



International Federation of **P**harmaceutical **M**anufacturers & **A**ssociations  
Fédération Internationale de l'Industrie du **M**édicament  
Federación Internacional de la Industria del **M**edicamento

## News Release

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### **IFPMA Welcomes Governments' Launch of AMC Pilot Project to Encourage Development of New Pneumococcal Vaccines for the Poorest Countries**

**Geneva, 9 February 2007** – The International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations (IFPMA) welcomes the public commitment made by the governments of Canada, Italy, Norway and the United Kingdom to fund the pilot Advance Market Commitment (AMC) to stimulate the development of new pneumococcal vaccines for the poorest countries. These would help to prevent acute respiratory infections that kill more people each year than HIV/AIDS. It is a good choice for a pilot project, as the relevant technology is broad-based and mature, which increases the overall chance of success.

Dr. Harvey Bale, Director General of the IFPMA, said: “This latest commitment by governments to help fund the massive effort needed to achieve the health-related Millennium Development Goals is a very positive development. Prevention is better than cure, so vaccines are an essential tool. While the recently-launched International Finance Facility for Immunisation (IFFIm) will help fund wider access to the vaccines currently available, new vaccines are also needed to provide broader protection than existing ones and to protect against diseases for which there is so far no vaccine, such as HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis. Our research-based vaccine companies around the world have the necessary know-how and the AMCs’ innovative financial incentive can help to encourage them to take on the risk associated with bringing new vaccines from the laboratory to the poorest countries that need them.”

Dr. Bale continued: “The AMC approach will help to replicate market forces, in that it makes money available only if companies succeed in producing the desired vaccines. As in any other business, companies will have to decide if they are willing to take on the risk of making the large investment needed to take a candidate vaccine through all the development stages and satisfy all the regulatory requirements, and still deliver a safe and effective product that can generate enough revenue to justify the outlay. Innovative vaccine companies, regardless of their size, are familiar with this complex process and the opportunity presented by the AMC approach is unparalleled, so they look forward very much to working out the terms and conditions with the World Bank, the GAVI Alliance and other sponsors.”

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**About the IFPMA:**

The International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations is the global non-profit NGO representing the research-based pharmaceutical, biotech and vaccine sectors. Its members comprise 26 leading international companies and 46 national and regional industry associations covering developed and developing countries. The industry's R&D pipeline contains hundreds of new medicines and vaccines being developed to address global disease threats, including cancer, heart disease, HIV/AIDS and malaria. The IFPMA Clinical Trials Portal ([www.ifpma.org/clinicaltrials](http://www.ifpma.org/clinicaltrials)) and IFPMA activities in Health Partnerships ([www.ifpma.org](http://www.ifpma.org)) help make the industry's activities more transparent. The IFPMA strengthens patient safety by improving risk assessment of medicines and combating their counterfeiting. It also provides the secretariat for the International Conference on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH).

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