

OSLO MEDICINES INITIATIVE

Solidarity Transparency Sustainability

Better access to effective, novel, high-priced medicines
A new vision for collaboration between the public and private sectors

Dr. Sarah Garner
13 December 2021



Established in 2020 the Oslo Medicine Initiative is a collaboration between;

- WHO Regional Office for Europe,
- Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care Services and the
- Norwegian Medicines Agency.

The Initiative aims to provide a **neutral platform** for the public and private sectors to jointly outline a vision for equitable and sustainable access to effective, innovative and affordable medicines, underpinned by the three pillars:

- **SOLIDARITY** – achieving greater solidarity between stakeholders to improve access for patients
- **TRANSPARENCY** - understanding how transparency can be used to build trust and support access
- **SUSTAINABILITY** - considering how to ensure both a sustainable industry and health care systems

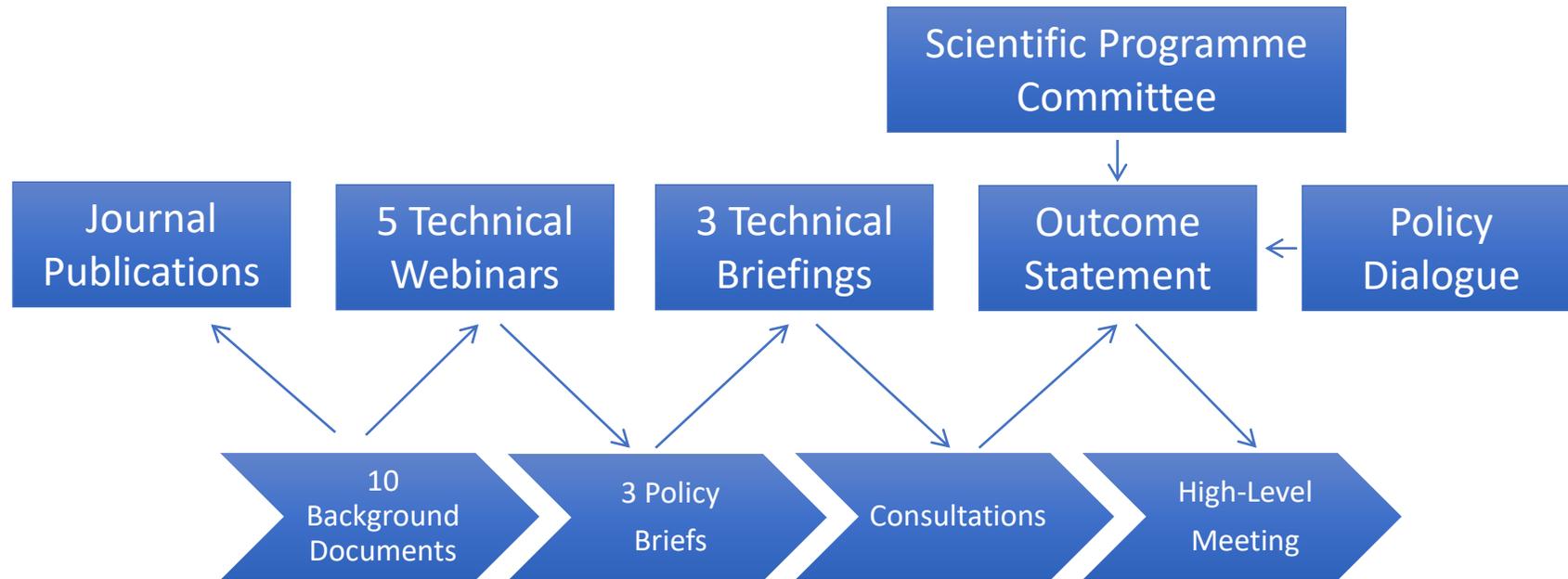
OMI Strategic Objectives:

- Reshape political discourse
- Implement pragmatic step-by-step solutions
- Create partnerships to build a movement for change

How OMI plans to achieve this:

- Stakeholder Engagement
- Series of technical webinars and briefings
- Publication of background documentation
- Member State and non-state actor consultations and policy dialogues
- Share experiences and best practices on improving access to medicines
- Discuss acceptability and feasibility of the OMI policy considerations
- High-Level meeting 13-14 June 2022

Strategic approach



Consultations: Key themes

- Strong acknowledgement from public, private and nongovernmental organization stakeholders that the status quo in pharmaceutical innovation and novel medicines needs to change
- Solutions will be found by working together
- Many stakeholders noted that they would like the Initiative to focus on concrete and practical deliverables.
- Pricing issues are an inevitable consequence of misalignment in the objectives, roles and responsibilities of the different stakeholders, including those related to the current health needs of the population and the long-term investment in and costs of R&D
- Solidarity required both between and within sectors and countries, noting the importance of a strong collective European voice in an increasingly polarized global market.
- Narrow low-volume, high-price marketing approach for novel products is not commensurate with achieving solidarity between companies, patients and governments
- Transparency should be a key component of OMI and the ultimate solution; not a goal but a tool to support affordability, access and trust
- Sustainability: If the justification for high costs was R&D/manufacturing, then reasonable to ask for transparency on those costs



Potential actions

- A shared understanding of what constitutes a sustainable industry
- Corporate social responsibility and social contracts
- More (Self) regulation of abuses
- Inclusion and implementation of public interest provisions and conditions along the life-cycle of pharmaceutical development
- Demand-based R&D systems that align with social needs rather than commercial interest alone.
- External reference pricing/parallel imports
- Simultaneous launches of novel interventions
- Cross country collaboration and pooled procurement
- Private sector noted that it could offer support to low- and middle-income countries to strengthen their systems relating to product selection and strategic purchasing to maximize the value of their budgets. An analysis undertaken to identify and address the 'low-hanging fruit'
- Greater transparency from health systems about prioritization
- Collaboration to explore a framework for equity based tiered pricing to increase volumes and lower prices with measures to avoid inappropriate parallel trade