



H.E. Mr. Victor Dolidze
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations Office and other international
organizations in Geneva
Rue Richard Wagner 1 1202 Genève
Switzerland

2 July 2020

Your Excellency,

At this key juncture in the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are writing to invite your government to formally express interest in joining the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) Facility. The COVAX Facility is designed to ensure your country has the best possibility to access safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine that is critical to reduce deaths, ensure health security, support social stability, and kickstart global economic recovery. Through cooperative investment, shared risk, pooled procurement, and equitable allocation, the COVAX Facility will provide an end-to-end vaccine solution for participating countries and help bring the pandemic under control as quickly as possible.

On June 4th, the COVAX Facility was launched by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, at the Global Vaccine Summit hosted by the Government of the United Kingdom. The COVAX Facility sits under the vaccine pillar of the ACT Accelerator, which was launched in April by the European Union and World Health Organization (WHO) to accelerate development, production, and equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments, and vaccines. The vaccine pillar is led by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) in close collaboration with WHO and full partnership with multinational and developing country vaccine manufacturers.

The COVAX Facility is an innovative and ambitious mechanism to accelerate equitable access to appropriate, safe and effective vaccines. It is designed to allow governments to secure access to a large and diverse portfolio of COVID-19 candidate vaccines. The COVAX Facility will draw for its vaccine supply on the CEPI portfolio (the largest and most advanced global portfolio with currently 9 approaches) which will be transferred to the COVAX Facility and will also be able to procure additional vaccines in development from manufacturers not participating currently in CEPI. As an umbrella mechanism, this innovative model will de-risk global access to COVID-19 vaccines by pooling demand as well as resources for procurement and enabling equitable access for all to successful vaccine candidates.


Governments participating in the COVAX Facility will benefit from guaranteed initial access to enough doses to cover 20% of their population - of course, dependent on successful vaccine development. As a first step, governments are invited to submit their non-binding Expression Of Interest in joining the COVAX Facility **by 10 July 2020**. In doing so, your government will be invited to join discussions about the structuring of the Facility that will take place mid-July 2020. By 31 August, governments that wish to participate and secure these doses will be invited to provide: **(i)** a guarantee that they will procure doses to immunize 20% of their population from the Facility and **(ii)** an upfront payment of a proportion of the total cost of procurement. Countries

that wish to purchase vaccine for more than 20% of their population may do so after all participating countries have received their initial allocations.

I am pleased to share with you **(i)** a backgrounder on the COVAX Facility and **(ii)** a draft template letter for the Expression of Interest. Please send your Expression of Interest and/or any questions you may have to covax@gavi.org and our teams will make sure we will get back to you as soon as possible.

I hope that we will have the pleasure to count your Government as part of this historic endeavor to help secure equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines for all.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration,



Dr. Seth Berkley
CEO
Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance



Dr. Richard Hatchett
CEO
Coalition for Epidemic
Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)



Dr. Soumya Swaminathan
Chief Scientist
World Health Organisation