

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Africa CDC and CEPI hosts the African Vaccine Manufacturing Supply Chain Forum: *Future-proofing Africa's vaccine manufacturing supply chains.***



**Nairobi, Kenya, 01 February 2024** – The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) hosts the African Vaccine Manufacturing Supply Chain Forum. A timely discussion about the sustainable supply of input materials to support vaccine manufacturing as the continent witnesses a surge in vaccine manufacturing projects. The Forum is taking place in Nairobi, Kenya from 31 January to 02 February 2024.

The Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing (PAVM) was established by the African Union (AU) in 2021 to deliver a bold goal: enabling the African vaccine manufacturing industry to develop, produce, and supply over 60 percent of the total vaccine doses required on the continent by 2040. To achieve this ambition; PAVM identified a range of roadblocks that need to be addressed to support local vaccine manufacturers in establishing strong and resilient supply chains. Vaccine demand in Africa is expected to rise from approximately 1.4 billion doses today to over 2.1 billion doses by 2040. To meet this growing need, a robust African input material access and supply chain must be established to safeguard the continent's health security. This requires owning the end-to-end value chain and establishing efficient manufacturing processes, which, in turn, necessitates uninterrupted and timely access to critical input materials. The PAVM with its secretariat in Africa CDC developed the Framework for Action (FFA), a blueprint of strategic initiatives that will contribute to develop a strong and reliable vaccine manufacturing

ecosystem with continent-wide reach and impact, including localizing supply of key input materials and harmonizing trade regulations.

Opening the Forum H.E. Susan Nakhumicha, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Health, Republic of Kenya stated “In Kenya, developing the pharmaceutical manufacturing sector has been considered as a core part of building a progressive and sustainable health-care system. Local manufacturers are also heavily invested in securing input materials and consumables required for the local production. Thus, in this forum, let’s start considering the entire end-to-end manufacturing value chain that will accelerate growth and stability for the local manufacturing industry in line with the African Union’s goal of 60% as well as enhance our continent’s self-reliability in times of pandemic outbreaks.”

Representing H.E. Dr. Jean Kaseya, Director General, Africa CDC, Dr. Abebe Genetu Bayih, Acting PAVM Coordinator stressed the need to start broadening our perspectives and consider the full end-to-end supply chain i.e. increasing the regional vaccine manufacturing capacities will inevitably require uninterrupted, cost-effective, and timely access to numerous input materials. He further added Africa CDC is committed to work with all partners on guaranteeing this access for the success of our manufacturers. The forum is an important step towards achieving that goal.”

Dr. Matthew Downham, Director of Manufacturing and Supply Chain Networks, CEPI, added that “Global vaccine manufacturing surge during the Covid-19 pandemic, exposed shortages in input materials, packaging, and equipment due to the high demand for these critical commodities. As Africa’s vaccine manufacturing capacity expands, securing a resilient supply of essential input materials will be crucial to improve interpandemic and pandemic surge demand vaccine supply in future. The African Supply Chain Forum provides a platform for industry, stakeholders, and regional experts to carve out a roadmap for future-proofing African input material supply needed for vaccine manufacturing. This forward and cross-sector planning will support better outbreak preparedness and help to ensure faster and more equitable access to vaccines made in Africa, for Africa.”

The Africa CDC’s New Public Health Order calls to action to expand local manufacturing of vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics. A lesson learnt from COVID-19 was that Pandemic Preparedness and Response will be boosted by developing Africa’s own capabilities to manufacture all health products. The three-day meeting with approximately 150 participants representing key stakeholder groups including from African Union Member States, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Manufacturers, Local and International Suppliers, Funders, Development partners are discussing the needs and challenges of African vaccine manufacturers and suppliers, developing new strategies to secure input material access and availability, and defining a roadmap to action to steer strategy implementation. Furthermore, the Africa CDC and CEPI partnership will collaborate on the roadmap to action with short and medium-term goals as well as lead selected strategic interventions towards strengthened African vaccine manufacturing input material supply chains.

---

---



## **About Partners**

### **Africa CDC**

The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) is a continental autonomous Public Health agency of the African Union which supports Member States in their efforts to strengthen health systems and improve surveillance, emergency response, prevention, and control of diseases.

For more information, visit <https://africacdc.org/>

For more information on the Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing (PAVM) Framework for Action, visit <https://africacdc.org/download/partnerships-for-african-vaccine-manufacturing-pavm-framework-for-action/>

### **CEPI**

CEPI is an innovative partnership between public, private, philanthropic, and civil organisations, launched at Davos in 2017. Its mission is to accelerate the development of vaccines and other biologic countermeasures against epidemic and pandemic threats so they can be accessible to all people in need.

For more information, visit <https://cepi.net>