WORLD LOCAL PRODUCTION FORUM
Enhancing Access to Medicines and Other Health Technologies

Dr Jicui Dong, Unit Head
Local Production & Assistance Unit
Regulation and Prequalification Department
Access to Medicines and Health Products Division
World Health Organization
Geneva, Switzerland
WHA Resolution on Strengthening local production of medicines and other health technologies to improve access

Adopted at the 74th World Health Assembly

Over 100 Member States co-sponsored the resolution
World Local Production Forum (WLPF)

- A new WHO initiative
- A regular forum for the global community of foremost government leaders, industry, technology experts, UN agencies, international organizations and other stakeholders
- To stimulate high-level dialogue and action to mitigate the global challenges, leverage on opportunities, promote collaborations and shape the direction in promoting local production of quality health products
- WLPF Secretariat: Local Production & Assistance Unit (LPA/RPQ/MHP/WHO)
First World Local Production Forum (21-25 June 2021)

High-level participation, e.g.:
- **Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**, Director General, WHO
- **Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala**, Director General, WTO
- **Li Yong**, Director General, UNIDO
- **Lia Tadesse**, Minister of Health, Ethiopia
- **Jutta Urpilainen**, Commissioner for International Partnerships, European Commission
- **Henrietta Fore**, Executive Director, UNICEF
- **Sandile Buthelezi**, Director General, National Dept. of Health. South Africa
- **Budi Gunadi Sadikin**, Minister of Health, Indonesia
- **Isabelle Durant**, Acting Secretary General, UNCTAD
- **Marco Pontes**, Minister of Science & Technology, Brazil
- **Hala Zayed**, Minister for Health and Population, Egypt
- Ambassadors, Ministers, heads of Regulatory Agencies, etc.
First World Local Production Forum (21-25 June 2021)
WLPF: building capacity to enhance access to vaccines and biologics for COVID-19 and beyond

- Discourse on the vaccine ecosystem, innovation & technology transfer, and biologics
- Collaboration and partnerships were highlighted repeatedly as essential
- There are several key messages
  - Diversification in technology, product and location is important for pandemic preparedness
  - Workforce development is also critical
  - Innovative technologies could play a role in sustainability
- In the end, sustainability of production capacity beyond COVID-19 needs to be considered
WLPF Recommendations

WHA resolution WHA74.6 brought a renewed vigour in promoting local production to improve access. **All actors** (Member States, industry, partners, etc.) should capitalize on this new momentum and **continue strategic, collective efforts and commitment in strengthening local production** through building the business ecosystem, multi-stakeholder collaborations, capacity building and training, regional/global approaches, etc.

Manufacturers are a significant actor in promoting local production. A **mechanism should be explored to stimulate industry engagement in the WLPF and provide a platform to strengthen collaborations** with, and within, the industry and **harness opportunities for the diffusion of priority technologies to LMICs**.

A **strategic advisory group** under the auspices of WHO and in collaboration with Member States and partners could be formed to **address current and future global challenges and trends in local production and technology transfer**.
Online resources

Local Production and Assistance Unit webpage:
https://www.who.int/teams/regulation-prequalification/lpa

World Local Production Forum webpage, including the report:
https://www.who.int/initiatives/world-local-production-forum

Press release on WLPF:
https://www.who.int/news/item/25-06-2021-at-local-production-forum-
who-and-partners-highlight-key-steps-to-improve-access-to-health-
technologies
Thank you

Email address: localproduction@who.int