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LETTER OF INTENT

BETWEEN

**The Indian Council of Medical Research, Department of Health Research, New Delhi,
India**

AND

Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, Norway

FOR

Cooperation on Vaccine Research, Development and Innovation

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), under the Department of Health Research (DHR), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India, an apex body for formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research based in New Delhi and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), a not-for-profit international association, based in Oslo, Norway, intend to enter into a partnership to work together in furtherance of achieving their shared goal of supporting the development and evaluation of accessible and affordable vaccines to prevent, treat and/ or cure emerging and reemerging infectious diseases.

This Letter of Intent (LoI) will build on a technical collaboration towards generating data to identify needs for development of new vaccines; strategies for introducing new/in-pipeline vaccines during public health emergencies; and enhance capacities for early detection of outbreaks of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases in India. The collaborative research activities will be extended beyond India to benefit the countries of the WHO-South East Asia Region through the Regional RESEARCH (Regional Enabler for South-East Asia Research Collaboration for Health) platform, which has been recently launched for collaborative research among SEAR countries with support from WHO-SEARO.

The collaboration will also facilitate capacity strengthening for clinical trials, epidemiology, diagnostic standards and assays, putting in place protocols for implementing/ testing new vaccines during an outbreak, disease prioritization exercises, strategic discussions to strengthen the research agenda through scientific conferences and other related activities. It is intended that this LoI will precede the conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU shall form the basis for further discussions and set the framework for our future cooperation.

For the avoidance of doubt, nothing expressed or implied in this letter creates any legally binding obligations or enforceable rights for CEPI or ICMR. It only constitutes an expression of both parties' current intentions.

Signed at New Delhi on the 23rd day of the month of February in the year 2023.

For the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness
Innovations

Dr Richard Hatchett
Chief Executive Officer

For the Indian Council of Medical Research

Dr Rajiv Bahl
Secretary DHR & Director General ICMR