

Minutes: Steering Board meeting. 15 January 2021

1. Update on the allocation of doses ("Bazaar activities")

Two revised distributions on the top-up doses for **Moderna** and **BioNTech/Pfizer** were discussed ahead of the meeting. The "Bazaar" process for the additional Pfizer doses and Curevac was finally closed.

Members were reminded about the importance of (i) providing feedback **on time** on the Bazaar processes (some tables were opened for more than one month) and (ii) of staying united for the future contracts in order to benefit from the contractual clauses and prevent later issues.

Moderna -Top up

The Members were reminded to indicate as soon as possible whether they wanted or not top-up doses for Moderna vaccine, [REDACTED], and to indicate the wanted volume, as clarity was necessary on the overall top-up volume.

The Members were briefed about the details of the top-up offer (price) as well as the proposed schedule.

The Commission scheduled a Steering Board meeting with the representatives of Moderna, immediately after the ordinary SB so Members would have the possibility to seek for clarification to all their questions during this meeting.

Pfizer/BioNTech

In light of the rumours appeared on the same day regarding the [REDACTED] in deliveries of the Pfizer vaccine, the Commission organised a meeting after the SB meeting and [REDACTED] the company to stick to the schedule.

It was agreed that the company needed to deliver a clear schedule with clear deliverables.

It was clarified that the top-up would need to be endorsed by a new contract, in order to comply with the procurement procedures

As the interest of the MSs was high for the top up doses, the Commission stressed that the optional [REDACTED] doses could be inserted in the contract.

The Member agreed to distribute the [REDACTED] doses according to the pro rata principle and to open a pre-Bazaar process for the [REDACTED] optional top up.

COVAX

The Commission representative informed that on that day the WHO and COVAX would announce a contract with Pfizer for [REDACTED] doses in 2021 of which around [REDACTED] doses (final schedule still to be confirmed).

Some Members stressed that further discussions is necessary on how to manage the resale/donation in the current situation.

Regarding the donations, it was outlined that [REDACTED] groups were targeted:

- Reselling or donating to LMICs through WHO/COVAX-
- [REDACTED]
- Humanitarian aid for vulnerable people in non-deserved areas (refugee camps, conflict areas)

It was agreed that more concrete action was needed, therefore the MSs need to provide clarity regarding

- which MSs would like to resell/donate, on which quantities and timeframe
- the number of doses each MSs would like to resell /donate.

The Commission underlined that the resell/donations needed to respect the contractual provisions of the APAs [REDACTED]

Implementation of the contracts

The Commission stressed that it was making all the efforts to solve the issues linked to the implementation of the contracts and delivery schedules.

In light of the recent (on the same day) rumours regarding the delays in deliveries of the Pfizer vaccine , the Commission organised a meeting after the SB meeting and

Curevac- the Members were reminded that all the Order Forms needed to be sent by 22 January to the Commission.

Astra Zeneca-the company should send a [REDACTED] delivery schedule. The Company suggested to organize a meeting on Wednesday only on logistics.

Moderna – the company asked from the MSs for a list with contacts of national transporters, to address possible issues regarding the transport

Meeting with Moderna- on Top up doses

Moderna representatives stressed in their introductory remarks that:

- the company was expanding and made significant investments in Europe;
-

the price proposed to the EU MSs was [REDACTED]

;

- the vaccine produced Moderna had a high efficiency rate (95%);
- the company had two similar sources of supply : EU and US ;
- while the company would do it's best to supply EU MSs from European production, the [REDACTED] to supply as fast as possible would be [REDACTED]

The Commission clarified the value of the top up could impact the procedure.

The Company asked the MSs to indicate which of the three options submitted regarding the quantities would be retained by them.

The Company was informed that the Member States were still compiling the number of doses wanted which would provide a clearer idea on the overall volume in the course of the following week.

This would be communicated via a letter to the company immediately after.

Meeting with BioNTech/Pfizer

In order to urgently address the information appeared on the same days about the Pfizer deliveries, the Commission urgently convened a meeting between the company and the Steering Board.

Prior to the meeting with the MSs, the Commission:

- had informed the company about the fact that this situation [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] an acceptable solution [REDACTED]

A preparatory SB meeting was held where almost all the Members, in a *tour de table*, reported that the local representatives of [REDACTED] informed them on the same day

Additionally, some MSs stressed that they had [REDACTED]

During the meeting, almost all Member States intervened indicated that they were about the information received from Pfizer, that it was totally and it would in the implementation of the national vaccination strategies.

Pfizer representatives explained that:

- the company had developed a plan that would allow the scale-up of manufacturing capacities in Europe and deliver significantly more doses
- to accomplish this, certain modifications of production processes were required now. As a result, [REDACTED] would experience a temporary reduction in the number of doses delivered;
- the company heard the Member States and proposed as a solution that reduction in the number of doses delivered would only affect the upcoming week [REDACTED];
- the company reassured that they would be back to the original schedule 100% of deliveries to the European Union beginning the week of **January 25**, with **increased delivery** beginning week of **February 15** resulting in their ability to deliver the fully committed quantity of vaccine doses in the first quarter and significantly more in the second quarter;
- the company would inform about updated delivery schedules the European Commission, EU member states and other countries impacted by the changes.