Our nation is at a critical juncture and how we approach the next 100 days will be essential in terms of ending the pandemic and rebuilding our economy in a way that is more resilient, more dynamic, and more inclusive. America remains the most vibrant and entrepreneurial nation in the world. We have been tested time and time again and have always emerged stronger and more united. As the new Administration and new Congress begin, there is a unique opportunity for the private and public sectors to come together to galvanize our nation’s scientific and entrepreneurial capacity, to mobilize new waves of homegrown innovation and American ingenuity and to organize our country around the clear and bold mission of ending the pandemic and getting more American’s back to work. To do that we must:

1. **ENSURE A SPEEDY TRANSITION AND AN EXPEDITED SENATE CONFIRMATION PROCESS FOR AGENCY LEADERSHIP CRITICAL TO ADVANCING PUBLIC HEALTH, NUTRITION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS.**

2. **REENGAGE AS A LEADER ON THE WORLD STAGE, INCLUDING REJOINING THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION AND THE PARIS CLIMATE ACCORDS.**

3. **DEVELOP AND APPROVE MORE VACCINES, THERAPEUTICS, AND DIAGNOSTICS TO PREVENT AND TREAT COVID--19**

**Specific Recommendations**

- Provide increased R&D funding for a broad array of innovative technologies with the potential to fight COVID-19 and other emerging infectious diseases.
- Ensure ample funding to complete research priorities and procurement of existing vaccines and therapeutics.
- Expand government coordination mechanisms beyond the first wave of COVID-19 vaccines, treatments, and diagnostics.
- Encourage more public-private partnerships and private investment through sound public policy.
- Continue expedited EUA and full approval processes for existing and next wave of COVID vaccines and therapies.
- Ensure that companies can continue to partner with HHS, BARDA and DoD without regard to their current global supply chain.
- Increase funding for CDC surveillance activities to help evaluate the effectiveness of COVID vaccines and therapeutics and drive evidence-based decision making on development of updated or new medical countermeasures.
PROMOTE ROBUST AND EQUITABLE PATIENT ACCESS TO COVID–19 VACCINES, THERAPEUTICS, AND DIAGNOSTICS

Specific Recommendations

• Eliminate all patient cost-sharing across government and commercial insurance markets for COVID-related vaccines, treatments, and diagnostics, including for administration and ancillary services.

• Ensure state Medicaid programs cover all FDA-approved COVID-19 treatments and diagnostics, including those approved under an EUA, without delay and without prior authorization requirements.

• Cover COVID-19 treatment for the uninsured via Medicaid at 100% federal match.

• Ensure that provider relief funds and other similar assistance is targeted to providers who serve Medicaid, the uninsured, and other vulnerable patients.

• Expand and adequately fund the range of sites administering COVID-19 vaccines and treatments beyond acute care settings, including home infusion of therapeutics.

• Mount a coordinated and well-funded national campaign to build vaccine confidence and facilitate vaccination, particularly in minority communities and among essential workers.

• Develop a national vaccination plan to accelerate distribution and administration of COVID-19 vaccines in an equitable manner.

• Leverage federal research funding to diversify federal clinical trial networks and promote minority inclusion in COVID-19 trials.

• Encourage governors to expand the vaccine eligible populations to the ACIP recommendations expediently.

BEFORE PREPARE FOR FUTURE INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAKS

Specific Recommendations

• Support a steady-state of public and private R&D on emerging infectious diseases by providing tax incentives for private investment in early-stage clinical R&D of medical countermeasures.

• Adequately fund and resource agencies engaged in biodefense and emergency preparedness such as ASPR, BARDA, USDA, and the CDC, so they have the infrastructure in place for immediate response and can improve long-term strategic preparedness planning.

• Enable the creation, maintenance, and utilization of advanced manufacturing capabilities domestically, particularly for biological products by incentivizing private investment in facilities and equipment, supporting initiatives for training a new and expanded workforce, and ensuring a clear regulatory pathway.

• Increase physical and virtual inventories of critical emergency supplies in the Strategic National Stockpile.

• Pursue a “One Health” coordination approach across the government that recognizes the interrelationship between human, animal, and environmental health.

• Rebuild and invest in the state and local public health infrastructure.
DRIVE ECONOMIC REVIVAL AND RESILIENCY THROUGH ADOPTION OF ADVANCED BIOTECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

Specific Recommendations

- Develop streamlined and expedited regulatory pathways for breakthrough technology solutions to climate change and nutrition challenges.
- Expand support for scale-up of biorefineries and other biobased manufacturing.
- Incentivize the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices and low-carbon fuels.
- Enforce requirements that Federal agencies should be purchasing biobased products — “Buy Green America.”
- Incentivize the use of existing or future COVID-19 relief and recovery funding to purchase biobased products to meet the demand for personal protection equipment (PPE), sterilizing and cleaning equipment and cleaning products, and with respect to broader efforts to “build back better.”
- In addition to these immediate actions, BIO calls on the federal government, working with state, local, and private sector partners, to conduct a comprehensive review of COVID outbreak and pandemic response to identify additional steps that could/should have been taken or that could improve the nation’s response and recovery in the future.

BIO’S PLEDGE

WORKING WITH OUR MEMBER COMPANIES AND OTHER PARTNERS, BIO WILL:

- Expand covidvaccinefacts.org to provide the public with easily understandable, transparent, and credible information about the safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines and how they can obtain access to them.
- Facilitate cooperative agreements to expand manufacturing capabilities of vaccines to meet the demand.
- Promote continued diversity in COVID clinical trials.
- Always stand up for science.
- Highlight steps being taken by the Administration, Congress, and BIO’s member companies to resolve the COVID-19 pandemic in BIO’s public communication portals, meetings and events.