

News Round Up

Annual General Meeting of the African Vaccine
Manufacturing Initiative, Freetown, Sierra Leone,
September 24 & 25, 2018

The Need Exists

- Vaccine manufacturing in Africa is critical especially at this time that more countries on the continent are graduating from GAVI.
- Sadly there is no transition plan for a continent that produces only 1% of its human vaccine needs.
- Vaccine manufacturing on the continent needs to be promoted

A sustained vaccine manufacturing agenda

- Available data shows that Africa's birth rate far exceeds the capacity of African countries to vaccinate infants.
- This obscures the spirited efforts at attaining full vaccination and eradication of child diseases.
- The continent therefore requires a sustained vaccine manufacturing agenda

Government Involvement Needed

- Government action is critical for vaccine manufacturing.
- We need to get our governments to do more than make resolutions.
- We need action to get them more committed to fund vaccine manufacturing.

Regional Economic Communities

- Regional Economic Communities (RECs) should be integrated and primed to address local issues concerning vaccine development and Manufacture, especially in recognizing, endorsing and empowering AVMI as a continental platform to coordinate Africa vaccine manufacturing initiatives .
- Regional Economic Communities (REC) need to collaborate and do more at sharing competencies.
- Ongoing efforts at harmonization of the regulatory processes in the REC is a welcome development that will impact positively on the Vaccine development process. AVMI needs to encourage this process

Gaps in Coordinating the Advocacy Exist

- There are a few vaccine manufacturers and intending manufacturers on the continent. There is however no regional platform and mechanism for coordination of vaccine development and manufacturing especially in setting agenda, prioritization, development of low cost technology, funding and general support including advocacy for local vaccine manufacturing.
- AVMI is well positioned to fill these regional gaps .

The Market in Africa is Huge

- The Vaccine market is large and expanding
- This market is presently serviced by humanitarian assistance
- There is presently limited mechanisms for managing emergency disease situations especially influenza epidemics
- There is no influenza manufacturing efforts on the continent nor are there vaccine emergency preparedness measures for influenza outbreaks.

Yes we Can!!!!

- Africa has the competency to develop vaccines.
- Biovac is exporting vaccine technology
- Institute Pasteur in Senegal is producing WHO pre-qualified yellow fever vaccine.
- What the continent needs is capacity enhancement and not capacity building.
- AVMI, by implementing some key strategic actions can change the narrative of vaccine manufacturing in Africa

Next Steps ...

- AVMI will formally articulate a value proposition document in line with the suggestions provided at this meeting.
- AVMI will take forward the suggestions on identifying, securing and working with Champions.
- AVMI will shortly set up a tactical team to manage the planning of the proposed Ministerial Conference.