

Minutes: Steering Board meeting, 27 November 2020

1. Update on the Moderna and BioNTech /Pfizer contracts

The Members were informed on the state of play, key elements of the contracts, on the next steps and were able to seek clarifications to their questions.

[REDACTED] for Moderna would be open after the meeting and Members would be asked to provide feedback on the base volume but also, in parallel, express preferences as regards the optional doses. [REDACTED]

The Commission provided details as regards the deadlines for MSs to provide feedback on the different Bazaar processes.

2. Short update on the AZ contract

The Commission informed the Members on several aspects regarding the implementation of the AZ contract, as outlined below:

- AZ will propose an updated **delivery schedule** that will be presented at the next Steering Board meeting;
- Members were drawn the attention that not all Member States sent the **Customer set up forms** to AZ [REDACTED] and were encouraged to do so as soon as possible;
- a Q&A document would be shared with the Members via the secured [REDACTED] transmission.

A **scientific/ technical update by AstraZeneca** would be organised. Members were encouraged to extend the invitation to experts and to ask all relevant questions during the meeting.

3. Update on contracts [REDACTED] and on discussions with other companies

Novavax - a meeting was organised aiming to clarify the [REDACTED] key issues ([REDACTED]).

Valneva - [REDACTED] on the structure of the contract, on price, delivery and payment schedules and options. The Steering Board should decide on launching the

contract process. It was outlined that Valneva proposed a different technology and Members agreed it would be useful to have it in the portfolio.

█ - as discussions with the company were concluded, the Steering Board should decide on launching the contract process.

█ a number of exploratory discussions were carried so far.

4. Vaccination strategies

Given the various (centralised/decentralised) strategies in the Member States, the Members enquired about the best framework for a discussion in the SB.

The Commission and the Members agreed on the importance of **unity** amongst the Member States regarding the implementation of the vaccines strategies.

The importance of **waiting for the formal evaluation** and the **(conditional) marketing authorisation** was also underlined. Such authorisation provides for a controlled and robust framework for assessment and is different from Emergency Use Authorisations, which will be used by other countries.

█

The Members expressed the wish to have a **platform** where to share the **national vaccination strategies**, which are also discussed in the HSC.

█ informed about the creation of an informal **Group on Vaccination Strategy and Logistics** and invited MSs to attend and to extend the invitation to the experts on vaccination strategy and/ or logistics.

5. COVAX

The Commission provided an update on the state of play on the **COVAX APAs** and informed that █ doses were negotiated (via MoUs), as follows:

- █,
- █,
- █ with the █ (█ and █)

█ presented at length the **concept paper on donations**, outlining:

- (i) the **objectives**- securing access to the vaccine for the top priority group and the most vulnerable around the world;

- (ii) the **principles**: it was outlined that an EU-coordinated approach was essential and that deciding at the EU level allowed setting up one efficient mechanism to channel donations and make sure they are allocated where they are most needed;
- (iii) options for the concrete functioning of an **EU-coordinated donation mechanism** based on the EU Covid-19 vaccines' portfolio.

Furthermore, [REDACTED] indicate that:

- the donation mechanism should provide [REDACTED]
- to avoid logistical hurdles and save costs, the donation mechanism should envisage the **direct sending of the doses to the recipient**.

The Members were encouraged to provide comments on the paper. A **subgroup on vaccine donation**, reporting to the Steering Board, will be set up. Member States will be invited to nominate representatives in this subgroup.

The Commission also underlined that:

- the EU MSs should donate together thus to build a common EU pot of vaccines;
- three target groups have been identified: [REDACTED].