

7. Regional Analysis of Data

7.1 The data on the six regions of the Commonwealth is given in Annex 5 and includes population, GNP per head, Central (Government) health expenditure (CHE) as a percentage of the total Central Government expenditure (CE), CHE per head as a percentage of GNP, Total Drug Consumption as a percentage of GNP, and the production status in accordance with Annex 4.

7.2 The table below summarises on a regional basis the estimated data on consumption and production and their relationships.

<u>Region</u>	<u>Consumption US\$ million</u>	<u>Consumption GDP Per Head US\$</u>		<u>Production US\$ million</u>	<u>Production/ Consumption</u>
Asia	2,134 (7)	1.01%	2.84	1,705 (6)	80%
Africa	504 (13)	0.37%	2.06	130 (9)	26%
Pacific	11 (7)	0.26%	2.35	1 (3)	4%
Caribbean	80 (11)	0.65%	15.58	11 (5)	14%
Europe*	27 (2)	0.83%	25.71	2 (2)	7%
Industrialised	5,895 (4)	0.61%	58.90	6,673 (4)	113%
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TOTAL	8,651 (44)		7.65	8,521 (29)	

Figures in parentheses denote number of countries which supplied the data indicated.

* Cyprus and Malta only.

8. Findings

8.1 In the light of the above data and its analysis, in addition to the role of local production the following factors are to be considered in detail while planning a policy and producing a viable programme of drug supply:

- estimation of requirements of essential drugs,
- rational utilisation of drugs,
- pricing of drug supplies,
- ensuring the quality and safety of imported and locally - produced drugs,
- organising an efficient system of drug delivery and distribution at all levels and investment in its infrastructure.

8.2 The figures on health expenditure in relation to GNP clearly show that the low income group countries, where the need is most, spend a very small proportion in comparison with the