

## **The 2021 CSIS: Leem welcomes the announcement of ambitions worthy of the challenges ahead, and calls for rapid implementation of reforms**

The Strategic Council for the Healthcare Industries (CSIS) held on 29 June 2021 at the Élysée Palace and attended by the French President, several members of the Government and the report coordinators, reflects the ambition of the State to establish France as the leading European nation for healthcare innovation and sovereignty by 2030. This ambition has its roots in the Covid-19 crisis, which has highlighted both the strengths and weaknesses of the French healthcare ecosystem.

As a forum for interactive discussion between healthcare companies and public authorities, the 2021 CSIS is integral to the transformation plan introduced at the beginning of Emmanuel Macron's five-year term as President.

**Leem Chairman Frédéric Collet:** *“With its profile raised to the highest level through the attendance of the French President, this CSIS confirms once again the strategic importance of the pharmaceutical industry. Most importantly, the measures announced will benefit patients by significantly improving France's ability to embrace innovations in healthcare and making our country more strategically autonomous in terms of pharmaceutical products. They will provide us with the resources we need to restore the competitiveness of France and its appeal for inward investment. Every part of government is now aware of the need for our country to catch up as quickly as possible with our European competitors, and to mobilise all our resources to ensure the successful delivery of these ambitious reforms. Everything now depends on the clear and rapid implementation of these commitments, which must be translated into the next Social Security Finance Act”.*

### **Major advances for attracting inward investment and accelerating innovation**

The measures announced are largely consistent with Leem's proposals for fundamental transformation of the French research ecosystem, to reform the mechanisms that give patients early access to innovative therapies, and to restore France's competitiveness and appeal for inward investment in manufacturing.

#### **Transforming the research ecosystem:**

- A policy of locating research facilities in and around centres of excellence and bioclusters, new funding allocated to clear priorities, boosting the ability of France to attract and retain the most talented people, the absolute priority given to attracting and developing clinical research projects, and the creation of an innovation agency... all these announcements deliver a broadly positive response to proposals and expectations of the industry.

#### **Reforming patient access to innovative therapies:**

- The profound transformation of market access mechanisms that reduce time-to-market in France and bring it into line with the best-performing European countries (especially Germany), and the widening of the criteria governing the inclusion of products in the supplementary list (liste en sus) mark major advances in accelerating the speed and equality of patient access to innovative therapies.

### **Restoring the competitiveness of France and its appeal for inward investment**

- The acceleration strategy for the priority areas of biotherapies, digital health and infectious diseases in combination with increased funding for manufacturing projects via BPI France amplify France's ambition to become more competitive (retaining its existing manufacturing capacity and encouraging reshoring) and more appealing for inward investment (to attract new manufacturing capacity).

### **There are two essential conditions: solving the budgetary equation and providing close, partnership-based management of reforms**

*“The importance and extent of the transformations announced at this CSIS inevitably require the release of additional resources, and therefore a return to growth; something our pharmaceutical companies have been deprived of for more than a decade. The President’s commitment to 2.4% year-on-year growth in healthcare products underpinned by oversight and assessment sends a very strong signal in this respect.*

*The scale of the government's ambitions also requires the implementation of a reform management system at the highest level of the French State. Leem intends to be a committed, constructive and vigilant partner in managing this project, which is fully consistent with achieving our ambitions as a country”, concludes Frédéric Collet.*

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