Summary of CEPI JCG Meeting

Teleconference, 27 March 2020

Chair

- Peggy Hamburg

Invited

- Svein Rune Andersen
- Haj Bally
- Daniel Brasseur
- Emanuele Capobianco
- Marco Cavaleri
- Emer Cooke
- Jakob Cramer
- Luc Debruyne
- Rihana Diabo
- Mark Feinberg
- Rebecca Grais
- Marion Gruber
- Nagwa Hasanin
- Richard Hatchett
- Ana Maria Henao Restrepo
- Elen Høeg
- Frederik Kristensen
- Paul Kristiansen
- Murray Lumpkin
- Nicole Lurie
- Diadie Maiga
- Manuel Martin
- Sophie Mathewson
- Giada Mattiuzzo
- Wilson Mok
- Robin Nandy
- Aurelia Nguyen
- Dawn O'Connell
- Mark Page
- Muhammad Ali Pate
- Shannon Quinlan
- Helen Rees
- Jim Robinson
- Jodie Rogers
- Melanie Saville
- Joseph Simmonds-Issler
- Els Torreele
- Charlie Weller
- Greg Widmyer
- Debra Yeskey

Summary

The JCG met by teleconference to discuss the ongoing COVD 19 pandemic and ways in which the JCG members can help in the global response.

Peggy Hamburg, JCG Chair, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and acknowledging the recent very large donations to CEPI by the UK and Norway.

Richard Hatchett, CEPI CEO, shared the current state of CEPI's response including: detail around the 8 vaccine programs CEPI is currently funding; the likelihood that another two will be announced soon; the internal work going on at CEPI to plan for scale up manufacturing; and the current and ongoing resource mobilization efforts that are necessary to pay for the vaccine programs.

Marion Gruber, FDA, and Marco Cavaleri, EMA, gave a report on the March 18 meeting of global regulators hosted by ICMRA. (See attached report.) They shared that the level of participation was remarkable: with regulators from 17 countries and 20 NRA's present. The meeting was divided into two agenda items: (1) what pre-clinical data is need from each candidate in order for a candidate to advance to Phase I trials; and (2) how to mitigate the risk that some vax candidates may enhance the impact of the disease –at least when tested in animals. The meeting focused on balancing the urgency of moving quickly with the need to mitigate risk.

Nicole Lurie, CEPI, and AnaMaria Henao Restrepo, WHO, then discussed the current vaccine ecosystem and their thinking around where the JCG members might help with downstream vaccine manufacture and delivery issues that are beyond CEPI's mandate in the current global pandemic situation. Several JCG members suggested ways in which their organizations might contribute to the effort. Will Hall, Wellcome Trust, discussed the $8 bn funding ask made by the GPMB to cover the work that will need to go into the response writ large, including pieces of the downstream work being discussed.

Due out: Create a working group within the JCG to consider the various entities needed to deliver adequate supply of vaccines once they are manufactured, over the course of this global pandemic, and their potential roles and responsibilities.
Due out: Consider whether another working group outside of these entities is needed to start thinking about the mechanics of the downstream work to accomplish this task, including which outside organization should define the asks and the deliverables and create the mechanism for accountability.

Finally, Els Torreele, MSF, and Richard Hatchett, CEO of CEPI, discussed the need for a fair global allocation system to ensure that COVID 19 vaccines, whether CEPI's or otherwise, are available to all countries that need them when they need them. Els described the need to enter into a global social contract that will require transparency, account for risk, and has a governance structure to determine who has a seat at the table. AnaMaria encouraged the contract not be just with countries but with companies who are producing the vaccine as well. Richard shared a draft discussion paper laying out a possible way forward including the need for a global Advanced Purchasing Contract. Mark Feinberg, IAVI, reminded everyone that the only way to ensure equitable access is to have adequate supply—and reiterated the importance of having companies working together across geographic regions to ensure adequate supply. NOTE: To follow up on this concern, CEPI wanted to share that it is in the process of issuing a series of Expression of Interests over the next two weeks to confirm capacity for form/fill (>100M doses/year), drug substance (multiple 2000L bioreactors), and adjuvant production. CEPI will share the results with our partners based on the competency matches with their programs. CEPI's goal is to identify and secure large scale, geographically diverse, ex-US manufacturing capacity that our partners can ramp up quickly.

1. Due out: Please send comments and edits on the draft discussion paper to Richard.

Peggy Hamburg then adjourned the call with the suggestion of reconvening in a month's time.