Mr Emmanuel Mujuru
Chairperson of Federation of African Pharmaceutical Manufacturer’s Association

Equitable and appropriate access to quality medicines and vaccines in the Commonwealth
Commonwealth Civil Society Policy Forum I Tuesday 18 May 2021
FAPMA

Federation of African Pharmaceutical Manufacturers’ Associations
Emmanuel Mujuru
Chairman
VISION AND MISSION of FAPMA

- Is to to be a **vibrant and self-sustaining pharmaceutical manufacturing industry** in Africa by providing quality and affordable medicines, to contribute to the reduction of disease burden and promote economic development of the continent.

**To facilitate collaboration** between regional pharmaceutical manufacturing associations to address the common challenges faced by the industry and enhance opportunities towards self-sufficiency.

This will be achieved **through advocacy and partnership** with other stakeholders in promoting the production of quality, affordable medicines"
MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

- Federation of East African Pharmaceutical Manufacturers’ Association
- Southern African Generic Medicines Association
- West African Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association
Africa’s Health Burden

25% of the global disease burden

- 75% of the global HIV/AIDS pandemic
- 90% of the malaria cases and deaths
- 9 countries (excluding North Africa) among the 15 countries with the highest TB burden in the world.
- Non-Communicable Disease epidemic
- Significant child mortality – diarrhoeal, measles, URTI
Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic

- Exacerbated health and socio-economic inequalities
- Weakened national health systems
- Significantly slowed down economic growth experienced in sub-Saharan Africa in the past 20 years
- Exposed a tough road to recovery ahead in the context of depleted capabilities
- A loud call to “wake up and stay awake” for countries to pull closer together to implement policies for industry, financing, science and health in order to strengthen the security of essential supplies for healthcare
Lessons Learnt Covid -19

• Covid-19 pandemic demonstrated the fragility of manufacturing supply chains in relation to essential commodities for Health
• Forced a global recognition of local manufacturing and supply chains centrality to local health security
• Broad Industrial development is critical for health security in Africa.
• As the pandemic unfolded African Manufacturers experienced a collapse of input supply chains
• Increases in imported input prices alongside escalating freight costs and delays
• Lack of local input suppliers especially in Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs), Medical Grade Fabric, plastics, alongside weak local testing and accreditation credibility constrained local manufacturers output just as demand escalated
Sanitizers: Cross-sectoral collaboration between an East African Institution, other government regulatory bodies, and firms in several industrial sectors to meet local demand of sanitisers when imports were suddenly unavailable. The research institute used to produce sanitizers in collaboration with a local manufacturer. When covid-19 hit all inputs were out of stock. Scaling up production required ethanol from local sugar producers to be applied to sanitizer production; second pharmaceutical company was brought in to add capacity; and a local plastic firm scaled up bottle production and created a cap redesign to replace the unavailable pump system from China.

Test Swabs: A comparable collaboration between a medical research institute and a textile manufacturer that previously producing ear buds adapted the manufacturing system to local production of test swabs. The researchers worked with the firm at all stages to ensure that the swabs met the required standards, including finding sources of nylon, testing the effectiveness of flock heads since brush heads could not be produced and ensuring sterilization. At the same time the research institute scaled up its in-house production of viral transport medium (VTM) by repurposing an existing production line for bacteria culture media to produce VTM for transporting swabs to the laboratory.
Impressive list with which local manufacturers responded to Covid-19 requirements at speed through scaling up and production innovation included, (but is not limited to):

• Pharmaceuticals – dexamethasone, paracetamol and azithromycin all used in Covid-19 management.
• Sanitizers and decontaminants
• Masks, gloves, overshoes, face shields, medical scrubs, PPE of various quality including medical grade
• Ventilators built from scratch
• Rapid polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test turnaround by people who weren’t given the opportunity to innovate pre-covid-19 world
Key Requirements

• Broad capabilities
• Linkages and collaborations
• Procurements and reassured markets
• Centres of excellence
• Standards and regulations
• Policies
• Industry associations
Broad Capabilities

- Industrial base with complimentary sectors that collaborate
- Innovation capabilities
- Technological capabilities
- Manufacturing and repurposing capabilities
Procurement and Reassured Markets

- Market formation for new products
- Market signaling mechanism
- Legitimation of local industry
- Financing mechanisms
- Local preference
- Active industry policy
Centres of Excellence

- Nucleation tools for generating and coalescing scarce skills
- Allowing funding scale to introduce innovations and capabilities (e.g. API productions)
- Technological innovation systems: new products for new markets that need legitimation and market formation
Policies

- Policy as action (not only as intent)
- Learning from other countries
- Policy literacy across sectors and government departments
- Policy convergence
- Policy supporting legal instruments and administrative functionality
PMPA Package of Solutions
“The time for Africa to break its dependence on foreign imports is now. The local manufacture of pharmaceuticals in Africa is an opportunity to develop a broader manufacturing and knowledge based economy”

Michel Sidibe UNAIDS Executive Director 7th AUC Conference of Ministers Abuja Nigeria 25-30 November 2014

Thank You