Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK, North Korea)

1. The principal law
The principal law governing the counterfeit medicine in Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK, North Korea) is the Criminal Law 2012 (Last Amended and Supplemented on May 14, 2012). As of July 24 2014, the Criminal Law 2012 is publicly available online in Korean while the Criminal Law 2009 (Amended in 2009) is available online in both Korean and English.

2. Legislation Links

- Criminal Law 2012 (Adopted on March 3 1950, Last Amended and Supplemented on May 14 2012)

- Criminal Law 2009 (Adopted on March 3 1950 and Amended in 2009)

3. Extract of the legislation related to the counterfeit medicines

(1) Provisions related to offenses involving medicines and fake medicines
**Article 201 of the Criminal Law 2012 (Production of Defective Medicine and Medical Instruments)**

A person who produces defective medicine or medical instruments, or irresponsibly inspects medicine or medical instruments, thereby causing a patient to be stricken with serious illness or causing a patient to die shall be punished by short-term labor for not more than 1 year. In case where the foregoing act is grave, the punishment shall be reform through labor for not more than 3 years.

**Article 202 of the Criminal Law 2012 (Manufacture and Sales of Fake Medicine and Food)**

A person who knowingly makes and sells fake medicine or food that is harmful to health or life shall be punished by short-term labor for not more than 1 year. In cases where the foregoing act causes a person to be stricken with serious illness, to be disabled, or causes a person to die, the punishment shall be reform through labor for not more than 5 years. In cases where the foregoing act is grave, the punishment shall be reform through labor for not less than 5 years but not more than 10 years.

(2) Provisions related to drug offences
**Article 206 of the Criminal Law 2012 (Illegal Cultivation of Opium, Manufacture of Drugs or Poisonous Substances)**

A person who illegally grows opium poppies, or manufactures drugs or poisonous substances shall be punished by short-term labor for not more than 1 year. In cases where the foregoing act is grave, the punishment shall be reform through labor for not more than 5 years.

**Article 207 of the Criminal Law 2012 (Illegal Use of Drugs)**

A person who illegally uses drugs shall be punished by short-term labor for not more than 1 year.
In cases where the foregoing act is grave, the punishment shall be reform through labor for not more than 5 years.

**Article 208 of the Criminal Law 2012 (Smuggling and Illegal Trafficking of Drugs)**

A person who smuggles or illegally traffics drugs shall be punished by short-term labor for not more than 1 year. In cases where a large quantity of drugs is smuggled or illegally trafficked, the punishment shall be reform through labor for not more than 5 years. In cases where the foregoing act is grave, the punishment shall be reform through labor for not less than 5 years but not more than 10 years. In cases where a particularly large quantity of drugs is smuggled or illegally trafficked, the punishment shall be reform through labor for not less than 10 years. In cases where the foregoing act of Paragraph 3 is particularly grave, the punishment shall be life-term reform through labor or death penalty.