

Pharmaceutical Equity for
Global Public Health

Communiqué

on the development of pharmaceuticals for
Global Public Health,
and their end-to-end production in
the Caribbean and Latin America,
supported by a transatlantic bridge between
Africa and the region.

[2]

Today, on November 8, 2022,
in Sharm El-Sheikh, the Arab Republic of Egypt,
at the margins of COP27,

the

State of Barbados

The Honourable Prime Minister Mia Amor Mottley, S.C., M.P.

Co-operative Republic of Guyana

His Excellency President Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali

Republic of Rwanda

His Excellency President Paul Kagame

in the presence of

European Commission

Her Excellency President Dr Ursula von der Leyen

World Health Organization (WHO)

Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

European Investment Bank (EIB)

President Dr Werner Hoyer

The Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation

Dr Senait Fisseha

and

kENUP Foundation

Executive Chairman Holm Keller

[3]

following productive discussions,
have concluded this

Communiqué

on the development of pharmaceuticals for
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between Africa and the region

Whereas, it is understood that there will be no sustainable development without equitable access to contemporary pharmaceuticals for patients in the Caribbean and Latin America;

Whereas, regional end-to-end manufacturing of such contemporary pharmaceuticals is required to sustainably ensure Pharmaceutical Equity for Global Public Health;

Whereas, all manufacturing sites and supporting infrastructures established under this scheme shall follow a strict net zero emission rule, and be in full compliance with the relevant stipulations of the COP21 Paris Agreement;

Whereas, a coalition of countries aligned on value-driven and patient-centric approaches to public health will jointly pursue their interest towards this important goal;

Whereas, the African Union and the Africa CDC have successfully initiated the end-to-end scale manufacturing of vaccines in Africa. Furthermore, a “New Public Health Order” has been proposed as the continent's vision to address health security, which incorporates a program for the regional manufacturing of health products in Africa;

Whereas, a South-South Cooperation, using the UNDP terminology, between Africa the Caribbean and Latin America on the development of pharmaceuticals for Global Public Health, and their end-to-end production shall be established;

Whereas, the World Health Organization (WHO) has laid down scientific and regulatory provisions with its Global Benchmark Tool (GBT) scheme, dedicated to supporting the furthering of National and Supranational Regulatory Agencies in and for countries manufacturing pharmaceuticals;

Whereas, the EU-Latin America and Caribbean Partnership, which entails local manufacturing of vaccines, medicines and other health technologies, and strengthening of health system’s resilience, as well as Europe's Beating Cancer Action Plan shall serve as an advocate for this Cooperation;

Whereas, the Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation stands ready in support of equitable reproductive health for women;

Whereas, Prime Minister Mia Amor Mottley of Barbados, His Excellency President Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali and His Excellency President Paul Kagame of Rwanda are announcing today to convene such effort;

The parties herewith jointly declare the following, and invite others to join in

(1)

We will convene an inter-governmental South-South Cooperation between the Caribbean, Latin America and Africa, encompassing over 2 billion people, aiming at the manufacturing of 60% of all essential, contemporary pharmaceuticals for the population in Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa by 2040 – which is in support of and in alignment with the target set by the African Union and its Partnership for African Vaccine Manufacturing (PAVM) for Africa to manufacture at least 60% of its routine immunization needs within the continent by 2040.

(2)

By means of this Cooperation, countries in the Caribbean and Latin America are invited to benefit from the experiences made by the African Union and its Member States in establishing the development and manufacturing of contemporary vaccines in Africa – notably through the strategic strengthening of Africa’s National Regulatory Agencies (NRAs), the subsequent creation of the Africa Medical Agency (AMA), the formation of the African Union’s African Vaccine Acquisition Trust (AVAT), the establishing of the Partnership for African Vaccine Manufacturing (PAVM), as well as in the domain of building the required human resources capacity, for example through the African Biomanufacturing Institute (ABI).

(3)

Initially, the Cooperation will focus on next generation oncological drugs, preventive and therapeutic vaccines with their development and manufacturing platforms, as well as on contemporary modalities for women’s health - thus, better preparing our population for ongoing public health challenges as well as potential future pandemic situations.

(4)

All novel manufacturing sites and new supporting infrastructures to be developed shall follow a strict net zero emission rule, and be in full compliance with the relevant stipulations of the COP21 Paris Agreement.

(5)

Through the Cooperation, we aim to jointly set up public and private investment vehicles to support pharmaceutical companies, including but not limited to contract manufacturing organizations, in their effort to establish end-to-end manufacturing in the region.

(6)

The Cooperation will empower our existing development partnerships with likeminded supranational bodies, as well as with international organizations and civic society partners to work with us on this important goal.

(7)

Thus, the Cooperation shall help build the necessary enabling environment in Latin American and the Caribbean, including but not limited to regulatory strengthening and harmonization, human resource qualification, trade regulation, and the consolidation of demand, potentially through joint procurement structures.

(a)

The Cooperation shall strengthen our regulatory system in the field with the overall aim of reaching regulatory harmonization, potentially through a networking model. Being fully committed to - and compliant with - the scientific and regulatory provisions laid down in WHO's Global Benchmark Tool (GBT) scheme, as a first step, we will adapt the "White Book Process", formulated with the support of the Mastercard Foundation, for the needs of Latin America and the Caribbean.

(b)

Through the Cooperation, the State of Barbados and Co-operative Republic of Guyana will join the African Biomanufacturing Institute (ABI), as established by the Republic of Rwanda, to facilitate the training of personnel required for this endeavor.

(8)

Today's meeting marks the initiation of open-ended pre-contractual proceedings – initially between the State of Barbados, the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, and the Republic of Rwanda – inviting interested countries in the Caribbean, Latin America and in Africa to join in with the common aim to boost pharmaceutical equity in Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa alike.

(9)

This Communiqué does not create any legal obligation or the incurrence of any undertaking or liability. As such, it does not represent any commitment regarding funding or any form of preferential treatment on the part of either signatory. Also, this Communiqué does not grant an exclusivity to any of the parties in any respect. For the avoidance of doubt, it is understood that any detailed commitments shall be laid down in separate agreements that may be entered into by the signatories by virtue of this Communiqué, and in accordance with the framework set forth here and today.