



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Deputy Director General for Health responsible for Directorates B and C
Deputy Director-General

Brussels
SANTE.DDG1/

Dear Representatives of the Scientific Advisory Panel,

In the framework of the Commission Decision C(2020) 4192 final¹ on the agreement with Member States on procuring Covid-19 vaccines and the EU Strategy on COVID-19 vaccines², before taking the financing decision, the Commission has to take into account the following criteria:

“Before making any final decisions, the Commission will seek independent scientific advice on the state of progress and the available data on quality, safety and efficacy for the vaccine candidate in question.”

In this regard, the Commission addresses to the Independent Scientific Advisory Panel for a transparent and objective assessment of the vaccine candidates.

Based on the available information, the Advisory Panel is invited to provide a scientific advice on the following aspects concerning the vaccine producers and their vaccine candidates:

1. **State of progress of the vaccine candidate** (the phase of development of the research/ clinical trial/ elaboration of the vaccine).
2. **Available data on the quality of the vaccine candidate** (the soundness of the basic scientific approach and technology used, including the assessment of the testing methodology).
3. **Available data on the safety of the vaccine candidate** (the evidence related to safety already generated from the development phases).

¹ COMMISSION DECISION C(2020) 4192 final of 18.6.2020 approving the agreement with Member States on procuring Covid-19 vaccines on behalf of the Member States and related procedures: <http://www.cc.cec.sg/vista/home?documentDetails&DocRef=C/2020/4192&ticket=ST17143962zbhJo8Dzx1XifboFzzulImqsqqezcPkRe5xwdQGwbZ5d8dIGgEoYZEdXRljbkagiqslsbEMk3zXSm128sazMhV25gipJZscgsw0KXA5S7qkMNCunPg4RUQs3RsQSyumzTKqvrBbAwLzVxs1fvJhbRFRKOJY53oVXOhVJj2CYjo3GOIiuYpCVeYk98E5q201XDvLQ9>

² Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council and the European Investment Bank. EU Strategy on COVID-19 vaccines COM(2020) 245 final, adopted on 17 June 2020: https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/communication-eu-strategy-vaccines-covid19_en.pdf

4. Available data on the efficacy of the vaccine candidate (the coverage of different technologies: using a number of different types of platforms/production methods³).

The analysis is to be conducted on each vaccine candidate separately when the Commission is about to take a final decision on whether to conclude an Advance Purchase Agreement with the vaccine producer. The [REDACTED] candidates on which the Commission is considering taking a final decision are Astra Zeneca's and Sanofi's vaccines. The Commission will inform you of other relevant vaccine candidates and their vaccines as soon as possible with a view to seeking your independent scientific analysis.

Taking into consideration the parameters presented above, thank you in advance for your advice and the scientific opinion on the vaccine producers and their vaccine candidates.

Any Member that considers it has a conflict of interest that is likely to affect, or give rise to justifiable doubts as to, that member's impartiality in the assessment of a vaccine, shall recuse himself/herself from providing an opinion on this specific vaccine.

Yours sincerely,

Sandra Gallina

³ Such as nucleic-acid vaccines, viral-vector and protein-based vaccines.: <https://www.who.int/whodocuments-detail/draft-landscape-of-covid-19-candidate-vaccines>.