

Minutes: Steering Board meeting 22 January 2021

1. Update from AstraZeneca on the delivery schedule

AZ stated that they **expected an opinion by EMA** [REDACTED]

AZ went on to present the **updated delivery schedule.** [REDACTED]

However, this still being worked on and needs to be confirmed.

In [REDACTED]

The Members of the SB asked to understand the reasons of delay and decrease of delivery numbers.

Furthermore, the the Commission and the Members of the SB asked:

- for precise delivery schedule for the first releases;
- to reduce the long timeline between approval and delivery;
- for a clear chronogram and from where the doses would be shipped;
- for a clear presentation of the schedule to allow a precise planning for rolling out;
- for an improvement in figures for March;
- deplored the lack of earlier notification from the company on the decreased volumes;
- if the figures given for Q3 and Q4 in the APA were still reliable;

- for public communication from AZ about the decrease as this would create a lot of concerns at high political level;
- for clear volumes numbers for the production for the next quarters;
- [REDACTED]

2. Update on the implementation of contracts and deliveries

AstraZeneca

Following the meeting with AZ the Members further discussed and expressed concerns regarding the delivery of AZ vaccines in Europe.

3. COVAX

Latest updates were provided on COVAX, noting that on the 22 January:

- COVAX announced the signing of an advance purchase agreement for up to 40 million doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine; [REDACTED]
- Additionally, COVAX announced that, pending WHO emergency use listings, nearly 150 million doses of the AstraZeneca/Oxford candidate are anticipated to be available in Q1 2021, via existing agreements with the Serum Institute of India (SII) and AstraZeneca.
- COVAX is therefore on track to deliver at least 2 billion doses by the end of the year, including at least 1.3 billion doses to 92 lower income economies in the Gavi COVAX AMC.

3.1 Pfizer-BioNTech

COVAX, the global initiative to ensure rapid and equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines for all countries, regardless of income level, announced on 22 January the signing of an advance purchase agreement with Pfizer for up to 40 million doses of the **Pfizer-BioNTech** vaccine candidate, which has already received WHO emergency use listing.

[REDACTED]

3.2 AstraZeneca

In further support of its mission to expedite early availability of vaccines to lower-income countries and help bring a rapid end to the acute stage of the COVID-19 pandemic, COVAX also confirmed on the 22 January that it would exercise an option – [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The WHO review process, which is currently underway, follows approval for restricted use in emergency situations by the Drugs Controller General of India earlier this month, and is a critical aspect of ensuring that any vaccine procured through COVAX is fully quality assured for international use. According to the latest WHO update, a decision on this vaccine candidate is anticipated by the middle of February.

3.3 Update on COVAX and common approach for donations

Regarding donations, there are already well advanced discussions with Moldova, Ukraine and the Western Balkan countries to help them to be prepared to receive the vaccines.

4. Update on ongoing negotiations and on discussions with other companies

CureVac

The Commission explained that the Allocation table had been sent to CureVac on 13/01/2021. The Commission reminded Member States to send their Vaccine Order Forms by Monday 25/01/2021.

Novavax

The contract is drafted and shared with Novavax. The contract will be discussed with the [REDACTED].

Valneva

[REDACTED], with a deadline tonight. A process similar to [REDACTED] has been applied.

Janssen

A meeting would be organised next week to receive a scientific update and the regulatory and delivery schedule update.

5. Meeting with BioNTech-Pfizer -delivery schedule

Following the previously [REDACTED], the representatives of BioNTech-Pfizer stressed that the company:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

- had been assisting countries in their transition [REDACTED]; the company explained they were working on a mechanism to support MS in a 2-week transition period.
- BioNTech has reached out to support them with access to relevant needles/syringes;
- BioNTech would provide feedback on how the support mechanism will work next weeks.