

CEPI Newsletter

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CEPI | New vaccines for a safer world

Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations

Newsletter 1 September 2017

Address from CEO



The slow days of August have drawn to a close and summer vacations are winding down. We took a break from the CEPI newsletter ourselves in August but are looking forward to resuming fortnightly publication as we turn toward the fall. Our lull in communications notwithstanding, CEPI has had a busy and productive summer and we will have an even busier fall. Just last week, in Oslo, CEPI's Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and representatives from potentially affected countries met to review the full proposals submitted in response to CEPI's call to develop vaccines against Lassa, MERS, and Nipah.

The SAC provided me and the Secretariat a flexible set of recommendations that we will now craft into a proposal that I will present to the CEPI Board at its next meeting on September 21. Following the Board meeting, and pending Board approval of the proposed portfolio, the CEPI Secretariat will enter into negotiations with potential partners with the goal of announcing CEPI's first awards in late 2017 or early 2018.

Today, as discussed in an accompanying article, CEPI has released its second call for proposals to support the development of "Platform technologies to enable rapid vaccine development for epidemic prone infections". We have seen just how rapidly epidemics can spread around the globe and we know that the world is not ready to address the threat of a new, highly lethal, infectious disease. In developing this call to enhance our

rapid response capabilities, we have worked closely with partners at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). Beyond its assistance in developing the proposal, NIAID has also indicated that it will provide considerable technical support to the effort, potentially including access to its preclinical support services, clinical trial networks, and capabilities for animal model development and refinement.

Today, we are also announcing a number of London-based openings for experienced project and contract managers. If you are interested in joining the CEPI team and have appropriate qualifications for either of these roles, please check out the links below. The CEPI team is growing rapidly and we will be announcing a number of executive appointments in coming weeks and months.

On September 13, in collaboration with the World Economic Forum and colleagues from the Harvard Global Health Institute, CEPI is sponsoring a meeting with industry and other partners to discuss the challenges presented by concerns about liability and the international deployment of investigational products. In the few weeks after that, CEPI will be highlighted at a side event at the United Nations General Assembly in New York, at the 9th International Global Virus Network meeting in Melbourne, at the Developing Country Vaccine Manufacturers' Network meeting in Seoul, and at the Nordic Life Science Days meeting in Sweden. And that's just September.

So we're back in the thick of it. I look forward to updating you as we make progress toward our goals.

Richard Hatchett, CEPI CEO

CfP 2: Platform Technologies to enable rapid vaccine Development for epidemic prone infections

CEPI is pleased to announce its second funding opportunity for the development of vaccines against epidemic infectious diseases. The call implements CEPI's strategic objective on rapid response and is shaped through consultations with the Scientific Advisory Committee of CEPI. The call text, review and eligibility criteria have been informed through a request for information on rapid response platform technologies undertaken in collaboration with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

In this two-step call, CEPI asks for submission of proposals for vaccine platform technologies that enable rapid vaccine development for reactive use in outbreaks of novel or previously unrecognised viruses with epidemic potential.

You will find the full Call for Proposals [here](#)

Job openings at CEPI

CEPI is recruiting several experienced project and contract managers to be based in London. Since we are a rapid growing organization, these are the first of many job opportunities to come. If you are interested in joining the CEPI team and have appropriate qualifications for either of these roles, please find further information by following this link.

Meeting of the CEPI Scientific Advisory Committee

The 4th face-to-face CEPI SAC meeting was held in Oslo on the 23rd and 24th of August, with the main task of recommending which of the applications received for the Call for Proposals on Lassa, MERS and Nipah meet the criteria for funding and should advance to negotiations. The process resulted in the SAC making recommendations to the CEPI CEO that are currently being assessed. The CEPI Board will review these recommendations in late September 2017. The CEPI Secretariat will communicate the outcome of the process to applicants confidentially and will publicly announce the establishment of partnerships in due time. The committee also advised on the shaping of CEPI's second call for proposals, for vaccine platform technologies for rapid response. The SAC also discussed CEPI's future work on Ebola and Chikungunya.



Summary of CEPI's Board Meeting

The summary of CEPI's Board meeting 11-12 July in Berlin, Germany is now available online.

[You will find the board summary here.](#)

Upcoming meetings

- 12-14 September: **Nordic Life Science Days**, Malmö, Sweden
- 13 September: **Workshop on managing liability concerns associated with international development and deployment of emergency vaccines**, Geneva, Switzerland
- 12-25 September: **UN General Assembly**, New York, USA
- 21 September: **CEPI interim Board Teleconference**
- 25-27 September: **9th International Global Virus Network Meeting**, Melbourne, Australia
- 26 September: **Developing Countries Vaccine Manufacturers Network**, Seoul, South Korea



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