



AVMi
African Vaccine
Manufacturing Initiative

July
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Message from the Chair

Dear Members

As we move into the 2nd half of the year, I wanted to reflect on some key achievements in our journey towards sustainable vaccine manufacturing on the continent, as well as the work that lies ahead for the balance of this year.

We are tremendously enthused by the continued support for the African vaccine manufacturing agenda – particularly given the multiple competing global challenges.

As you would no doubt recall, we closed 2023 with the encouraging news from the Gavi board held in Ghana in December that the African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator (AVMA) had been approved. The much anticipated launch of AVMA was held in Paris last month at a high level event co-hosted by President Macron, Africa CDC and GAVI. It is very pleasing to note that the funds raised exceeded the initial target and now stand at \$1.2bn committed towards supporting sustainable vaccine manufacturing on the continent over the next 10 years.

AVMA is now live and the GAVI team will be joining our industry call on 10 July to share more details on the mechanism and the operational and governance processes.

AVMA is just one lever of sustainable vaccine manufacturing, and whilst it is a significant milestone, we continue to work on the other key levers. In May, I was privileged to be afforded an opportunity to address more than 40 of the continent's health ministers at a high level event "Ministerial consultations on local manufacturing" hosted by Africa CDC on the sidelines of the World Health Assembly in Geneva. At this meeting, Africa CDC presented the ministries with a roadmap of 8 antigens expected to be available to UNICEF markets between 2025 and 2030, and robust debate was held around what it would take to ensure support from member states. Our AVMI presentation centred around the need for member state support of local manufacturers, the need for regulatory reform and of course the need for innovative financing that is more patient and includes more equity/grant funding and a suite of blended financing specific to each manufacturer's needs.

Going forward, we intend facilitating or participating in a series of critical industry engagements which I would urge you to attend

- 1) We are working with GAVI to set up an African suppliers meet on the sidelines of the UNICEF vaccine industry consultation to be held in September – TBC
- 2) We have invited the WHO team to a meeting with African vaccine manufacturers around the vaccine PQ process, the collaborative procedures post PQ and the regulatory strengthening pathways and procurements – we are aiming for October – TBC
- 3) Africa CDC will be convening the 2nd marketplace meeting (the last one was held in Morocco late last year) – this will be a further opportunity for manufacturer & member state granular engagement around demand & pipeline - TBC

We will be sharing further updates as and when necessary. In the interim, please do look out for further communications in the coming month regarding these planned industry engagements – it is critical that you participate and contribute and also that we can continue to count on your support in the various working groups.

I look forward to sharing any further details or to discussing any of these aspects in more detail in our call this week,

Until next time,

Farrah
AVMI Board Chair