

From: [REDACTED] (SANTE)

Sent: 08 October 2020 11:58

To: GALLINA Sandra (SANTE); (SANTE); RYS Andrzej Jan
(SANTE); (SANTE); SANTE);
(SANTE); (SANTE); (SANTE); (SANTE);
SANTE); (SANTE);
(SANTE); SANTE); SANTE);

Cc: SANTE CONSULT-B5

Subject: BTO - Meeting with the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME), 7 Oct 2020

BTO – Meeting with the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CMPE), 7 Oct 2020

Participants:

CPME:

DG SANTE: Sandra Gallina

The meeting was courtesy meeting allowing Ms Gallina to meet CMPE to exchange views on current health issues of interest to doctors. CMPE was briefly introduced and Ms Gallina acknowledged CMPE as a key stakeholder and doctors' role in the fight against COVID-19.

CMPE expressed concern about the cut of the **EU4Health programme**. Ms Gallina agreed that the cut was regrettable, but proposed budget still quadruples the current Health Programme and with the political focus on health evidenced by the **SOTEU** and the recent European Council conclusion, funding for health initiatives should be available through other sources like the recovery fund or by Member States.

Ms Gallina outlined briefly the autumn package with 1) the revision of the cross border threats decision and of the mandates of ECDC and EMA, 2) BARDA, and 3) the Pharma Strategy.

On the **Pharma Strategy**, Ms Gallina explained that DG SANTE was committed to ensure affordability of medicines for small Member States and that inequalities between Member States in access were not acceptable. The Strategy would also consider innovation and the role of industry. The Strategy will have to strike a difficult balance between many objectives and cannot please everybody on all issues. The aim was to publish the Strategy the end of November. To manage expectations, Ms Gallina pointed out that the full implementation of the Strategy will be lengthy because it requires legislative changes.

CPME asked about concrete ideas to maintain **supply of medicines in the EU**. Ms Gallina explained that the **Pharma Strategy** will include actions in this area in the context of an open strategic autonomy. She put forward the ideas that industry should be able to scale up production quickly in times of crisis and that diversification of supply is necessary also for PPE, which CPME supported. CPME brought up value-based pricing, in particular on patented medicines, where price mechanisms are necessary to allow less wealthy MS access to these products. Ms Gallina stressed the importance of price transparency.

There was a short exchange on the EU Vaccine Strategy where also subsidiarity was touched upon. Ms Gallina stressed the EU added value in health has been demonstrated by the stronger common EU

position in the negotiations of the vaccine APAs with industry. Ms Gallina reassured CPME that COVID vaccines in EU will be approved only after rigorous assessment of appropriate data and that a very strict separation is maintained between EMA as assessment body and the vaccine APA negotiations.

On digital health, CPME inquired about the governance of the EU Health Data Space and stressed the need to protect personal data and that the data space have to be useable for end users.

Finally, CPME asked about initiatives for the health workforce based on covid lessons learnt, to which Ms Gallina replied that actions are currently being explored in the Commission.

CPME invited DG SANTE to listen in on a dedicated meeting on the health workforce.