The Biopharmaceutical industry’s vision for pandemic preparedness and response

APPLYING LESSONS LEARNED FROM COVID-19
TO CREATE A HEALTHIER, SAFER, MORE EQUITABLE WORLD

BERLIN DECLARATION
BIOPHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY VISION FOR EQUITABLE ACCESS IN PANDEMICS

The innovative biopharmaceutical industry, having developed COVID-19 vaccines and treatments at record speed and in historic quantities, proposes to create a collaborative solution for more equitable rollout of vaccines, treatments and diagnostics for future pandemics. In particular, the innovative biopharmaceutical industry is willing to reserve an allocation of real-time production of vaccines, treatments and diagnostics for priority populations in lower income countries and take measures to make them available and affordable. To be successful, we call on other stakeholders to work together with industry to help make this proposal a reality and shape a future where everyone is better protected from the threat of pandemics.

COVID-19 has shown what the world needs to do to be better prepared for future pandemics. The innovative biopharmaceutical industry succeeded in developing and scaling up multiple high-quality, safe, and effective vaccines and innovative treatments against COVID-19 in historic record time, thanks to the intellectual property system. We developed and executed on access plans, and collaborated with partners all over the world to produce enough vaccines for every adult on the planet in 2021. However, whereas there is now broad acknowledgment that supplies of COVID-19 vaccines have outstripped global demand, lack of country readiness and absorption capacity leave highest risk populations in many countries vulnerable. Societies all over the world need to build pandemic preparedness into health systems, based on the lessons learned during the response to COVID-19. Collectively, we need to consolidate and reinforce the efforts that have worked well and define solutions to address the shortcomings. We aspire to respond even faster and better to achieve greater equity from the outset of future pandemics, supporting the ambitions of the G7’s 100 Days Mission.

In the future, we call on the G7, the G20 and all stakeholders in the global health community to play their part, to ensure that people in all countries have more equitable access to future pandemic vaccines, treatments and diagnostics ("Pandemic VTDs") no matter where they live. Achieving equity requires actions from all relevant stakeholders, underpinned by sustained political support, as all countries must build the technical and health infrastructure, human resources and financial capacity to successfully vaccinate, test and care for their populations.

Call to action to the G7 and other stakeholders to work with the industry so that the Berlin Declaration becomes a solution to Equitable Access