



Re: OT : so this is what our troops are dying for in Afghanistan !

I think that all companies that develop drugs need to be paid for the related costs. Did I specify "American"? Why do you accuse me of being an American chauvanist because I used the term "developed country"?

that benefit the whole world, including poor people who can't afford to pay much. That sounds awfully nice to me.

It sounds remarkably misinformed to me actually.

Why? Does Kenya develop a lot of new drugs? Do Kenyans need drugs?

But you can't allow the cheap drugs to be re-imported to the country of origin, or the whole thing collapses.

I'm surprised that I have to explain stuff like this.

You are ???

" re-imported to the country of origin " ??? What kind of nonsense is this ? It's actually cheaper to send something abroad and bring it back ? This is the economics of the madhouse !

I'm surprised people don't understand simple stuff like this.

It's daft. Another word for it is protectionism.

Well, please explain how drugs can be developed if they can't earn back the development costs. If AIDS drugs were sold at incremental production prices to third-world countries (which they are, and sometimes for less) and are reimported into the country of development (where they are still expensive to a population that can afford it) how can the companies afford to develop drugs? The alternative is to let all those Africans die if they can't pay full price; that's one economically viable solution.

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I have the same situation in my business. It can cost a couple of hundred thousand dollars to develop and launch a product that subsequently costs very little to manufacture. Should I amortize the development cost amongst production units, or ignore the one-time costs and price the products based solely on manufacturing costs with a modest profit? The selling price ratio, between these scenarios, might be 3:1 or so. Which should I do?

Should software be sold for the cost of the CD's that it's distributed on?

(Aside: I do now charge \$500 to set one bit in an EPROM.)

It's nothing short of Government sanctioned fraud IMHO.  
Whatever happened to free  
trade ?

Wanna discuss the way gray-market electronics is handled in Europe?

Please do.

Philips VCRs cost a lot more in Europe than they do in Bangkok, and it's illegal to buy them in Bangkok and resell them in Europe. Philips effectively owns them even after someone in Bangkok pays for them and takes legal title.

John

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