

# Optimizing Regulatory Processes for Quality Global Health Products for Low and Middle Income Countries:

## Working with the EU to Enhance Global Health – Article 58



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BILL & MELINDA  
GATES *foundation*

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## The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation: General Overview

Why our interest in regulatory systems

BMGF's strategy to improve GH regulatory  
landscape for Medicines and Vaccines

The European Union and Article 58



# Our history



**1994**

Bill Gates Sr. starts a small philanthropic foundation at his son's request.



**1997**

Bill and Melinda read an article about rotavirus and are inspired to act.



**2000**

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is created, with a focus on health, education, and libraries.



**2006**

Warren Buffett pledges Berkshire Hathaway stock valued at \$31 billion.



**2008**

Bill joins Melinda full-time at the foundation.



**2011**

The foundation moves to its new permanent home in Seattle.



EVERY PERSON  
DESERVES THE  
CHANCE TO LIVE  
A HEALTHY,  
PRODUCTIVE LIFE

BILL & MELINDA  
GATES *Foundation*  
VISITOR CENTER

ENTER  
CURIOUS

# Our global reach and presence



**1,200**

2012 active grantees

**\$3.4B**

2012 grant payments

**1,100**

2012 employees worldwide



# What we do

## GLOBAL HEALTH



## GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT



## UNITED STATES PROGRAM

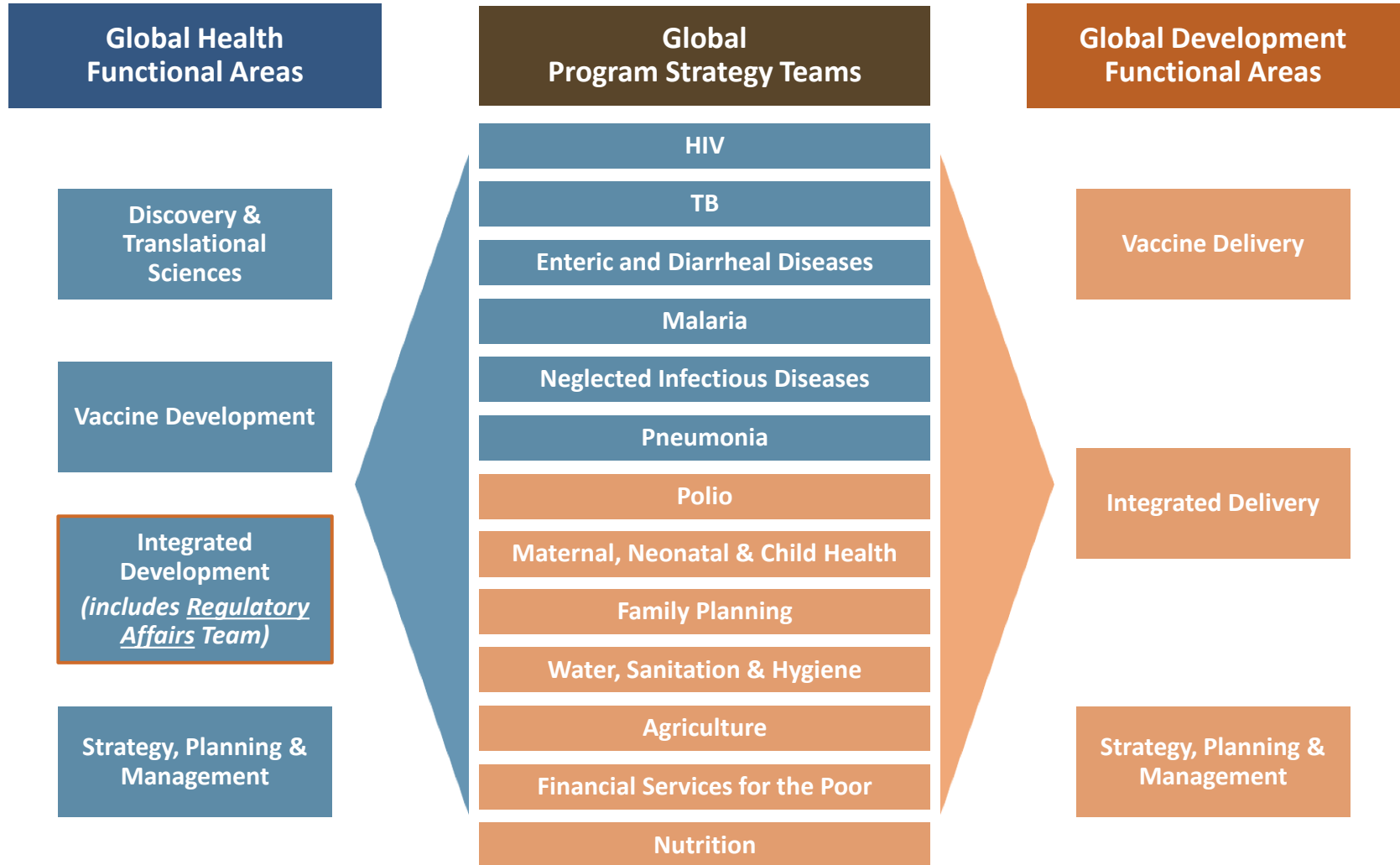


# BMGF Global Organization

Reporting line

Global Health

Global Development



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The African Medicine Regulatory  
Harmonization (AMRH) initiative



# Challenges along the three main steps of the regulatory landscape



## Role of regulation

- **Approval and oversight** of pre-clinical experiments and clinical trials for demonstration of product efficacy and safety and quality of clinical trial supplies
- **Approval for distribution** in own jurisdiction through the evaluation of
 
  - product **safety, efficacy, quality,**
  - **manufacturing** and **distribution** facilities
  - **Benefit-to-risk ratio** in the intended population
- **Monitoring** to learn about quality, safety, and efficacy profiles and act on potential **adverse effects (pharmacovigilance)**
  - Monitoring of **product marketing practices**
  - On-going **manufacturing quality assessments**

## Lack of adequate capacity for value added regulatory activities (and definition/agreement on those)

## Key regulatory challenges in LMIC landscape

- **Insufficient funding** to support the clinical development regulatory activities
