

## The G7 Research Group presents the

## 2020 G7 Virtual Summit Final Compliance Report

17 March 2020 to 6 May 2021

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"We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That's why today's outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance."

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme, in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit

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## 12. International Cooperation: Global Response

"We are committed to doing whatever is necessary to ensure a strong global response through closer cooperation and enhanced coordination of our efforts."

G7 Leaders' Statement

#### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+1.00 (100%)	

## **Background**

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the importance of international cooperation and coordination in the context of global health emergencies. The COVID-19 pandemic placed stress on the global political, economic, and social infrastructure, causing the international community to pursue cooperation and coordination on public health policies. Furthermore, the pandemic took a toll on all countries, but particularly on developing countries that have less prepared health systems and resources. The consequences of COVID-19 on developing countries have led the international community to also support a comprehensive and equitable global response in addition to their national public health policies and initiatives. On 23 March 2020, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres also emphasized the need for global cooperation and coordination by issuing an appeal for a "global ceasefire in all corners of the world to focus together on the true fight — defeating COVID-19."<sup>2421</sup>

The 2000 Okinawa Summit was the first time the G8 leaders made explicit reference to infectious diseases in their agenda for global health. They committed to providing "substantial resources to fighting infectious and parasitic diseases," especially HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. At this summit, the G8 leaders also committed to strengthening their partnership with governments, the World Health Organization (WHO), health industries, and other international organizations in order to reduce the number of infections and deaths of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. The 2000 Okinawa Summit also created the Okinawa Infectious Diseases Initiative. The initiative promoted measures against infectious and parasitic diseases such as partnership with civil society and international organizations, strengthening developing countries' institutions in the health sector, and the support of international cooperation in conducting research activities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2421</sup> Global Ceasefire, United Nations (New York) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 6 November 2020. https://www.un.org/en/globalceasefire.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2422</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 5 November 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2423</sup> G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 5 November 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2424</sup> Japan's Initiative in the Fight against Infectious and Parasitic Diseases on the occasion of the Kyushu-Okinawa G8 Summit ("Okinawa ID (Infectious diseases) Initiative"), G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 5 December 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/infectious.htm.

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, the G8 Leaders presented a statement on infectious diseases, especially regarding HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and measles, called the "Fight Against Infectious Disease." In this statement the G8 Leaders supported "improved international cooperation on the surveillance and monitoring of infectious diseases," distributing resources "in cooperation with African countries to scale up action against malaria," "cooperat[ing] in detecting such diseases and mounting an effective response."2426 They also committed to improving cooperation among international organizations and experts at the international level, and increasing "scientific cooperation with developing countries."2427 The G8 leaders also emphasized international coordination by acknowledging the need for enhanced coordination in a quick response to an outbreak and "increased coordination of preparedness, prevention, and response among nations."2428

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, the G7 leaders responded to the Ebola outbreak by committing to work with partner countries in strengthening compliance with the WHO International Health Regulations. The G7 Leaders also agreed to build a global capacity in public health to be "better prepared for threats such as the recent Ebola outbreak ... in close cooperation with WHO, to develop a Global Action Plan on antimicrobial resistance." In close cooperation with WHO, to develop a Global Action Plan on antimicrobial resistance.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, the G7 leaders produced the G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health in which it committed to a range of actions in advancing global health with a particular focus on public health emergencies. The G7 leaders agreed to coordinate on global public health emergencies by inviting the WHO to "strengthen and formalize coordination arrangements among the WHO, the UN and other relevant partners in global public health emergencies." The G7 leaders also referred to the outbreaks of the Ebola and Zika viruses in their commitment to a "coordinated approach to offer concrete assistance to 76 countries and regions." They also promoted the need to pursue international coordination in scientific research and development and supported "globally harmonized clinical trials" as well as "leverag[ing] existing global research coordination initiatives." 2434

On 16 March 2020 the Virtual Summit, under the U.S. presidency, focused on the G7's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and their commitment to a coordinated global response. In their statement, leaders emphasized coordinated global response by committing to "coordinate [their] efforts to delay the spread of the virus," and increasing coordinated research efforts.<sup>2435</sup> They also agreed to "coordinate with online

