

Minutes: Steering Board Meeting, 17 August 2020

The [redacted] verified that all participants attending the meeting had signed the declaration of confidentiality and absence of conflict of interest.

1. Update on AstraZeneca contract transmission

Before the meeting, the European Commission (EC) received [redacted] confirmations that Member States (MS) successfully completed the opening operation of the encrypted AstraZeneca (AZ) contract. The confirmations were received from the following MSs: [redacted]

[redacted] Member States ([redacted]) had not sent the confirmation before the meeting.

[redacted] asked the European Commission Secretariat to resend both the password and the contract due to the absence of representatives previously nominated to receive them. During the meeting, [redacted] and [redacted] confirmed that they received both the password and the contract. Both countries promised to follow up by sending a confirmation email as soon as possible, as per the circulated *Vademecum on Contract Transmission*. [redacted] promised to contact colleagues in the [redacted] administration to ensure that the contract reached them in good order.

Note post meeting: 27 MS confirmed that they received and were able to open the contract.

EC confirmed that the AZ vaccine doses allocation would be pro rata (Eurostat population data see document below). A complete vaccination regimen for this vaccine consists of 2 doses.

At the meeting, none of the Member States informed of a potential opt out from pro rata allocation of doses. Some Member States highlighted that they will be using the option [redacted].

AZ vaccine to EEA countries

In the original agreement between four MS and AZ a commitment was included to allocate some doses to the EEA countries [redacted]. Due to the use of the ESI that is not under the EEA, such doses could not be directly apportioned from the EC contract with AZ. However, the EC contract foresees [redacted]

[redacted]. MS agreed that a collective effort should be made to allocate doses to the EEA countries [redacted]. In practice, each MS will give away [redacted] of its pro rata allocation for the benefit of EEA countries [redacted]. The doses allocated to the EEA countries [redacted] will be directly included in the allocation and distribution table. [redacted]

[redacted] repaying into the ESI instrument. None of the MS disagreed with the approach. The process is managed by MS

and coordinated by [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] mentioned that a final confirmation/practical arrangements will be concluded at a next Steering Board meeting.

3. Q&A on AZ contract

The objective of the Q&A session was to give MS an opportunity to ask any remaining questions on the AZ contract. Clarifications provided at the meeting are noted below.

Timeline of delivery

[REDACTED]

Post Market monitoring studies

[REDACTED]

Relationship between APA and the EU Public Procurement Directive

The Public Procurement Directive 2014/24/EC does not apply in the specific case of APA and APA does not need to be implemented using provisions of the national procurement law. As it is a procurement at the EU level, it is governed by the provisions of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 (the Financial Regulation) and Council Regulation (EU) 2016/369 on the provision of emergency support within the Union, as amended by Council Regulation (EU) 2020/521[3] (Article 4(5)(b) in particular).

Declaration of confidentiality and of absence of conflict of interests

EC confirmed that anyone who has access to the AZ contract or any other confidential information for the purpose of analysis and decision making process would need to sign the declaration of confidentiality and of absence of conflict of interests.

Action: EC to circulate the updated declaration of confidentiality and of absence of conflict of interests. *(done post meeting)*

Minimum number of doses

MS have to buy all doses allocated pro rata or opt out from receiving all of them. The pro rata national allocation cannot be reduced or split into smaller “packages”, however, [REDACTED] MS can buy additional doses if they wish to do so.

5 days opt-out vs National Holidays

Public holidays declared in the EU register will be taken into account and the period for deciding the opt-out will be extended accordingly

Cost of delivery

AZ will deliver the vaccine to identified national distribution hubs. [REDACTED]. Distribution within the countries to vaccination places will need to be organised by each MS taking into account national vaccination programmes' needs.

[REDACTED]

The finalisation of the [REDACTED] clause was done on the basis of the position discussed in the previous Steering Committee meeting. The [REDACTED] as explained earlier. Pro rata allocation

The allocation will be calculated using Eurostat population data. Table embedded below depicts percentage allocation per Member State.



Pro-rata adjusted +
EUROSTAT.pdf

[REDACTED] doses batches

[REDACTED] define the exact minimum size of the vaccine batch. [REDACTED] Member States agreed that minimum size of a batch poses a logistic challenge for which close collaboration between neighbouring MS will be needed.

3. Feedback on meeting with companies

The negotiations are ongoing with BioNTech, CureVac and Moderna. For the latter an offer might be presented shortly.