- **Long approval timelines,** related to **systemic redundancies and complexity, long “down times”**
- **Limited diagnostics regulation** with a **complex landscape for manufacturers**
- **Limited infrastructure** to support pharmacovigilance, methodologic challenges
  - Increased inflow of **counterfeit and substandard** medicines

# Registration activities are key steps in global health product access

Illustrative example for medicines and vaccines



- To introduce a vaccine or drug in many SSA countries

- The product must be registered with the country's NRA

- The product typically needs WHO-PQ to meet quality requirements of donors and procurers

- Before that, the product generally needs a first registration, usually in the country of origin, or a recognized SRA (often needs CMP/CPP)

- R&D phase for product development

# Strategy development for registration component informed by robust fact base and extensive expert engagement

Current progress:

Vector control

Diagnostics

Drugs & Vaccines

From “beliefs” to facts

Proposed strategy

“Making it happen”

**Drugs and Vaccines**  
70% of portfolio<sup>1</sup>

- Data collected: registration time data for 200+ products
- Stakeholders interviewed: product developers (20), regulators and policy makers (11), and procurers (4)

- Strategy developed and approved:
- Near-term and long-term vision
  - Strategic actions
  - Risks/mitigation
  - Support requested

*Implementation and stakeholder outreach in progress (investments and advocacy efforts)*

**Diagnostics**  
20% of portfolio<sup>1</sup>

- Data collected: WHO PQ, FDA CBER, 510K approval times & application volumes; select mfg case studies; RDT quality assessments
- 42 stakeholders interviewed: Manufacturers (9), Country regulators and policy makers (11), Regulatory experts (13), Procurers (4), Quality assurance mechanisms (5)

- Stakeholder engagement on vision and strategy
- Internal leadership approval on high-level vision and strategy

*Recently started*

**Vector**  
10% of portfolio

*Recently started*

# Summary of factbase of challenges in medicines and vaccines registration (data through end of 2012)

## Typical duration in months, median

Registration pathway		1st RA approval time	PQ approval time	Gap from 1st approval to 1st SSA NRA submission	Spread from 1st NRA submission to last NRA submission <sup>1</sup>	Sub-Saharan Africa NRA approval time
Drug	Novel, SRA first	10 months	4	9	52	11
	Generic, NRA first	~12	27	~3-6	~24	~18
Vaccine	SRA first	15	16	5	78	16
	NRA first	~12	16	~3-6	N/A	N/A

