Minutes: Steering Board meeting, 11 September 2020

1. Update on the Sanofi contract

The Commission informed on state of play and process, namely that:

- work on the contract was nearly finished;
- the text would be cleaned up and submitted to the College approval most probably in the course of next week;

The Commission explained key elements of the contract, namely:

- the post marketing studies—
  (i) 
  (ii) 
- auditability;
- price per dose;
- delivery and distribution—

After the transmission of the contract to the Member States, a forthcoming Steering Board meeting would be partly dedicated to explain in detail its provisions and reply to the question of the Members on the text.

The Members of the Steering Board were informed that the company was also keen to get in contact with the representatives of the Member States and reply to any questions they may have.
2. State of play -topping-up ESI

The co-Chair ( and  recalled the outcome of Informal EPSCO Council where a majority of Member States:
(i) agreed to an enlarged portfolio of vaccine candidates;
(ii) indicated their willingness to contribute financially to top-up ESI, some subject to internal governmental procedures.

and  recalled that the and Commissioner Kyriakides sent a letter to the MSs inviting them to top-up the ESI according to the GNI, as suggested by DE.

The co-Chair asked, in a tour the table, for feedback regarding the willingness to top-up ESI for a broad portfolio.

An overwhelming majority of the Members expressly agreed to the top-up or (some) indicated their positive position pending official confirmation from the Governments

Some Members awaited the decision of the national Governments.

The co-Chair concluded that the vast majority of the MSs was very positive to the top-up and that none of the Members was negative.

Some MSs recalled the importance of solidarity and of a broad portfolio, some stressing that it should go beyond the 6+1.

3. Update Bazaar/EEA+ 

The SE representative updated the Members on the state of play of the Bazaar file, following the feedback received from the Member States, recalling that:

- all Member States agreed to forego doses to EEA and =
- the allocation table began distribution of available doses
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4. **Update on other contracts in [Company Redacted]**

**J&J** – work on the contract is ongoing.

**Moderna** - the opening of the tender and the appointment of the evaluation committee process will soon be launched.

**Curevac** - work on the contract is ongoing.

**BioNTech** - the deadline for submitting the tender expires on 19th of September.

Regarding the **AstraZeneca** Clinical trials, the Commission underlined that:

- while the postponement of CT in this instance was something that could normally happen;
- the safety of citizens was the top priority, which would never be compromised with the time required to ensure this in clinical trials;
- EMA was investigating this rare event to see whether it was linked to the vaccine;
- this was an example justifying the EU approach to invest in a diverse and broad portfolio of vaccine candidates, built with diversified technologies and platforms to ensure the best possible chance of finding a safe and effective vaccine.

The MSs representatives who took the floor fully agreed to these.

5. **AOB**

A briefing on liability will be provided at the next Steering Board meeting.