



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PLANNING, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

Federal Republic of Nigeria

Agenda Item:

Strengthening Local Production of Medicines and Other Health Technologies to Improve Access

(Resolution WHA74.6 (2021))

Introduction:

The Federal Republic of Nigeria remains fully committed to the World Health Assembly Resolution WHA74.6 on strengthening local production of medicines and other health technologies. Recognizing the critical role of sustainable and resilient health systems, Nigeria has undertaken significant initiatives to advance local pharmaceutical manufacturing and the production of health technologies. This position paper outlines the progress made, identifies key challenges encountered, and offers recommendations for consideration by the Assembly.

Actions Implemented

Development and launch of the National Costed Roadmap for Vaccine Research, Development, and Manufacturing.- Hosting of a high-level advocacy meeting on vaccine production.- 70% completion of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API) production facility, with AFREXIM Bank sponsorship.- Laboratory synthesis of artemether from *Artemisia annua* cultivated locally, initiating pilot production of ACTs (antimalarial drugs).- Participation and completion of multi-center Phase 3 clinical trials of the COVID-19 vaccine (Sifcovan).- Provision of laboratory evidence for the registration of herbal medicine products targeting Asthma, TB, Diabetes, Ulcer, and Malaria.

Concerns Raised/Challenges

Insufficient national and international funding support. - Limited access to technical assistance and technology transfer mechanisms. - Inadequate infrastructure and regulatory capacity constraints for scaling innovations

Nigeria's Position/Recommendations

Nigeria reiterates its commitment to strengthening local pharmaceutical and health technology production as a strategic health security priority, Nigeria calls for:- Increased national and

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Nigeria's Position/Recommendations

international financing mechanisms.- Facilitated access to technology transfer, training, and innovation partnerships.- Support for regulatory system strengthening, Nigeria urges WHO and partners to prioritize capacity-building initiatives and create enabling environments to scale up production efforts in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

Conclusion:

Nigeria acknowledges the efforts of WHO in supporting Member States to build resilient pharmaceutical sectors and calls for further global solidarity, investment, and technical cooperation to accelerate the realization of the goals of Resolution WHA74.6. Nigeria remains ready to collaborate and share best practices with Member States to achieve equitable access to essential medicines and health technologies globally.