1. Excludes those with data available for only 1 NRA submission

Note: "Relevant SSA submission" defined as top-20 disease-burden country or all countries for contraceptives and certain vaccines

Source: Data from CEO Roundtable member registration data received as of 1/7/2013; PQ approval times from WHO PQ data, NRA/SRA data from FDA/EMA databases, CIRS, WHO PARs, and online research; BCG analysis



# Main challenges and root causes in medicines and vaccines

## Key challenge

## Root causes

**A**  
PQ of SRA-approved vaccines takes 1-2 years following prior SRA approval

- Vaccine PQ repeats full assessment for SRA-approved vaccines
- Programmatic suitability issues for developing-country use (e.g., vaccines lack needed thermostability properties)
- Manufacturers prioritize commercial market over PQ (~12 mos. response)

**B**  
PQ of generic drugs from emerging markets typically takes >2 years

- Manufacturers run into hurdles because they are used to local standards (e.g., ~45% of dossiers lack required clinical data like bioequivalence)
- PQ is often a 2<sup>nd</sup> priority for these manufacturers

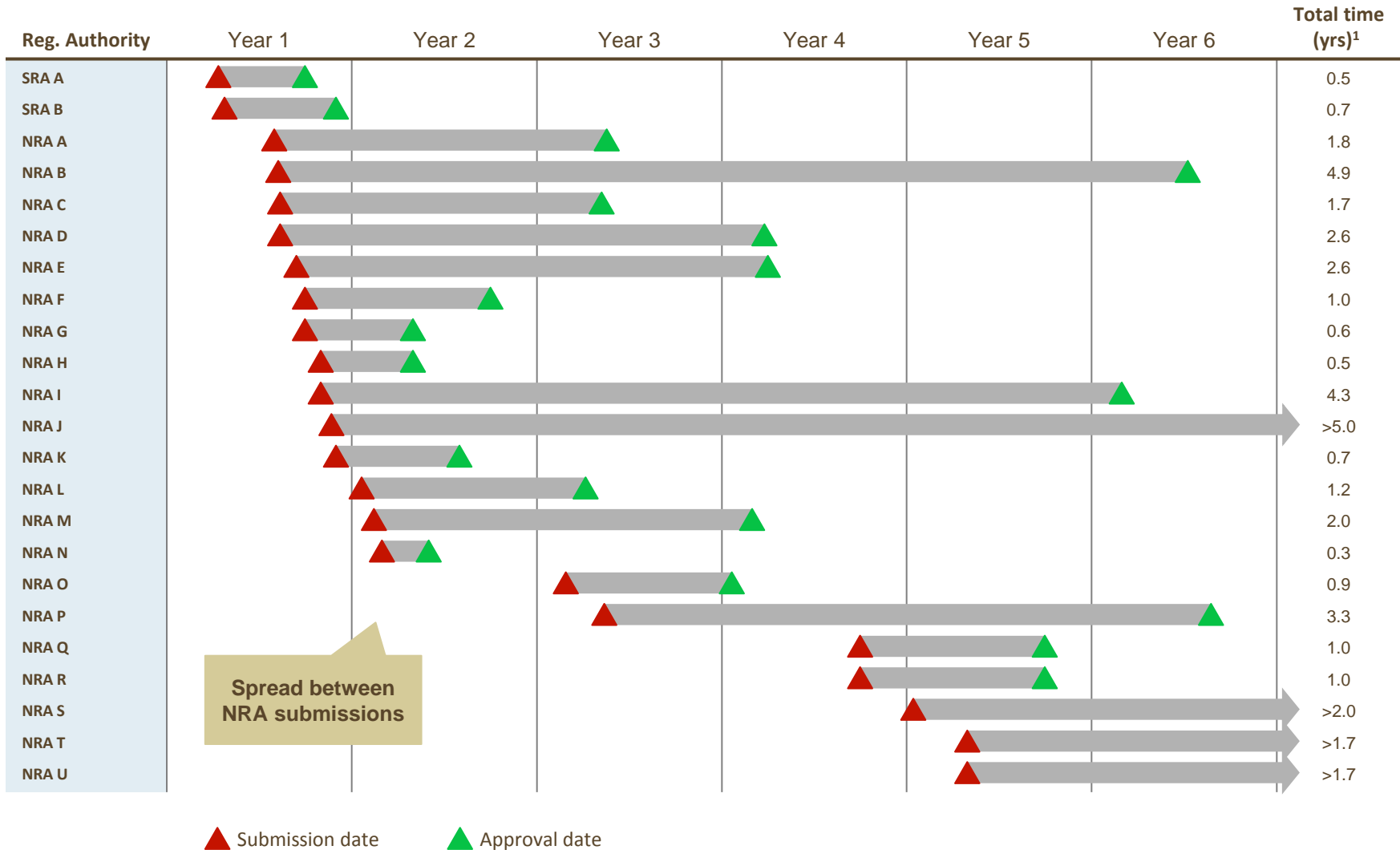
**C**  
Sub-Saharan Africa NRA approval takes 1-2+ years for products that have SRA approval or PQ

