

Minutes: Steering Board meeting, 25 September 2020

1. Bazaar/EEA [REDACTED] file- final status

The Commission will circulate again the final version of the AstraZeneca allocation table, in order to enable the Steering Board of 2nd of October to endorse it.

The possible date for sending the binding allocation by the Commission to AstraZeneca is the [REDACTED] October. Such date would trigger the [REDACTED] for the MSs to sign and enter the Order Forms. This step will also be finally endorsed at the next Steering Committee on 2nd of October.

The Commission recalled the following contractual provisions:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

The Commission reminded the Members that the allocation would have to be [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ([REDACTED]). Therefore, the minimum batch and size of a stock keeping unit (SKU) [REDACTED].

The Commission followed up briefly with information on payment [REDACTED] provisions.

2. [REDACTED] final status

The Commission thanked the Members for the positive replies received so far from a majority of Member States expressing their willingness to [REDACTED] and invited the Members States that did not reply to do so.

Furthermore, the Commission informed that Member States needed to appoint a person to whom the letter of acceptance [REDACTED] should be sent, in order for [REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

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

J&J and Curevac - work progresses well. The signature of the two contracts will, most probably, take place in the coming weeks.

Moderna – the issue linked to [REDACTED] is [REDACTED] to continue with the process.

BioNTech- the [REDACTED] was to be constituted in the next days.

Novavax – the Member of the SB were informed about the latest moves [REDACTED] the exploratory discussions were finalized, leaving the next steps up to the MS's political decision.

Valneva - the Members were informed on discussions regarding several aspects of the possible offer with a request to be clear on the doses each Member State would want.

4. Strategic discussion about expanding the current portfolio of 6+1

A number of MSs [REDACTED] pleaded for a broader Portfolio and for the continuation of discussions and possible negotiations with companies beyond the 6+1.

The [REDACTED] the Members to reflect on how to approach strategically a future expansion of the current portfolio and proposed to discuss the issue at the next meetings of the Steering Board.

5. Details necessary for planning of logistics in the implementation of contracts

The Commission asked companies to provide information on characteristics of each vaccine, which would be shared with the Member States.

The Commission also underlined that coordination with the Health Security Committee needed to be ensured, in the context in which MSs needed to order the material necessary to run vaccination campaigns.

A joint procurement procedure on the supply of medical equipment for COVID-19 vaccination should be launched in the coming days.

6. COVAX

In a separate meeting, dedicated to COVAX, the European Commission informed on:

- its participation in the COVAX Facility for equitable access to affordable COVID-19 vaccines, following its expression of interest on 31 August and its announcement of a contribution [REDACTED];

- the fact that, initially, the contribution was foreseen [REDACTED]

This approach was taken in order to reply to the immediate needs for [REDACTED] and to allow GAVI to start APAs negotiations as soon as possible.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] showed support to the COVAX facility and indicated openness to bilateral contributions.

The Commission concluded by thanking MSs for their united approach, which allowed the EU and all MS to participate in COVAX and to contribute with the largest donation so far, providing urgently needed funds to GAVI to start APAs negotiations.

The Commission recalled the objective of raising \$2bn funds to purchase doses for low and medium income countries.

Member States were invited to inform on the pledges announced or to be announced for funding doses to be the benefit of COVAX AMC.