

# CEPI

## Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations

CEPI Teleconference

November 2, 2016

### SUMMARY FROM CEPI INTERIM BOARD PROCEEDINGS (CEPI/TC1)

On November 2, 2016 at 15:00 hours (CET), proceedings of the Interim Board of directors of the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) were held by teleconference.

The following Interim Board members participated:

**Board members elect:**

- Vijay Raghavan (Chair)
- Alex McLaughlin (alternate)
- Tore Godal
- Eduardo de Azeredo Costa
- Jeremy Farrar
- Penny Heaton (alternate)
- Suresh Jadhav (alternate)
- Laura Efros (alternate)
- Joanne Liu
- Peter Piot
- Victor Dzau
- Arnaud Bernaert
- Mark Feinberg
- Peggy Hamburg
- John-Arne Røttingen,

**Observers:**

***Secretariat***

- Astrid Helgeland
- Gunnstein Norheim
- Ole Kristian Aars
- Sabrina Kriegner
- Karianne Johansen

***Apologies***

- Jane Halton
- Trevor Mundel
- Moncef Slaoui
- Chris Whitty
- Nima Farzan

The following matters were on the agenda:

**1. Interim Board membership – invitation to new funders**

John-Arne Røttingen briefed the Interim CEPI Board and explained that the Board currently includes several Founding Partners and other strategic partners that are potential CEPI investors. As conversations regarding financial contributions to CEPI have evolved with these and other potential investors (including Germany, Japan and Canada), it has become apparent that active participation in CEPI's decision-making processes through Interim Board membership is desired and expected in return for financial investments by most in this formative stage of CEPI. It may therefore be important for short-

and long-term partnership efforts to accommodate these requests, while balancing our need to keep the permanent Board to a manageable number to ensure efficiency in decision-making.

## **Decisions**

Interim phase – through 2017

- Allow Interim Board participation for potential new investors that have signaled their intention to make financial investments in 2017 (such as Germany, Japan, Canada)

Permanent phase – 2018 onward

- The permanent CEPI board should be scaled down, including through mechanisms of forming constituency groups, including one for funders/investors. Representation by constituency groups on the Board would be on a rotating basis.
- Special attention should be given to ensuring a better representation of civil society through forming a constituency group.
- An Investor Advisory Group may be established to support overall investor participation and long-term relationship-building. Membership on the latter would be based on pre-approved criteria and funding thresholds (TBD).

## **2. Status on Resource Mobilization**

### ***Points discussed***

- As of today, there are no formal commitments to funding CEPI, but there are good indications of upcoming commitments to financial contributions. Founding Partners will provide an update to the Interim Board at the December Board meeting in New Delhi. Additionally, there are positive signals from Germany, Japan and Australia. Similarly, Canada have expressed interest to join, but follow-up discussions are needed. Joanne Liu will assist in the conversations with Canada.
- There have been discussion with GAVI on making use of the IFFIm mechanism as a funding arrangement for donors. Likewise, there are ongoing talks with the World Bank to explore if they could be a possible fund holder for CEPI funds through IFFIm or a trust fund model.
- While in its early stages, solidarity contributions to CEPI from low and middle income countries have been proposed.
- Concerns were raised about how CEPIs scope is being portrayed. In outreach, CEPI should clearly state that what it aims to do and when. Vaccines are the main priority, whilst other areas like diagnostics and therapeutics are further down the line.

## **3. Ebola update**

Mark Feinberg updated the Interim Board on the ongoing work of the Board-appointed sub group working on the Ebola gap analysis.

- The group is still in its start-up phase, and the complexity of the issue suggests that it will take more time than originally anticipated to finish the work. It was suggested that the group would take some initial steps that are not seen as controversial, including looking at regulatory approval processes.
- The SAC provided relevant feedback on the first high-level messaging, and there is a general agreement that CEPI can play an important role in convening stakeholders.

- A process has started on getting input from stakeholders, and there will be additional feedback following the group's presentation of its work at the Joint Coordination Group meeting in Geneva.

Mark Feinberg further presented the highlights of the SAC discussions that took place on October 20-21 in New York.

- The SAC has an important role in identifying opportunities and providing recommendations.
- The decision to include representatives currently employed by MNC's on the SAC as non-voting members was seen as a good solution to access relevant expertise and expand the dialogue.
- Management of Conflict of Interest was discussed, in addition to clarifying what first efforts need to be undertaken for pathogen prioritization and defining the scope of the first call for proposals.

#### **4. Request for Proposal - update**

- There will be a two, - rather than a one- stage process that was discussed earlier. It will start with an invitation to express interest, i.e. shorter proposal in the first stage, where the most promising applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal.
- The RFP will be published online mid- January, coinciding with the WEF annual meeting in Davos, and with a deadline mid-February. The aim is to have a decision before summer on CEPI's first investments. The decision will be ran through the Board in a June Board meeting.

#### **5. Preparations for the second Interim Board meeting in Delhi:**

The next Interim CEPI Board meeting will take place on December 15/16 in New Delhi. Issues on the agenda are:

Updates from SAC, JCG, Resource mobilization, Regulatory working groups, CEPI core policies, RfP/Expression of Interest, Ebola vaccines, Permanent CEPI Secretariat, Recruitment of CEO, Role of CEPI in financing facilitating phase 3 trials in emergencies and Role of CEPI in securing vaccine stockpiles.

Interim Board members were requested to contact the Secretariat if they would like to add items to the agenda.

Additionally, Interim Board members were informed that a number of virtual sight visits are currently being planned in conjunction with the Board meeting. More information will follow.