

## **PHARMAGEDDON? – CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

*Pharmageddon: "the prospect of a world in which medicines and medicine produce more ill-health than health, and when medical progress does more harm than good".* In line with the Precautionary Principle, we see the need to investigate and explore that risk and to identify the factors and features that describe it.

What are the risks of [Pharmageddon](#) and what harms might be involved? Health Action International, Social Audit and friends are in the early stages of planning a conference on *Pharmageddon?* We want to develop understanding of the threat, and a better model of what it might be.

We are now making this first call for abstracts/summaries of papers/presentations that you might want to give *or* hear. We invite submissions from all quarters that signal the nature of risk - *including the lack of it, in relation to the benefits felt.*

The conference is neither sponsored nor yet scheduled, but we are aiming for the Summer of 2008. We see this conference as a first step in developing the signalling and monitoring systems needed to keep *Pharmageddon* at bay. If the risk is real, we should be thinking about the process needed to collect and classify reports of signals, indicators, manifestations and portents of *Pharmageddon*, including the relative lack of them.

To explore this, and by way of stimulating consultation, we are introducing an element of competition in this call for abstracts on *Pharmageddon?* People who submit the best entries will be invited by Health Action International to attend and present at the conference. In addition, **Social Audit is offering at least eight prizes of at least €1,000 each, for any submission published on the Social Audit website.**

For more information, visit the [Social Audit website](#).