

Minutes: Steering Board meeting 5 and 7 February 2021

1. Joint Procurement of monoclonal antibodies

The Commission informed the Members of the Steering Board of:

- the fact that it was in discussion with several companies that are developing monoclonal antibodies (mAB) as possible new therapeutics for COVID-19 ;
- the countries that expressed interest to participate in a Joint Procurement of mAB;
- the next steps, including online presentations of the products under development by the companies for the members of the JP Steering Committee.

SANTE also informed that EMA was applying Article 5.3 to two mAB in advanced stages of the development and would issue an opinion in 2-3 weeks upon which Member States may decide to issue a national emergency use authorization.

Some Members indicated that they were setting groups of experts on monoclonal antibodies.

Some Member States expressed their interest to stick to the Joint Procurement instrument [redacted] asking for a more flexible approach. National emergency use authorizations may also have to be considered.

The chair concluded that:

- SANTE would continue the joint procurement procedures with the different companies;
- an emergency use authorization would need to be decided at national level;
- asked Member States to get back to the Commission (DG SANTE) by 8 February.

BioNTech/Pfizer

The Members were informed that discussions on the new APA were advancing, [redacted]

The Members were made aware of [redacted] pending issues: [redacted]

The Members were informed that the company would not [redacted] and this was accepted by the Members of the Steering Board.

Some MSs stressed the urgency of concluding the APAs in the context of big political pressure and high expectation that this is done as soon as possible. Some Members called not to waste too much time on additional clauses [redacted]), as this could further delay the process.

Moderna

The Members were informed that the [redacted] expired the day prior to the SB meeting and that work on the draft contract was already ongoing based on [redacted]

The draft could be ready for discussion and endorsement of the SB for the following week.

Novavax

The Members were informed on [redacted] progress of the negotiations and on a number of pending key issues still to be clarified with the company:

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

Valneva- work on the contract was ongoing.

COVAX

The Commission informed the Members that COVAX:

- announced in the course of the week the first rollout of vaccines – by end of February [redacted] doses of the Pfizer vaccine would be shipped to [redacted] countries;
- is rolling out the vaccine produced by AstraZeneca;
- WHO was assessing data from [redacted] and [redacted] plants which produce vaccines destined for low and middle income countries.

Meeting of the SB with AstraZeneca –Update on delivery from AstraZeneca

[redacted]

- [redacted]
- [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



Minutes: Steering Board meeting 7 February 2021

An extraordinary Steering Board meeting was conveyed on Sunday, 7 February on the BioNTech-Pfizer Purchase Agreement, in order to:

- update the Members on the latest developments ;
- present the contract and its key elements;
- get the approval of the Steering Board , which would allow finalising the process;
- inform on the next steps in the procedure.



[REDACTED]

The Members received detailed information of the key/additional elements.

The Members States welcomed the content of the contract and agreed to its adoption by the Commission on the following day. The Purchase Agreement was to be transmitted to the Member States [REDACTED] on following day, which would trigger the five day opt out period. None of the MSs indicated a bank holiday during the opt out period.

None of the Members States indicated any intention to opt out.

Moderna

After a long discussion, the SB agreed to go ahead with the top up of [REDACTED] doses.

As regards the [REDACTED], two MSs requested more doses than previously communicated.

Although the MSs benefitting of th [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] it was finally agreed to take account the request of the [REDACTED] MSs.

A new [REDACTED] would be circulated for final approval at the next Steering Board.