

Minutes: Steering Board meeting, 13 November 2020

1. Update on Bazaar for Johnson & Johnson and BioNTech/Pfizer

A big part of the meeting was dedicated to discussions on the Bazaar process.

A *tour de table* was carried to check if Member States were happy with the attribution based on their feedback and reflected in the Bazaar tables, which outline a fair distribution according to the pro rata of the surplus from the MSs wanting less to those countries that want more.

In the context in which BG announced that it would like to benefit from the Janssen vaccines after having opted-out from the contract, a discussion was carried on how Member States could accommodate this request.

2. Update on contracts in the tendering phase

This session was dedicated to a comprehensive presentation of the **CureVac** APA.

Key elements of the contract were presented and explained in great detail to the members.

Elements illustrated include:

- information about the characteristics of the vaccine (dosage);
- number of doses;
- price, upfront payment and payment schedule;
- delivery schedule;
- delivery condition (temperature, shelf life)
- resale and donation clause;
- liability and indemnification provisions;
- termination clauses etc.

The Members were reminded about the **confidentiality** rules regarding the information from the contracts.

The Members were also reminded about the importance of finalising the **ESI top-up process**, in order to be able to advance the upfront payments as agreed.

3. COVAX

The Members were invited to comment on three issues and endorse (in writing by Monday 16 November) the EU position on:

- Opting in or out from three vaccine COVAX portfolio candidates: AstraZeneca, Sanofi/GSK and BionTech/Pfizer;
- Nomination of co-chairs and participants in the Executive Committee under the COVAX Shareholders Council.

It was outlined that :

- the Executive Committee, a sub-group of the Shareholders Council was set up with 12 participants, 3 per WHO region;
 - the Shareholders Council invited each of the four WHO regions to nominate three participants;
 - the EU represented the biggest part of the European region and was the largest donor to COVAX;
 - the Shareholders Council was also invited to nominate two co-chairs.
- M-RNA vaccines in COVAX portfolio

It was explained that :

- at the Shareholders Council meeting on 2 November, participants received information on cost, regulatory approval and logistical implications of m-RNA vaccines in the COVAX portfolio (so far BionTech/Pfizer and Moderna);
- participants were invited to express support or reserves about m-RNA vaccines in COVAX portfolio.

Regarding **donations**, it was underlined that EU should lead by example and be the first one to start donations. This might trigger other countries to take the same approach.

It was also outlined that vaccines were purchased jointly at EU level, an EU coordinated approach regarding donation was therefore necessary.

The question of ESI funding in the context of donations was raised. Normally, the ESI funding from the doses donated should be returned back to the Commission, unless all 27 Member States participate in a common EU pool of vaccines for donations.