



Confederation of Indian Industry
125 Years - Since 1895



Building Partnerships Between India and Belgium for the Coherent Dissemination of COVID-19 Vaccines & Therapeutics in Europe and the World

08 December 2020
1600-18:30 HRS IST | 1130-1400 HRS CET
Digital Platform

Mark Van de Vreken
Consul General of Belgium in Chennai

G V Prasad
Honorary Consul of Belgium in Hyderabad

**Invite you to an interactive &
high-level seminar**

PARTNERS



FOR REGISTRATION, PLEASE WRITE TO:
vidhi.sanghavi@cii.in

Inaugural Session

1600 HRS IST | 1130 HRS CET



Dr Rajesh Jain
Chairman, CII National
Committee on Biotechnology
& Managing Director
Panacea Biotec Ltd.



Mr Mark Van de Vreken
Consul General of
Belgium in Chennai



Dr Ajit Shetty
Chairman, Flemish Institute of
Biotechnology (VIB), Board Member of
Mithra, Honorary Chairman, Janssen
Pharmaceutica, Former Global Head
Johnson & Johnson Supply Chain



Mrs Mahima Datla
Managing Director & CEO
Biological E Ltd



Dr Pankaj Bhatnagar
Acting Team Lead National Public Health
Surveillance Project (NPSP)
WHO Country Office for India

Video presentation by
Flanders Investment and Trade (FIT)



Mr Jayant Nadiger
Trade & Investment Commissioner
Flanders Investment and Trade (FIT)

Panel Discussion 1: Belgium - Your Innovative Vaccines and Therapeutics & Lifesciences Hub in Europe

1645 HRS IST | 1215 HRS CET



Mr R Srinivasan
Former Editor-in-Chief
The Hindu Businessline
(Moderator)



Mr Willem Dhooge
Co-General Manager
Flanders Bio



Mr Marc Dechamps
Director International Affairs
BIOWIN



Mr Cédric Volanti
President Biopharma Solutions
Novasep Group



Mr Gagan Singh
Managing Director
AstraZeneca

Video Presentation by
Wallonia Export-Investment Agency (AWEX)



Mr Hubert Goffinet
Trade and Investment Commissioner
Wallonia Export-Investment Agency
(AWEX)

Panel Discussion 2 : Covid-19 Vaccines and Therapeutics - From Inception to Safe & Efficient Global Distribution

1730 HRS IST | 1300 HRS CET



Mrs Tineke Van Hooland
Deputy Secretary General
bio.be.
(Moderator)



Mr Nathan Devalck
Head of Cargo Product &
Route Development
Brussels Airport Company



Mr Bert Selis
Cargo and Logistics
Development Manager
Liege Airport



Mr Franck Toussaint
Founder,
Bio Supply Management
Alliance



Dr Krishna Ella
Chairman & Managing Director
Bharat Biotech International

Video Presentation by
HUB – Brussels Invest & Export



Mr Jean-François Aernouts
Trade & Investment Commissioner
HUB Brussels Invest & Export

The World Beyond Covid-19 – A Global Outlook

1815 HRS IST | 1345 HRS CET



Dr Srinath Reddy
President
Public Health Foundation of India

Word of Thanks by Honorary Consul of Belgium in Hyderabad

1830 HRS IST | 1400 HRS CET



Mr G V Prasad
Chairman, CII National
Committee on Pharmaceuticals and Co
Chairman & Managing Director
Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Limited



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Background Note

India and Belgium are two global players in the fields of life sciences, vaccines and pharmaceuticals / therapeutics and should therefore be strategic partners in the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic.

India, often called “the world’s pharmacist”, produces 60% of the world’s vaccines and accounts for 60-80% of the UN’s annual vaccine procurement. India’s medical research institutes and pharmaceutical manufacturing companies have been rapidly expanding their already voluminous production capacities and are accelerating the development of vaccines in response to the Covid-19 outbreak. At least 7 Indian pharmaceutical companies are working to develop a vaccine against Covid-19. Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s most recent speech for the UN General Assembly was largely devoted to the role of India as a global supplier of Covid-19 vaccines.

Belgium is a leading player for pharmaceuticals, therapeutics and vaccines, counting over 200 innovative pharma businesses including world renowned companies such as UCB, Janssen Pharmaceutica, GSK, Pfizer and Baxter. It is the EU’s second largest pharmaceuticals exporter and stands second in the EU in terms of clinical trials per inhabitant. Belgium is also a world-class player in terms of life sciences and R&D, with an internationally competitive research infrastructure driven by its universities and major research facilities. According to the latest World Bank figures, Belgium ranks 10th worldwide in terms of GDP spending on R&D. As a result, Belgium plays a global leading role at every stage of the development of Covid-19 vaccines and therapeutics.

Belgium is also centrally located in the European continent and connected to Europe and the world thanks to a highly developed logistics infrastructure of airports, roads, railways and ports. Liege Airport was recently voted as best cargo hub in the world and has been selected by the World Health Organization (WHO) as one of 8 hubs worldwide for the distribution of Covid-19 medical supplies. Brussels Airport is the first airport ever to receive the “IATA Excellence in Pharmaceutical Handling” certificate and has 30.000 square meters of temperature controlled pharmaceutical warehouses – the most of any European airport.

The aim of this high-level online seminar, with top speakers from both countries’ pharma, vaccines, life sciences and logistics industries, is to explore further possible cooperation between India and Belgium in two major fields in which Belgium is a global champion, and this through two main roundtable panels.

A first panel will focus on the role of Belgium as a hub in Europe and the world in the field of innovative vaccines, therapeutics and life-sciences. The main aims of this roundtable are to provide more insights on the strengths and opportunities of the general Belgian biotech ecosystem, the agility of the existing Belgian R&D biotech eco-system that has led to a quick reply in COVID-19 research, promising COVID-19 vaccines that are made in Belgium, other therapeutic areas beyond COVID-19 in which Belgium plays a key role such as cell & gene therapy, and the ambitions of the new Belgian government in terms of the further development of a health and biotech valley.

A second panel will look into the different ways Covid-19 vaccines and therapeutics will find their way from their inception via a safe and efficient global distribution to their end-users. The global distribution of effective Covid-19 vaccines is going to be one of the greatest logistical challenges we have ever faced. In 2021 the world will have to rely on a robust and bullet-proof supply chain integration alongside a solid and reliable air cargo capacity. This will require highly specialized approaches towards transportation, large cold storage facilities and experienced professionals. The seminar will provide exclusive insights in the Belgian expertise in this field – including by representatives of the airports of Liege and Brussels.