

Participants: Patricia Mouta (PM)- Bio-Manguinhos, Aminata Diagne (AD)- Institut Pasteur de Dakar, Ana Paula Loch (APL)- Butantan, Beatriz Lucchesi (BL)-Butantan, Chetarnaj Bhamare (CB)- SII, Devi Sahoo (DS)-Indian Immunologicals, Linda Nesbitt (LN)-Biovac, Shuyan ZUO (SZ)-CNBG, Varun Sharma (VS)-PATH, Vijay Yerroju (VY)-Biological E, Viska Indriani (VI)-BioFarma, Rajinder Suri (RS)-DCVMN, Katharina Hartmann (KH)-Consultant, Sonia Villaseñor (SV)-DCVMN. **Meeting started at 14:00 pm CET and adjourned at 15:02 pm CET.**

PM as new chair of the PVWG, welcomed the participants of the new WG and initiated a round of introductions with all the participants.

PM mentioned that the AVSS has been prepared and will be launched next week; and, on October 20th and 21st in Barcelona, there will be a workshop to facilitate the group to work on their AVSS projects. KH said that the members interested in the project have filled in a questionnaire and will be divided into 3 subgroups who will be working in October. It is important to have a publication, and we can start by publishing the AVSS project and the results of the survey and what we are focusing on. Once the project is finalized the results of the project can be finalized.

PM shared briefly the results of the survey. Most of the respondents are from the PV area. Some companies have PQ products and others do not. The idea is to mix into the subgroups, participants with experience along with participants without experience. We need to develop a project feasible for implementing. Some have it as a requirement from their regulatory agencies. All member companies have different levels of advancement. KH will be helping the groups and members to develop the research question and the risk that is needed to evaluate. Also, the types of vaccines that the companies are working with are different.

KH also shared an analysis of the survey, which shows that there is much support needed in many topics regarding AVSS.

PM explained that each member company shall nominate a volunteer from PV department or other department to participate in the project. The participants will be subdivided into 3 subgroups.

LN, PM and VI will be heading each of the groups. The kick-off meeting in September will be mostly to split all the participants into different groups; and each subgroup will have one meeting each before the workshop in Barcelona, to start working on their protocols. These drafts will be discussed in person during the workshop and improved. After the workshop each member will finalize their protocol.

The subgroups will be discussing in general terms their protocols, without sharing confidential information. It is more about understanding the principles and the methodologies, and each member company will adapt it to their situation.

All groups will work their whole protocol, but will be split according to the commonalities of their products (e.g. target age groups).

The participants to the AVSS project could be the same who participated in the previous workshop in February in Geneva, but if the company considers they need to involve any other person to the project, from other area or different experience/education, they can involve them.

The final product of the project for each company will be a summary of the protocol which can then be applied internally to a product they have. Similar to what was done with the RMP project, however it is more complex, because in this case, not one fits all.

It is important that members take the lead, the support of VS will be very valuable for the participants in the 3 groups.

VS shared he has developed an AVSS protocol for COVID-19 in 2020 and is willing to share this document with the group. This will be very useful because part of the project is to collect already existing protocols.

SV mentioned that since the AVSS project is involving the PV WG plus more members, the particular session of the PVWG will not be continued in addition to the AVSS; unless the group decides there is an important issue to discuss, meetings can be organized. PM said if any of the members has some important issue that they would like for the PV WG to brainstorm, they can call for a meeting. Also creating a Whatsapp group would be very helpful to facilitate communication with the members.



Patricia Mouta
Chair of the PV WG