



Equitable Access Committee meeting – 23 February 2023

Attendees: Cherry Kang, David Reddy, Githinji Gitahi

CEPI staff: Frederik Kristensen, Emma Wheatley, Rachel Grant (presenter) Mel Saville, Kwasi Amfo, Oyeronke Oyebanji

Apologies: Mike Ryan, Rizka Andalucia

Opening and Communications plan for Equitable Access Framework – David and Rachel

In the absence of a quorum, the minutes of the last meeting were not endorsed.

The Equitable Access Framework (EAF) was discussed during the meeting, with the Committee emphasizing its importance. Rachel Grant provided a summary of the communication plan for the EAF, highlighting ongoing debates around equitable access and the need for CEPI to create a credible space to operate.

The communication plan has three key phases with objectives for each phase, broad principles, and key risks. It was emphasized that this is not a launch of a new policy or strategy but a continuation of the work CEPI has done and continues to do. The CEPI Secretariat requested guidance and inputs from the EAC on the communications plan in advance of the Board meeting in March.

Topic I: Comments on the EAF Communications plan:

The Committee found the document well-written and recognized the importance of the discussion. Anchoring points for the EAF, including UNGA and WHA were discussed as was strengthening the multistakeholder push, especially in engaging with more diverse platforms that include Global South countries. The need to engage the Global South as part of the communication plan was emphasized. It was also suggested that CEPI explore joining the Access to Medicine Index.

The Committee emphasized the need to be clear on how the communication of the EAF is positioned, both for the Board and external audiences. The Committee agreed that given the Board has approved the Framework, the communications plan should be for information only.

ACTIONS

The EAC agreed to meet in-person on the sidelines of the Board to discuss links between strategic partnerships and equitable access.

Action points included adjusting the paper to take into consideration the deliberate and organized outreach across the organization and specifying which divisions will do that, engagement with CSOs and Gavi CSO platform, and plans for engagement with Global South countries and initiatives. There was also an intent to actively explore becoming part of Access to Medicines. Management was tasked with supporting the preparation for the in-person EAC meeting on the sidelines of the Board.