

From: [REDACTED] (SANTE)
Sent: 24 July 2020 15:58
To: GALLINA Sandra (SANTE); RYS Andrzej Jan (SANTE); RYAN John-F (SANTE)
Cc: [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE); [REDACTED] (SANTE)
Subject: BTO meeting with Farindustria on 22 July 2020

Dear Sandra,
Dear colleagues,

Please find below the BTO report of the meeting mentioned in subject.
Kind regards,
[REDACTED]

BTO meeting with Farindustria on 22 July 2020

Participants

SANTE: Sandra Gallina, [REDACTED] (DDG1), [REDACTED]
Farindustria: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (Brussels office), [REDACTED] (Dir. institutional affairs)

General information

This was a courtesy meeting with Farindustria (FI), the Italian association representing pharmaceutical companies, a member of the confederation of Italian industry and EFPIA. FI presented the importance of the Italian medicines sector in terms of production (€34bln), export value and employment (66.000 high skilled employees) and underlined that the sector is a strategic partner of the Commission in the EU pharmaceutical policy.

Priorities and Pharma strategy

FI welcomes the roadmap of the strategy and its focus on competitiveness. It recognized the importance given to making industry competitive globally. FI stressed the importance of industrial autonomy and EU independence on Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) as well as finished products. Support for innovation is another priority and welcomes EU action that will help industry to offset the large development costs of new medicines. In this respect the maintenance of the current EU IP protection system is necessary.

FI mentioned aims to attract a large portion of pharma R&D in Italy in the next 5 years. In this respect, EU-wide guidance for instance in the harmonisation of clinical trials and their streamlining with HTA needs is important. More cooperation is needed among MS to resolve administrative/legislative bottlenecks and achieve sustainability of health systems. FI mentioned that differences in purchasing power across the EU influences access to important medicines such as oncology and HIV, however the industry is resolved to working with the EU to improve access to medicines.

SANTE DDG stressed the strategy is a holistic endeavour and the health ecosystem perspective allows the Commission to combine action beyond pharmaceuticals in other

strategic sectors (such as trade, industry etc) so as to achieve the objectives outlined in the roadmap. Even though the EU4Health programme was significantly reduced in the MFF discussions, money is not a solution to all problems and it would be important to focus on carefully selected priorities which can achieve the positive results.

SANTE DDG referred to the emergency situation and the lessons learnt from the COVID-19 epidemic both in terms of fast track development and emergency procurement of medicines. The Pharma strategy is not about emergency measures only but about the overall approach in different issues of health.

As regards vaccines, the discussion focused on the need to make them available for everyone in the world including on how to secure and promote production in Europe.

END