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2425</sup> Fight Against Infectious Disease, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 5 December 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/infdis.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2426</sup> Fight Against Infectious Disease, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 5 December 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/infdis.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2427</sup> Fight Against Infectious Disease, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 5 December 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/infdis.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2428</sup> Fight Against Infectious Disease, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 5 December 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/infdis.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2429</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 5 December 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2430</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 5 December 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2431</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 5 December 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2432</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 5 December 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2433</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 5 December 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2434</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 5 December 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2435</sup> G7 Leaders' Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 5 December 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html.

platforms to maximize public access to the latest correct and relevant official information," coordinate "using all policy tools, to achieve strong growth in the G7 economies," and support coordination among international organizations.<sup>2436</sup> The G7 leaders also encouraged cooperation in the science, research, and technology sectors to respond to COVID-19. At the time, they expected to meet again in three months at their regularly scheduled summit on 10-12 June 2020, which was later postponed indefinitely.

#### **Commitment Features**

In this commitment, there are two targets, one to ensure a strong global response through closer cooperation and the other through enhanced coordination. "Global response" is understood to mean public health action relating to two or more countries in reaction to events relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. This definition implies that the G7 members have to demonstrate joint state action — rather than individual state policy that only affects the G7 members themselves — through cooperation and/or coordination in public health policies.

"Doing whatever necessary" is understood as the fullest extent to which governments are capable of implementing a certain process. Therefore, actions should be purposeful and demonstrate a commitment to encouraging the aforementioned targets.

A G7 member can contribute to "ensur[ing] a strong global response" through at least one out of two equally weighted methods. Firstly, it can improve the other countries or regions' response to COVID-19. Examples of this method include distributing pandemic resources such as COVID-19 diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines to other countries, providing humanitarian assistance to other countries, or supporting the expansion of healthcare facilities and capacity building of health professionals in other countries. Secondly, a G7 member can also demonstrate a "strong global response" or a +1 score in their compliance by improving international flows or processes among countries in their reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic. Examples of this method include the coordination of cross-border management, removing trade restrictions, and establishment of international agreements on the allocation of vaccines.

A less than strong level of "global response," which would merit a score of 0 or partial compliance are actions that include the allocation of budgetary resources or personnel in supporting international cooperation and coordination. Examples of a less than strong level of "global response" include creating a task force or department in support of international cooperation and coordination.

A score of noncompliance or -1 are actions that are statements or attendance in meetings that express or support the importance of cooperation and coordination. Examples of a low level of "global response" are statements made by the leader, officials, or ministers in support of international cooperation and coordination, a remark in a prepared speech during a conference in support of international cooperation and coordination.

"Cooperation" is understood to mean the action or process of working together to the same end.<sup>2437</sup> A G7 member can demonstrate "closer cooperation" by working with at least one other country in an international agreement or initiative or project to combat COVID-19. Examples of "cooperation" include distributing COVID-19 diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines to other countries, monitoring the global supply of certain medical equipment, forming an agreement of rules for international property rights, and procurement on vaccine approval, and forming an international agreement on the allocation and distribution of vaccines. Full compliance of this target must contribute to the outcomes of a "strong global response," as outlined above. A G7 member can receive a score of non-compliance for this target by demonstrating a low level of "global response" through its cooperation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2436</sup> G7 Leaders' Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 5 December 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2437</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 6 August 2019.

"Coordination" is understood to mean the process of organizing people or groups so that they work together properly and well.<sup>2438</sup> A G7 member can demonstrate "enhanced coordination" by aligning or synchronizing their state policies with other countries in their response to COVID-19. Examples of "coordination" include removal of trade restrictions on personal protective equipment and other pandemic equipment, coordination of protocols on temporary travel restrictions, coordination of cross-border management such as the management of legal-cross border movements of essential goods and persons, and the alignment of regulatory and manufacturing processes and quality standards on pandemic equipment. Full compliance of this target must contribute to the outcomes of a "strong global response," as outlined above. A G7 member can receive a score of non-compliance for this target by demonstrating a low level of "global response" through its coordination.

