

UNICEF and PAHO launch joint COVID-19 vaccine tender on behalf of COVAX Facility

NEW YORK/WASHINGTON DC, 12 November 2020: UNICEF and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) announced today the [launch of a tender](#) inviting all COVID-19 vaccine developers to submit a proposal for supply in 2021.

The tender, which will run for 6 weeks, aims to provide at least 2 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines on behalf of [the COVAX Facility](#), administered by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. The aim of the tender is to ensure equitable and accelerated access to quality assured vaccines for the 186 participating economies as of today.

All manufacturers expecting to have supply available by the end of 2021 at the latest are invited to respond to the tender, including those that have already signed advance purchase commitments with Gavi, as well as those with pre-existing agreements with the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) on vaccine development.

Matching the unprecedented challenge of addressing the pandemic requires that an innovative procurement process to secure quality-assured COVID-19 vaccines is designed. This entails pooling demand across 186 participants under the COVAX Facility, against which manufacturers of COVID-19 vaccines can submit bids, with UNICEF and PAHO joining forces through joint tendering. This will help to optimize supply from a wide array of potential manufacturers using different technology platforms, thereby improving the likelihood of accessing successfully licensed products in the shortest possible time while securing the lowest price on the global market.

Of the 186 participating economies, [92 lower-income economies](#) will receive financial support through the Advance Market Commitment (AMC) of the COVAX Facility. These economies include those defined by the World Bank as low- and lower middle-income economies, as well as economies eligible for international development assistance.

Of the countries that are part of the AMC, UNICEF will take the lead on the purchase of the vaccine for 82 participants outside of the Americas, while PAHO, through its [Revolving Fund](#), will purchase the vaccine for 10 of its Member States in the Americas.

Self-financing economies participating in the COVAX Facility will have the option to buy vaccines themselves – or through UNICEF, and PAHO, based on key terms negotiated via the COVAX Facility. PAHO will purchase on behalf of all interested Member States from the Americas; as of today, 28 self-financing economies have signed agreements with the COVAX Facility.

UNICEF and PAHO will establish long-term agreements to facilitate procurement and delivery but will also identify additional vaccine candidates to be targeted for advance purchase commitments by the COVAX Facility. The WHO framework for fair and equitable

access to [COVID-19 vaccines](#) will provide guidance on the allocation of supply. Manufacturers will be expected to deliver vaccines as per UNICEF and PAHO terms and conditions for lower-income economies.

Working in coordination with leading regulatory authorities, all vaccines will be endorsed for safety, efficacy, and quality by WHO before delivery. UNICEF and PAHO aim to sign supply arrangements with successful manufacturers to support early access to COVID-19 vaccines.

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About UNICEF

UNICEF works in some of the world's toughest places, to reach the world's most disadvantaged children. Across 190 countries and territories, we work for every child, everywhere, to build a better world for everyone. For more information about UNICEF and its work for children, visit www.unicef.org. For more information about COVID-19, visit www.unicef.org/coronavirus. UNICEF is the largest single vaccine buyer in the world, procuring more than 2 billion doses of vaccines annually for routine immunization and outbreak response on behalf of nearly 100 countries. Find out more about UNICEF's work on the COVID-19 vaccines [here](#), or about UNICEF's work on immunization [here](#). Follow UNICEF on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

About PAHO/WHO

The [Pan American Health Organization \(PAHO\)](#) works with the countries of the Americas to improve the health and quality of life of its population. Founded in 1902, it is the world's oldest international public health agency. It serves as the Regional Office of WHO for the Americas and is the specialized health agency of the Inter-American system. www.paho.org For more than 40 years, PAHO's Revolving Fund has provided access to safe and quality vaccines at affordable prices for Member States and Territories throughout the region. It is part of Immunization's larger technical cooperation package that supports countries' efforts to achieve sustainable and equitable reduction of morbidity and mortality of vaccine-preventable diseases through control and elimination strategies. www.paho.org/en/resources/paho-revolving-fund

About the COVAX Facility

COVAX is the vaccines pillar of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, a groundbreaking global collaboration to accelerate the development, production, and equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments, and vaccines. COVAX is co-led by Gavi, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) and WHO. Its aim is to accelerate the development and manufacture of COVID-19 vaccines, and to guarantee fair and equitable access for every country in the world. www.who.int/initiatives/act-accelerator/covax. UNICEF, in collaboration with the [PAHO Revolving Fund](#), is [leading efforts](#) to procure and supply doses of COVID-19 vaccines on behalf of the COVAX Facility

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