Improving health care management in Brazil

The “Strategic Sector Cooperation between Denmark and Brazil on supporting efficient healthcare management in Brazil” (SSC) aims at ensuring better, faster and universal access to quality healthcare services and products by supporting the development of more efficient healthcare management in Brazil.

The SSC is divided into two pillars on improving healthcare management. PILLAR I is technical cooperation between the Danish Health Data Authority (DHDA) and the Brazilian Ministry of Health (BMoH) on better use of health data to improve access to quality healthcare, patient security and coherent patient pathways. PILLAR II is technical cooperation between the Danish Medicines Agency (DMA) and Brazilian Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA) on supporting faster and more transparent approval processes for pharmaceuticals considering the overall licensing principles of quality, safety and efficacy.

The expected outcomes of PILLAR I are a proposal for a framework for data management, a National Centre for Terminology and a possible introduction of a financial and administrative management tool based upon grouping and cost calculation of treatment of patients with related diagnoses (DRG-system) for public health units in Brazil. For PILLAR II, the expected outcomes are proposals for submission requirements of active pharmaceuticals ingredients (API-dossier), proposed revised work processes (standardised operation procedures) on quality and efficacy assessments on different medical products as well as proposals for two revised ANVISA guidelines on assessment of quality documentation in relation to clinical trials phase 1-3 on synthetic and semisynthetic medicinal products and biological medicinal products.

Key activities in 2016

The Growth Counsellor on Health (GC) has together with the Danish Ministry of Health organised a number of delegation visits to and from Brazil, including a successful study tour to Denmark in February 2016 by a Brazilian health delegation with the participation of Brazilian health representatives from the federal, the state and the municipal levels. The aim of the study tour was to share best practices and knowledge about innovative and cost-efficient solutions within the Danish healthcare system. The visit showed a solid interest in cooperation by all selected participants. The study tour was followed-up by two technical visits to Brazil in June 2016 by DHDA and DMA to narrow down the scope of a SSC project with BMoH and ANVISA respectively.

Moreover, the GC has participated in a number of visits to states’ health secretariats and workshops held by the Danish missions to facilitate match-making between Danish and Brazilian health authorities and units, Danish researchers and Danish companies for the establishment of possible public-private partnerships. Additionally, the GC has participated in Brazilian workshops promoting Danish public/private partnerships and solutions and advocating for wider Danish-Brazilian cooperation.

Main achievements in 2016

A full scale project document was developed and approved in December, 2016. The SSC runs from December 2016 to March 2019.

Good and close relations have been established with the participating Brazilian authorities. To promote Danish private and public competences more broadly, the GC has furthermore established close relations to other influential stakeholders in Brazil such as the National Council of States’ Health Secretariats (CONASS - equivalent to Danish Regions), the Inter-American Development Bank, WHO/PAHO, municipal and state health secretariats throughout Brazil, including the Municipal and the State Health Secretariats in São Paulo etc.