Full compliance for this commitment is achieved by ensuring a strong global response through closer cooperation and through enhanced coordination. For a score of partial compliance, the G7 member has taken concrete actions to ensure a strong global response either through closer cooperation or through enhanced coordination. For a score of non-compliance, the G7 member has completed none of the aforementioned.

### **Scoring Guidelines**

	G7 member has not taken any or has taken insufficient steps to ensure a strong global response
	through closer cooperation AND through enhanced coordination.
0	G7 member has taken strong steps to ensure a strong global response through closer cooperation
0	OR through enhanced coordination, or has taken partial steps in both areas.
+1	G7 member has taken strong steps to ensure a strong global response closer cooperation AND
	enhanced coordination.

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#### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to ensuring a strong global response, through closer cooperation and enhanced cooperation of their efforts.

On 5 April 2020, the Government of Canada announced that it will allocate CAD159.5 million in funding to support international institutions, initiatives, and collaborations that address the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2439</sup> CAD84.5 million of this amount will be distributed to international partners that support humanitarian appeals including the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme, UNICEF, International Committee of the Red Cross and more.<sup>2440</sup> CAD40 million will be used to support the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations for COVID-19 vaccine development that aims to increase coordinated vaccine research efforts.<sup>2441</sup> CAD30 million will be used to address country-specific requests for assistance and design tailored solutions and responses in

<sup>2439</sup> Backgrounder - Canada provides funding to address COVID-19 pandemic, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 5 April 2020. Access Date: 5 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/backgrounder---canada-provides-funding-to-address-covid-19-pandemic.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2438</sup> Coordination, Merriam-Webster (Springfield). Access Date: 4 December 2019. https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/coordination.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2440</sup> Backgrounder - Canada provides funding to address COVID-19 pandemic, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 5 April 2020. Access Date: 5 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/backgrounder---canada-provides-funding-to-address-covid-19-pandemic.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2441</sup> Backgrounder - Canada provides funding to address COVID-19 pandemic, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 5 April 2020. Access Date: 5 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/backgrounder---canada-provides-funding-to-address-covid-19-pandemic.html.

partnership with each requesting country.<sup>2442</sup> Lastly, CAD5 million will go towards global health security capacity building through Global Affairs Canada's Weapons Threat Reduction Program.<sup>2443</sup>

On 7 April 2020, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau issued a statement regarding Canada's position on international cooperation in the context of the COVID-19 crisis.<sup>2444</sup> In the statement, Prime Minister Trudeau emphasized the "importance of working together" and stated that Canada is "working with the World Health Organization and other partners to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and protect those most vulnerable."<sup>2445</sup>

On 16 April 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs François-Philippe Champagne signed the Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism.<sup>2446</sup> The Joint Declaration emphasized the importance of enhanced international cooperation and worldwide solidarity and called for a "co-operative, transparent, science-based and coordinated global response."<sup>2447</sup> The Joint Declaration also outlined the signatories' support for United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres for an immediate global ceasefire.<sup>2448</sup>

On 4 May 2020, Canada, the European Union, France, Germany, Spain, Norway, the United Kingdom, Japan and Saudi Arabia announced the launch of the Coronavirus Global Response.<sup>2449</sup> This global initiative aims to raise USD8 billion to aid researchers and innovators in preventing the further spread of the virus as well as help them with developing potential vaccines, testing for safe and effective treatments for COVID-19.<sup>2450</sup> In this announcement, the Government of Canada also stated that it has contributed more than CAD850 million to support the fundraising target in this global initiative.<sup>2451</sup> This funding will go towards providing COVID-19 diagnostic support to more than 20 partner countries, coordinating a COVID-19 viral and host genome sequencing project across Canada, supporting accelerated vaccine development, including through the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations and more.<sup>2452</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2442</sup> Backgrounder - Canada provides funding to address COVID-19 pandemic, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 5 April 2020. Access Date: 5 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/backgrounder---canada-provides-funding-to-address-covid-19-pandemic.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2443</sup> Backgrounder - Canada provides funding to address COVID-19 pandemic, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 5 April 2020. Access Date: 5 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/backgrounder---canada-provides-funding-to-address-covid-19-pandemic.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2444</sup> Statement by the Prime Minister on World Health Day, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2020/04/07/statement-prime-minister-world-health-day.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2445</sup> Statement by the Prime Minister on World Health Day, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2020/04/07/statement-prime-minister-world-health-day.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2446</sup> Joint statement of the Alliance for multilateralism, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2447</sup> Joint statement of the Alliance for multilateralism, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2448</sup> Joint statement of the Alliance for multilateralism, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2449</sup> News release: Canada and international partners launch Coronavirus Global Response, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021.

