Minutes: Steering Board meeting 26 February and 5 March 2021

26 February

COVAX – state of play and nomination of EU candidates to co-chair the Shareholders Council

The Steering Board meeting was mostly dedicated to a discussion among the Members of the SB on the proposals for candidates to Co-chair the COVAX Shareholders Council.

Following a long discussion in a tour de table, the Members agreed to shortlist two candidates: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

Since some Members were not ready to present their position, it was agreed that further consultations would be held in writing and that a final decision would be taken at the next SB meeting.

Update on the allocation of doses (Bazaar) activities

Members discussed the allocation of doses for the Pfizer top-up optional doses. Members agreed by consensus to proceed quickly with the 100M allocation and only after to enter in discussions about securing more doses (in 2022 and beyond) to have capacity to manage re-vaccinations and dealing with mutations.

SOS doses- Members were asked to help three MSs that have clusters and a very high death rate.

It was explained how the allocation of doses would go to the SOS Member States, namely that: (i) [REDACTED]

Members were asked to reply (also in writing after the meeting) if they could agree to this approach.

Members underlined the necessity of creating a “SOS delivery mechanism”.

Update on ongoing negotiations and on discussions with other companies

Valneva- the Members were informed in detail on the key elements (delivery schedule, upfront payment) still under discussion.

Novavax- discussions on the contract were ongoing. The Members were informed in detail on key elements of the contract still under discussion.
5 March

Update from Moderna on the delivery schedule

Moderna representatives presented:

- an update of the estimated weekly delivery schedule
- an outlook of the estimated delivery schedule for
- a quarterly estimated delivery schedule.

Overall update from CureVac

Curevac representatives presented:

1. Clinical update

   It was outlined:
   
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   Reading the new variants it was outlined that:
   
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2. Path to the Marketing Authorisation

   The representatives of the company presented the progress and the path towards EMA approval,

3. CMO Network, manufacturing and stability

   Members of the SB welcomed the presentation but expressed again concerns over the fact that the company had outlined delays in supplies
The Members asked questions on the shelf file, the characteristics of the vaccine (eg. diluent) and what were the causes of the delivery decrease.

**COVAX – update on the state of play. Shareholders Council: preparation and nomination of EU candidate**

Following another round of discussion it was agreed by consensus that the [redacted] would be supported by all EU MS to Co-chair the COVAX Shareholders Council.

**Update on the allocation of doses (Bazaar) activities**

**Pfizer top-up optional doses:** a revised distribution for the top up options was discussed.

[redacted] took the initiative along with other MSs that volunteered to set up a “SOS delivery mechanism”.

**Update on the implementation of contracts and deliveries**

**Moderna:** the Template Vaccine Order Form was to be sent after the meeting, to be filled in and signed by Participating Member States.

**BioNTech/Pfizer:** those Members who had not sent the Vaccine Order Form (VOF) for the contracted doses under the Purchase Agreement were requested to do so.

**Update on ongoing negotiations and on discussions with other companies**

**Novavax:** the Members were informed on the discussion of the Evaluation committee.

**Valneva:** the Members were informed in detail on discussion on the key elements (eg. upfront payment).
Considering the difficult discussion with the company caused by the contractual demands difficult to accommodate, some MSs underlined that priority should be given and resources redirected towards work on other contracts, while other MSs expressed the wish to continue negotiations.

**Sputnik vaccine**

It was outlined that developers expressed their interest that the vaccine be considered for a rolling review. This was agreed and the start of the rolling review assessment started on 4 March.

Some Members stressed concerns (especially regarding the presumed clinical trials without consent) and underlined that GMP, GLP and GSP inspections must be carried out ahead of authorisation.

Several MSs informed of bilateral agreements.

**Update from Janssen on the delivery schedule**

The representatives of Janssen provided a regulatory update as well as an update regarding the supply chain.

On the regulatory EU process, the company outlined that:

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Regarding the supply chain, the company outlined:

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