

Minutes: Steering Board meeting, 19 August 2020

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

1. Update on discussions with CureVac

The Joint Negotiation Team concluded discussions with CureVac [REDACTED]

JNT presented details of each element of the agreement to the Steering Board and responded to detailed questions. The agreement with CureVac includes a commitment to buy doses (Article 4 of the Agreement between European Commission and MS), however, [REDACTED]

This is [REDACTED] mRNA vaccine [REDACTED]. The company has an EU based manufacturing base and plans to supply first doses in [REDACTED]

Steering Board Members congratulated the JNT team for reaching a good agreement with the company. The EC will send [REDACTED] to CureVac shortly. As for other companies, EC will also publish a press release. Scientific presentation will be organised as soon as the company submits [REDACTED]. However, the scientific advisers in the session organised for the Steering Board had already expressed a positive opinion on the vaccine.

[REDACTED] informed all Steering Board members that [REDACTED]. Furthermore, the [REDACTED] representative shared the timeline for CureVac for different stages of clinical studies. Clinical stage 1 is now completed.

2. Update on discussions with Moderna

The discussions are [REDACTED] liability.

3. Update on discussions with BioNTech

The discussions are [REDACTED] agreed.

4. Update on discussions with Sanofi

The evaluation process is ongoing. The team had a productive meeting on the drafting of the contract.

5. Update on discussions with J&J

The deadline for submitting the [REDACTED]

6. AZ contract

Member States were reminded of the 5 days opt out period for the AZ contract, which for most of MS elapses on Friday 21 August. For [REDACTED], who have national holidays, the deadline is on Monday 24 August. The EC will distribute the pro rata allocation table based on Eurostat 2020 data.

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

7. Covax

The EU continues to support the COVAX facility. The deadline for the Members States to react to the invitation of joining the facility is now postponed to 31st August. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] More information will be provided at the upcoming Steering Board meeting. One of the outstanding issue stressed by several COVAX participants and currently discussed is [REDACTED].

The EU is also indirectly supporting the availability of the vaccines for the global community by giving money to vaccine producers for development and manufacturing vaccines via APAs. Once vaccines are developed, everyone will benefit from them.