https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/05/04/canada-and-international-partners-launch-coronavirus-global-response. 
<sup>2450</sup> News release: Canada and international partners launch Coronavirus Global Response, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021.

https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/05/04/canada-and-international-partners-launch-coronavirus-global-response. <sup>2451</sup> News release: Canada and international partners launch Coronavirus Global Response, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021.

https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/05/04/canada-and-international-partners-launch-coronavirus-global-response. <sup>2452</sup> News release: Canada and international partners launch Coronavirus Global Response, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021.

https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/05/04/canada-and-international-partners-launch-coronavirus-global-response.

On 4 May 2020, the Government of Canada announced that it has joined the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator Partnership as a "co-lead" in the framework's three partnerships: vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics.<sup>2453</sup> Canada also announced that it provided CAD485 million in total for antibody treatments and other support in the ACT-Accelerator's vaccine pillars.<sup>2454</sup>

On 28 May 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Andrew Holness, Prime Minister of Jamaica, and Secretary-General Guterres in the High-level Event on financing for development and COVID-19.<sup>2455</sup> The meeting focused on discussion on finding financing solutions to COVID-19 health and development emergencies for people around the world.<sup>2456</sup>

One 27 June 2020, Minister of International Development Karina Gould announced that Canada contributed CAD120 million for the ACT-Accelerator.<sup>2457</sup> This financial investment aims to "assist those countries whose economies are most at risk due to the pandemic and improve their resilience."<sup>2458</sup> Minister Gould stated in this announcement that "Canada is committed to working with countries around the world to ensure everyone, everywhere has access to new solutions developed to test, treat and immunize against COVID-19.

On 7 July 2020, the Government of Canada issued a statement to the United Nations Security Council Open VTC [videoteleconference] on Pandemics and Security.<sup>2459</sup> In this statement, Canada expressed its support to "multi-sectoral global health-security cooperation."<sup>2460</sup> Canada also affirmed its commitment to regularly host meetings with the Foreign Affairs Ministerial Coordination Group on COVID-19 and co-leading a Development Ministers' Contact Group with the United Kingdom to coordinate global health efforts as well as to "ensure coherence and impact of international assistance, and working together with international partners to maintain open supply chains and support global economic recovery."<sup>2461</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2453</sup> Canada's investments to support equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/12/canadas-investments-to-support-equitable-access-to-covid-19-tests-treatments-and-vaccines.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2454</sup> Canada's investments to support equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/12/canadas-investments-to-support-equitable-access-to-covid-19-tests-treatments-and-vaccines.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2455</sup> High-level Event on financing for development and Covid-19, convened by Prime Ministers of Canada and Jamaica, Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 28 May 2020. Access Date: 5 March 2021. https://www.un.org/development/desa/financing/post-news/high-level-event-financing-development-and-covid-19-convened-prime-ministers-canada-and.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2456</sup> High-level Event on financing for development and Covid-19, convened by Prime Ministers of Canada and Jamaica, Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 28 May 2020. Access Date: 5 March 2021. https://www.un.org/development/desa/financing/post-news/high-level-event-financing-development-and-covid-19-convened-prime-ministers-canada-and.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2457</sup> Canada announces support for equitable access to new COVID-19 medical solutions, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 June 2020. Access Date: 5 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/06/canada-announces-support-for-equitable-access-to-new-covid-19-medical-solutions.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2458</sup> Canada announces support for equitable access to new COVID-19 medical solutions, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 June 2020. Access Date: 5 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/06/canada-announces-support-for-equitable-access-to-new-covid-19-medical-solutions.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2459</sup> Canada National Statement United Nations Security Council Open VTC on Pandemics and Security, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2 July 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\_relations-relations\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-06-02-pandemics-pandemies.aspx?lang=eng.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2460</sup> Canada National Statement United Nations Security Council Open VTC on Pandemics and Security, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2 July 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\_relations-relations\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-06-02-pandemics-pandemies.aspx?lang=eng.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2461</sup> Canada National Statement United Nations Security Council Open VTC on Pandemics and Security, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2 July 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\_relations-relations internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-06-02-pandemics-pandemies.aspx?lang=eng.

