

Program Series: Continuing U.S.-China Regulatory Dialogues for Better Healthcare

Reflecting on the recent pandemic experience, lessons and beyond

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The healthcare sector remains one of AmCham China's largest membership segments. Our healthcare member companies, bringing the most innovative medicines and cost-effective medical device products, introducing best health management practices, and delivering competitive healthcare services to the people of China, continue to contribute tremendously to China's "Healthy China 2030" goals. Their contributions to China's COVID-19 battle and that of the world are even more worth noting and deserve a prominent place in the U.S.-China trade dialogues in spite of the many challenges there are.

AmCham China has long applauded China's reform efforts to allow increased market access for FDIs that have given the Chinese people more choices of affordable and higher quality of healthcare products and services. Our healthcare sector member companies have enjoyed opportunities of policy and regulatory dialogues with Chinese government at both central and local levels, recognizing that these dialogues are needed to building common understanding and actions between the policy-makers and business community to re-engineer and deliver some of most complex but impactful health policy problems and regulatory issues for the world's largest population, e.g. product safety, efficient R&D process, procurement, patient management, care support, occupational health, and others.

The responses to the COVID-19 pandemic so far have left to us many successful health strategy stories as well as lessons in dispensing stretched resources in developing policies and regulations, mobilizing commodities, and enabling health personnel and care providers. Within AmCham China's domain of concerns, not only are these related to how to manage a country's healthcare system, but also are these questions that economic and industrial policy-makers ought to debate about to ensure the commodities countries' healthcare systems viability depend upon can be made available.

Leveraging the context resulted by the pandemic but looking beyond just this public health emergency, AmCham China and our member companies welcome the opportunities to continue these dialogues that will affect FDIs in China in the healthcare sector. And through these dialogues, we hope to

- **Build a Track-II dialogue platform between U.S. and China for the healthcare industry to exchange views on policies, regulatory practices and standards** that affect AmCham China healthcare sector member companies' competitive positions and business viability in China, reflecting and discussing in depth some of the long-term discussions raised in our *American Business in China White Paper* and short-term problems that surfaced during the latest battle fighting against the COVID-19 pandemic;

- **Call for U.S. and China governments to reassess the importance of holding regular dialogues on healthcare science and trade** and institute pipelines for continuous public and private sector exchange of views on scientific development, R&D progress and go-to market policy and regulatory schemes.

Envisioned Program Content and Deliverables

In order to do so, with input from the membership of our Healthcare Industry Forum and academic expertise, we will convene the following program series in three phases of due diligence to ensure community knowledge-sharing, in-depth stakeholder discourse falling into specific tracks of healthcare and public health issues, and as a final deliverable, an actionable recommendation document that can be delivered to the U.S. and Chinese policy-makers for their own future work and dialogues with the business community:

Phase I. Facts that matter: Getting a holistic view on the immediate and mid-/long term policy and scientific efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S. and China

Timeline: June to August, 2020

This phase of programs will focus on discovering the facts and developing the issue bases of all the emergency measures the U.S. and Chinese governments have taken to combat COVID-19 in the healthcare and public health contexts, and provide a holistic outlook into future economic and industrial policies that affect scientific research, regulatory development, business and investment trends, and education and training. These discussions will be delivered through four informative online lectures:

- Session 1: An early-stage review of China's mobilization of COVID-19 responses and the health economic factors that drove China's decision-making: lessons learned, practices worth sharing and focuses of debate;
- Session 2: Beyond myths and battles between media and the White House: what worked and what did not in the U.S.'s battle against COVID-19, and what roles have the healthcare system and businesses played to drive policy outcomes – wins and losses?
- Session 3: Can we depoliticize the conversation about international collaboration on a global pandemic: deglobalization versus globalizing emerging health problems? How have the U.S. and China contributed, and what gaps do there remain for the two largest economies to take the leadership needed?
- Session 4: Do the math: are we spending enough on healthcare? How can governments and businesses contribute to achieve higher public health and

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healthcare spending efficiency? What are the economic, business sustainability and policy choices?

Phase II. Building consensus: Why should the U.S. and China collaborate on the global combat against COVID-19 and other healthcare matters? And How?

Timeline: September to November, 2020

Leverage the learning in Phase I programs, the discussions in Phase II will be delivered through five highly interactive sessions amongst key stakeholders of public health decision-making and the healthcare industry to diagnose key issues and develop initial recommendations of the following areas in the context of COVID-19:

- Session 1: The importance of vaccine development: where are the gaps and why? What are the public health, policy and business incentives to invest on vaccine research and development? What are the common ground do we already see and what are the short and long-term conflicts we need to reconcile amongst the key players?
- Session 2: How can therapeutic solutions be paid for? What are the scientific challenges and where do we see the dawn's early light? Any lesson and experience we can draw from addressing past emerging infectious diseases and pandemics?
- Session 3: Taking emergency public health measures versus reaching long-term healthcare policy goals: linkages and conflicts – some examples of short-term policy decisions that affect the healthcare industry and their long-term effects in U.S., China and the other key markets;
- Session 4: People matter: different healthcare models and how health services are provided – how can the healthcare personnel be supported better to make medical decisions? What are the resource gaps?
- Session 5: Let science reign: public opinions matter, but how can media play constructive roles to create space for scientists to do their work and promote desirable public health and healthcare outcomes?

Phase III Delivering recommendation: Writing an advocacy document to share with U.S. and Chinese health industry stakeholders

Timeline: December, 2020

This final phase of the program series will include two components:

- A final workshop to review the key take-aways and outcomes of the Phase I learnings and Phase II discussions, and outline the key comments and recommendations for the recommendations for the U.S. and Chinese governments to consider in their future policy-making and dialogues with the private sector;
- Drafting and publishing the recommendation document. Leveraging the Phases I and II program take-aways and outcomes, the document ought to include content that reflect the following two purposes:
 1. Encouraging continuous and actionable public and private sector dialogues on policy and regulatory development that would promote efficient utilization of healthcare resources and create space for the private sector to provide contributions for healthcare improvement choices;
 2. Identify key areas where the U.S. and Chinese governments ought to hold dialogues with one another to promote trade, create market access, stabilize global healthcare product supply chain, and encourage scientific exchange between the U.S. and Chinese health communities.

**While sponsorship is not required, we are open to discuss customized sponsorship opportunities and benefits.*

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