



## PRESS RELEASE

### MINISTRY OF HEALTH WITH NATIONAL VACCINE INSTITUTE (NVI), GHANA, SIGNS LANDMARK MoU WITH AFRICA CDC TO JOIN AFRICAN POOLED PROCUREMENT MECHANISM (APPM) – A GAME CHANGER FOR GHANAIAN PHARMACEUTICAL AND VACCINE MANUFACTURERS

The National Vaccine Institute (NVI) is proud to announce a historic milestone for Ghana's pharmaceutical and vaccine industry. On 21st August 2026 in Accra, the Government of Ghana, represented by Hon. Kwabena Mintah Akandoh (MP), Minister for Health, and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), represented by its Director-General, H.E. Dr. Jean Kaseya, formally signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Ghana to participate in the African Pooled Procurement Mechanism (APPM). This landmark agreement positions Ghana at the heart of Africa's new health security architecture.

Celebrating the momentous event, the Health Minister, Hon. Kwabena Mintah Akandoh (MP), said, “This MoU gives practical effect to the commitment of H. E. President John Dramani Mahama at the Ghana Vaccines Manufacturing Investment Forum held in Accra in August 2025. As you recall, the President directed that reforms be implemented to ensure locally produced vaccines and pharmaceuticals are prioritized in public procurement in Ghana. Additionally, the President also pledged to support Ghanaian producers to access regional markets and participate in the African Pooled Procurement Mechanism (APPM). Ghana’s joining the APPM will be strongly complemented by ongoing efforts to set up a system for Advance Purchase Commitment to de-risk investments in local manufacturing in Ghana.”

#### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR GHANA

The APPM is a continental market-shaping and pooled procurement mechanism established under African Union Assembly Decisions AU/Dec.877(XXXVII) 2024, AU/Dec.924(XXXVIII), and [http://EX.CL/Dec.1291\(XLVI\)](http://EX.CL/Dec.1291(XLVI)) 2025, and reinforced by AU/Dec.966(XXXIX) 2026 urging all Member States to join.

For Ghanaian manufacturers, this is transformative:

1. **Market Access Beyond Ghana:** Ghanaian pharmaceutical and vaccine manufacturers –both established ones and upcoming ones in the Ghana Pharmaceutical Hub planned by the Government of Ghana – will now have a structured pathway to supply quality-assured health products, vaccines and medical equipment to all 55 AU Member States through Africa CDC's demand aggregation.
2. **Sustainable Demand:** The APPM creates expanded, predictable demand for African-made products, solving the critical challenge of a small domestic market and ensuring viability of local manufacturing investments.
3. **Strengthening Health Security:** It will improve access to affordable, quality-assured products while strengthening supply security, collective purchasing power, and intra-African trade, in line with Africa CDC's Strategic Plan (2023-2027) and the African Health Security and Sovereignty (AHSS) Framework.

Crucially, the MoU reaffirms that all procurement under APPM remains subject to the exclusive regulatory authority of Ghana's Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) for marketing authorization, import control, batch release and post-market surveillance. Ghana's FDA is well respected in Africa as a WHO Maturity Level 3 Regulator for Medicines.

#### **NEXT STEP: OPERATIONALIZATION IN ACCRA**

In line with the MoU, the NVI and Africa CDC will jointly operationalize Ghana's participation during the upcoming Regional Meeting on the APPM to be hosted in Accra, Ghana in November 2026. The meeting will bring together political leadership, policy makers, regulators, manufacturers, and procurement agencies to agree on the APPM Supply Catalogue, technical specifications, and implementation arrangements.

Commenting on the signing, Dr. Sodzi Sodzi-Tettey, Chief Executive Officer of the National Vaccine Institute, said:

"This is a defining moment for Ghana and for the NVI. For years, our local manufacturers have been constrained by a market of 33 million. With APPM, we now have access to a market of 1.4 billion Africans. This MoU delivers on President Mahama's vision for Ghana to become a regional hub for vaccine and pharmaceutical manufacturing. It guarantees that when we manufacture Tetanus Diphtheria vaccines and Anti tetanus Serum in 2026, and other essential products including Snake Venom anti Serum which we have already manufactured in 2025, we have a continental market ready to buy. The NVI is fully committed to working with Africa CDC to make the Accra Regional Meeting in November a success with practical implications."

The National Vaccine Institute commends the Ministry of Health, the Government of Ghana, and Africa CDC for their leadership and looks forward to working with all stakeholders to realize Africa's pharmaceutical manufacturing sovereignty.

Accra, Ghana – September 2026.

— END —

For Media Enquiries:

National Vaccine Institute Communications Unit Email: [info@nvi.gov.gh](mailto:info@nvi.gov.gh)

Tel: +233 24 703 4042. Accra, Ghana

**About NVI:** The National Vaccine Institute, established by Act 1056 of 2023, is mandated to coordinate, supervise and facilitate local manufacturing of vaccines and sera in Ghana.

**About APPM:** The African Pooled Procurement Mechanism is Africa CDC's continental mechanism to aggregate demand, shape markets, and facilitate procurement and distribution of essential health commodities to advance equitable access and support African manufacturing.