

Press Release

Letta Report underlines need to improve equitable access to medicines and support for critical medicines production in Europe

Brussels, 19 April 2024

Enrico Letta's [Report on the Future of the Single Market](#) highlights the need to encourage equity of medicine access, sustainable pricing and procurement models for supply and EU-wide funds for investments in medicine manufacturing in Europe.

The Letta Report calls on the EU to:

- **Strengthen the Single Market to improve access to medicines**, building on the EU Pharmaceutical Strategy. Timely patient access to more generic and biosimilar medicines should be priorities in the legislative review and in the next institutional cycle.
- **Leverage public procurement to promote social value, enhance social capital and align with the EU's green and digital transformation ambitions**. As underlined in the Report, reliance on the lowest price award criterion results in inefficiencies, such as medicine shortages, and fails to address environmental goals.
- **Support investment in medicines manufacturing for an open strategic autonomy by adapting state and regional aid rules while ensuring that investment support can be spread widely across the EU**. As a sector with production sites in all EU countries, we strongly support this approach for a future Critical Medicines Act and for a Biotech Industry Act.

Medicines for Europe Director General Adrian van den Hoven commented *“Mr Letta has rightly put a strong focus on healthcare in his Report. The Single Market for pharmaceuticals should ensure equitable access to medicines, integrate security of supply criteria into market policies and bolster manufacturing competitiveness especially for generic, biosimilar and value added medicine supply chains. The comprehensive strategy outlined in the Report should be prioritised in EU policies, securing adequate funding for manufacturing, enhancing security of supply in procurement and ensuring timely access to generic, biosimilar and value added medicines for equitable access”*.

Medicines for Europe

Medicines for Europe represents the generic, biosimilar and value-added medicines industries across Europe. Its vision is to provide sustainable access to high quality medicines, based on 5 important pillars: patients, quality, value, sustainability and partnership. Its members directly employ 190,000 people at over 400 manufacturing and 126 R&D sites in Europe and invest up to 17% of their turnover in R&D investment. Medicines for Europe member companies across Europe are both increasing access to medicines and driving improved health outcomes. They play a key role in creating sustainable European healthcare systems by continuing to provide high quality, effective generic medicines, whilst also innovating to create new biosimilar medicines and bringing to market value added medicines, which deliver better health outcomes, greater efficiency and/or improved safety in the hospital setting for patients. For more information, please follow us at www.medicinesforeurope.com and on Twitter [@medicinesforEU](https://twitter.com/medicinesforEU).