

PPI 's Mandate

PPI's mandate is defined under the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Universally Accessible Cheaper and Quality Medicines Act of 2008, otherwise known as Republic Act No. 9502, wherein PPI has been given the following roles:

1. Establish a common facility for pooled procurement.
 - Chapter XI, Rule 58 of the IRR states that:
"The PPI or its equivalent agency is authorized to establish a common facility for pooled procurement in compliance with RA 9184."
2. Undertake direct importation for government agencies and offer the same facility to private parties.
 - Chapter III, Rule 16, Section 1 of the IRR states that:
"Except for specific programs and instances allowed by the DOH, for purposes of ascertaining the best and most affordable prices and quality of drugs and medicines to be imported, all government agencies must centrally procure through PPI."
 - Private parties may opt to avail of PPI's facility for undertaking "procurement, sourcing and marketing of quality essential and low priced medicines."
3. Assist in the implementation of cost-containment measures i.e., support hospital pharmacies, making available low cost quality medicines and rational and complete drug treatment packs.
4. Provide support to the DOH in the determination of the Maximum Retail Price (MRP).

On 25 June 2010, the Government Procurement and Policy Board (GPPB) confirmed that "PPI may act as a servicing agency and that government agencies may directly procure imported medicines from PPI under the alternative mode of negotiated procurement (agency-to-agency agreements)." It further ruled that PPI may also act as a procurement agent for government entities subject to Section 53.6 of the Revised IRR of R.A. 9184, otherwise known as the *Government Procurement Reform Act*. This was further confirmed by GPPB Resolution No. 12-2013 dated 26 April 2013, which amended Sections 23.6, 24.6, and 53.5 of the Revised IRR of R.A. 9184 and its associated provisions in the Implementing Guidelines on Agency-to-Agency Agreements, thereby allowing non-chartered GOCCs to engage as Servicing Agency in an Agency-to-Agency Agreement under Section 53.5 of the IRR of RA 9184 in order to attain a more efficient and streamlined public procurement process.