

## Minutes: Steering Board Meeting, 17 September 2020

### **1. EU position in COVAX – debrief on the latest developments and way forward**

The European Commission (EC) underlined:

- its interest to participate in the COVAX Facility for equitable access to affordable COVID-19 vaccines;
- the EU joint engagement taken by the Commission and Member States to mobilize resources in a coherent and efficient way in the context of the EU Global Response to Coronavirus;
- that Team Europe was ready to put its expertise and resources at work within COVAX to accelerate and scale-up development and manufacturing of a global supply of vaccines for citizens across the world;
- that the European Commission targeted a €400 million contribution, as is part of this Team Europe effort.

The [redacted] recalled that:

- Member States called for an EU consolidated approach and not 27 individual commitments in COVAX;
- the message for a coordinated EU (EC + Member State) approach towards participation in and support to COVAX was clearly outlined to GAVI;
- however, some Member States received requests for individual commitments/purchase agreements from GAVI, to be signed by 18<sup>th</sup> September .

- [redacted]
- [redacted]
  - [redacted]

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

In order for the EU (COM and Members States) contribution to be as meaningful as possible:

- the EU will contribute to the upfront payment ;
- since the participation of countries in the Governing body is for self-financing countries, the EU contribution will automatically allow all EU MS participate in the COVAX shareholders Council;
- the doses will be transferred to developing countries, ;
- participation for all MSs in the self-financing part [Redacted]

It was also outlined that any additional contribution of MSs would be more useful in the Advance Market Commitment pillar (AMC), considering that the upfront payment in the self-financing pillar is already covered with the EU contribution.

Regarding the questions raised by the MSs [Redacted] the [Redacted] clarified that:

- the ongoing process did **NOT** exclude MSs, but it was a collective effort by the COM and MSs within the Team Europe [Redacted] ;
- the ongoing process was **NOT** excluding or discriminating any vaccine – which can be available to the EU market provided that they are assessed by EMA and go through the EU authorization process;
- we are committed to universality of vaccines- one example being the almost 2,7 billion upfront payment the EU was investing that secures not only the interest of the EU citizens but also production capacity for the whole world;

Commission confirmed that a Press statement would be published on the deadline the 18 September.

