



news release

vfa. Die forschenden
Pharma-Unternehmen
Research-Based
Pharmaceutical Companies

Global pharmaceutical industry leaders meet with German officials to discuss life sciences innovation in Germany and global pandemic response involving the G7

Berlin, 21 June, 2022 – Today, global leaders from the pharmaceutical industry met with German officials from the ministries of health and economic development as well as the Federal Chancellor’s office to discuss both national and international developments which impact future innovation and global health. The Biopharmaceutical CEO Roundtable ([BCR](#)) delegation exchanged views on how the German government and industry can work together to reinvigorate innovation across the life sciences eco-system.

The biopharmaceutical industry shared its analysis of [COVID-19 lessons learned](#); highlighting that swift pathogen surveillance and sharing, an enabling innovation ecosystem, and regulatory agility are among the lessons that must be preserved for future ability to fight against unknown diseases. The most important lesson of the report is that we must redouble collective efforts to achieve health equity, while ensuring health systems and delivery infrastructure are strengthened.

Jean-Christophe Tellier, IFPMA President and CEO of UCB applauded Germany’s leadership of the G7’s pandemic response: “The biopharmaceutical industry has stepped up in an unprecedented manner to this pandemic by developing and manufacturing vaccines and treatments in a way that would have been deemed impossible before COVID-19. Going forwards, we support the ambitions of the [G7 100 Days Mission](#), to ensure that innovation and partnerships deliver”.

No less dangerous than the COVID-19 pandemic today, is the global threat due to the uncontrolled rise of superbugs resistant to antibiotics. At their meetings, the CEOs also called for the G7 to act on tackling the lack of incentives to innovation in the field of antibiotic research and development. Stefan Oelrich, Member of the Board of Management of Bayer AG and President of Bayer’s Pharmaceuticals Division is one of 20 biopharmaceutical investor companies in the [AMR Action Fund](#), a billion-dollar public-private partnership fund that aims to develop two to four new antibiotics by 2030. Oelrich said: “The time to take action on this pressing health topic is now. It requires a joint effort from industry and policy makers alike driving reimbursement reforms and novel investment incentivisation in order to create a sustainable antibiotic market. We urge the G7 governments to actively drive the required governmental action so that the antibiotic pipeline actually meets the needs of our patients”.

Commenting on the meetings about Germany’s innovation eco-system: Han Steutel, President of Verband Forschender Arzneimittelhersteller e.V. (VFA) said: “Industry has been working closely with the German government on how we can reinvigorate Germany’s role as a life sciences innovator, and today’s meeting with global Chief Executives underlined the progress we are making. Innovation from across the life science eco-system has huge potential as a Strategic Industry (‘Leitindustrie’) for Germany’s growth potential in terms of investment and employment”.

Contact : Abigail Jones a.jones@ifpma.org, tel: +32 475 41 09 76

About the Biopharmaceutical CEO Roundtable ([BCR](#)) - The BCR is a global policy forum where the CEOs of International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations ([IFPMA](#)) member companies discuss global health challenges and public health policies impacting biomedical innovation.

IFPMA - International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations - represents the research-based pharmaceutical companies and associations across the globe. The research-based pharmaceutical industry's 2 million employees discover, develop, and deliver medicines and vaccines that improve the life of patients worldwide. Based in Geneva, IFPMA has official relations with the United Nations and contributes industry expertise to help the global health community find solutions that improve global health.

Vfa – The Association of Research-based Pharmaceutical Companies (VFA) is the trade association of the innovative pharmaceutical industry in Germany. It represents the interests of 47 world's leading manufacturers and more than 100 subsidiaries and affiliated companies in health, research and economic policy. The members of the VFA up about two-thirds of the German pharmaceutical market and employ approximately 80,000 employees in Germany, 19,000 of whom work in research and development.