- NRAs repeat assessments (e.g., plant inspections) performed by SRA or PQ
- Limited technical and HR capacity results in slow review

**D**  
Registration submission to NRAs across all relevant SSA countries often spreads over several years

- Manufacturers don't prioritize registration for all endemic countries
- No harmonization of dossier requirements limits manufacturer ability to apply to many NRAs at once

# Example of large spread between submissions to NRAs



1. Time from submission to approval

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The role of the Regulatory Affairs team

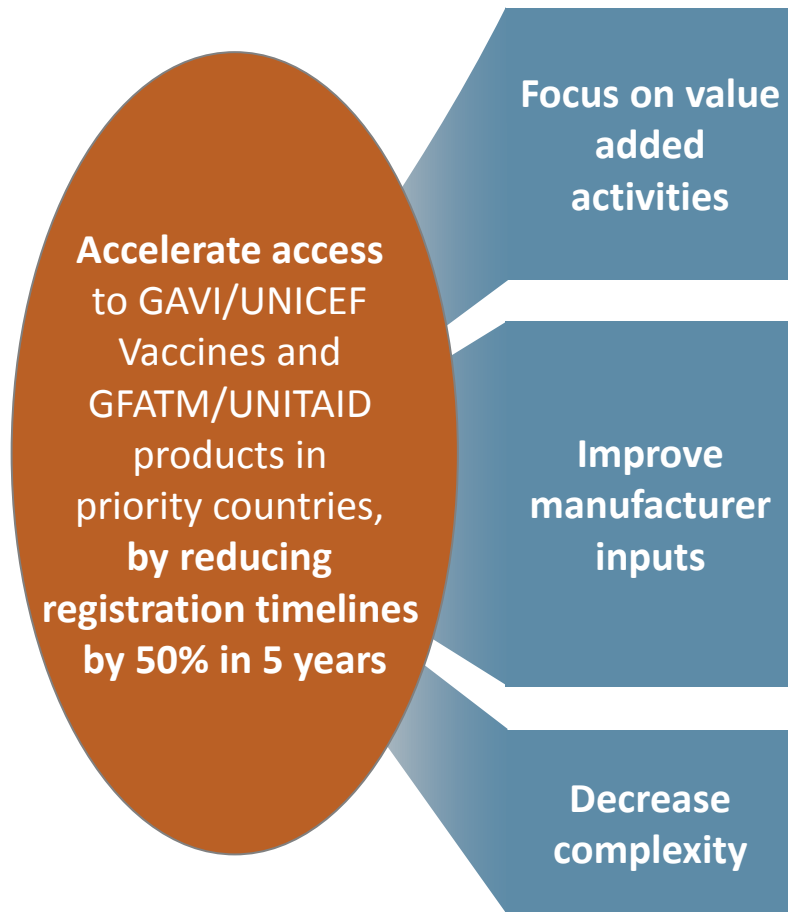


**BMGF's strategy to improve GH regulatory  
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The African Medicine Regulatory  
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# Future vision and strategic actions

● Problems addressed



## Key strategic actions

- **Maximize focus on value added activities** by all stakeholders (A)
- **Maximize efficiency of WHO PQ program**, including increased reliance on SRAs and NRAs (B, C)
- **Expand WHO accelerated NRA review programs**
- **Raise enforced standards for generics and vaccines regulation in India and China**
- **Directly encourage manufacturers to improve inputs** (e.g. programmatic suitability, regulatory planning, early regulator engagement) (B)
- **Advocate for donors/procurers to reward quality**
- **Support NRA harmonization and regionalization** through African Regional Medicines Harmonization (AMRH) initiative (C, D)



