IPRP). In November 2018, she was elected Vice-chair of the ICH Assembly. She has been a member of the ICH Management Committee, the IPRP Management Committee, and represented Swissmedic at the Heads of Agencies Summits/ICMRA meetings.

**Contact**: Caroline Larsen Le Tarnec, Public Relations Division, EDQM, Council of Europe
Tel.: +33 (0) 3 88 41 28 15 – E-mail: caroline.letarnec@edqm.eu

**Note for the Editor**: Further information is available on the internet site **https://www.edqm.eu/**.

The EDQM is a leading organisation that protects public health by enabling the development, supporting the implementation and monitoring the application of quality standards for safe medicines and their safe use. Its standards are recognised as a scientific benchmark worldwide. The European Pharmacopoeia is legally binding in member states.[1] The EDQM also develops

guidance and standards in the areas of blood transfusion, organ transplantation and consumer health issues.

1. There are 40 members of the European Pharmacopoeia Commission: *Austria, Albania, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom and the European Union.*

***A political organisation set up in 1949, the Council of Europe works to promote democracy and human rights continent-wide. It also develops common responses to social, cultural and legal challenges in its 47 member states.***