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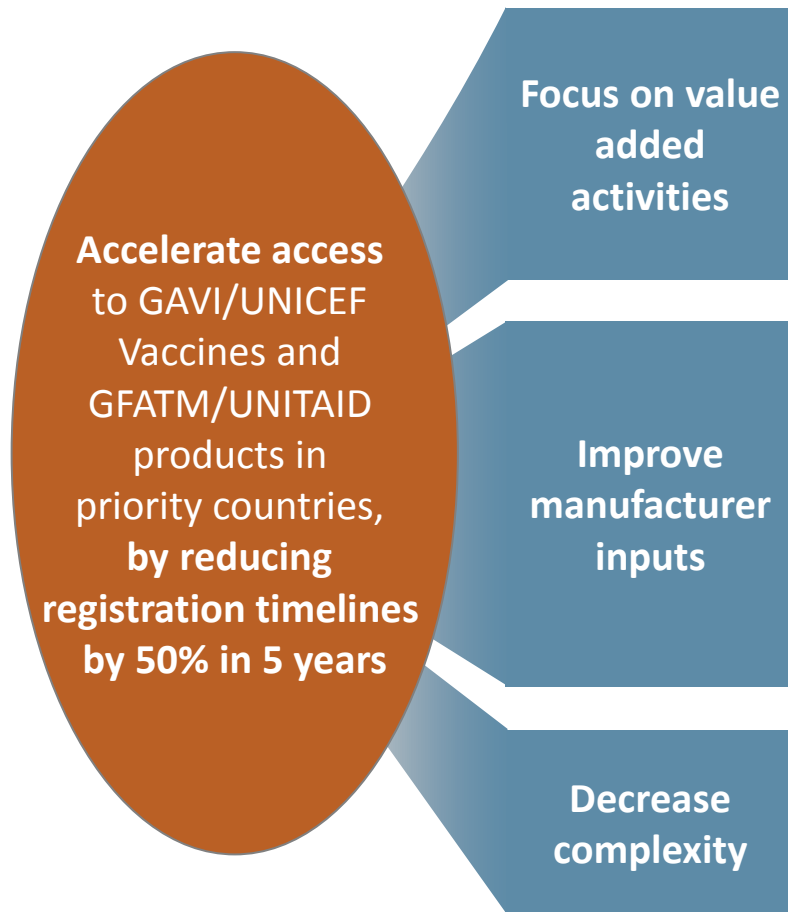


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**(C)**
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**(D)**

# Article 58

**Special provision of EU pharmaceutical law:  
Article 58 of Regulation (EC) No 726/2004**

**Intended to provide access to EU technical expertise (pre-clinical, clinical, and manufacturing quality) for products that will not be marketed in Europe**

**During the development phase**

**During the marketing dossier assessment phase**

**During the post-marketing authorisation phase**

# Article 58

**Manufacturer makes decision to employ this route**

**Applies to be accepted into this programme**

**EMA works with WHO on whether or not to accept product into this programme**

**After acceptance**

**Access to scientific advice from EU experts / Sc Adv WG / CHMP**

**Fees apply, but in certain cases can be reduced or waived**



# Article 58

**During CHMP marketing dossier assessment**

**WHO experts integral part of the process**

**Can include representatives from NRAs of countries where product may be ultimately used**

**Does not result in a European marketing authorisation; rather results in a positive CHMP scientific opinion about the benefit/risk profile of the product and about the manufacturing quality of the product**

**Manufacturer is responsible to the EMA/Commission for post-positive opinion responsibilities just as if it were a EU marketing authorisation**

**Pharmacovigilance, manufacturing updates, quality defect reports**

# Article 58

**Results: 6 positive opinions**

**HIV – 3 products**

**Malaria – 1 product**

**Vaccines – 2 (multiple antigens)**

**Why so few?**

**Non-access to EU market can be disincentive**

**Lack of knowledge**

**WHO does not feel a product is critical for LMIC**

**? Others**

# Article 58

**Information on this programme:**

[http://www.ema.europa.eu/ema/index.jsp?curl=pages/regulation/general/general\\_content\\_000162.jsp&mid=WC0b01ac0580024e9b](http://www.ema.europa.eu/ema/index.jsp?curl=pages/regulation/general/general_content_000162.jsp&mid=WC0b01ac0580024e9b)

[www.ema.europa.eu](http://www.ema.europa.eu)

**In Search Engine: Article 58**

**THANK YOU!**