On 25 September 2020, the Government of Canada announced it will contribute CAD220 million to the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Advance Market Commitment.<sup>2462</sup> This financial contribution will aim to support the procurement of vaccine doses for low- and middle-income countries.<sup>2463</sup>

On 10 September 2020, Minister Champagne hosted the 10th call of the Ministerial Coordination on COVID-19 with his counterparts from Australia, Brazil, Germany, Morocco, Peru, South Africa and the United Kingdom. The ministers provided each other with their countries' responses to COVID-19 and ongoing multilateral efforts on vaccines and supply chains. The ministers agreed on the importance of international cooperation and coordination in response to the economic effects of COVID-19 and the need to exchange information relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 29 September 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau announced that the Government of Canada pledged an additional CAD400 million in development and humanitarian spending to non-government organisations fighting COVID-19.2464 This funding was aimed to ensure "equitable access to vaccines" to several middle-income countries, including smaller states located in the Caribbean.2465 Prime Minister Trudeau also stated that Canada will advocate for debt relief for developing countries and help strengthen the resources of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and other international financial institutions.2466

On 3 November 2020, Minister Champagne co-hosted the 11th call of the Ministerial Coordination Group on COVID with his counterparts from Brazil, France, Germany, India, Italy, Singapore and the United Kingdom.<sup>2467</sup> In the meeting, the ministers discussed their domestic responses and noted that many of their countries are experiencing a second wave of COVID-19.<sup>2468</sup> The ministers reiterated their commitment to cooperating in ensuring equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines and to "learn from each other on how to best manage borders, international travel, testing and contact tracing.<sup>2469</sup>

On 17 February 2021, the Government of Canada issued a statement to the United Nations Security Council open debate on ensuring equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines in contexts affected by conflict and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2462</sup> Canada's investments to support equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/12/canadas-investments-to-support-equitable-access-to-covid-19-tests-treatments-and-vaccines.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2463</sup> Canada's investments to support equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/12/canadas-investments-to-support-equitable-access-to-covid-19-tests-treatments-and-vaccines.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2464</sup> Trudeau pledges additional \$400 million in humanitarian aid to fight COVID-19, CP24 (Toronto) 29 September 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.cp24.com/news/trudeau-pledges-additional-400-million-in-humanitarian-aid-to-fight-covid-19-1.5124571?cache=yes%3FclipId%3D375756%3FclipId%3D263414%3FautoPlay%3Dtrue.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2465</sup> Trudeau pledges additional \$400 million in humanitarian aid to fight COVID-19, CP24 (Toronto) 29 September 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.cp24.com/news/trudeau-pledges-additional-400-million-in-humanitarian-aid-to-fight-covid-19-1.5124571?cache=yes%3FclipId%3D375756%3FclipId%3D263414%3FautoPlay%3Dtrue.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2466</sup> Trudeau pledges additional \$400 million in humanitarian aid to fight COVID-19, CP24 (Toronto) 29 September 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.cp24.com/news/trudeau-pledges-additional-400-million-in-humanitarian-aid-to-fight-covid-19-1.5124571?cache=yes%3FclipId%3D375756%3FclipId%3D263414%3FautoPlay%3Dtrue.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2467</sup> Readout: Canada continues to lead Ministerial Coordination Group on COVID-19 responding to global challenges, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 3 November 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/ 2020/11/readout-canada-continues-to-lead-ministerial-coordination-group-on-covid-19-responding-to-global-challenges.html. <sup>2468</sup> Readout: Canada continues to lead Ministerial Coordination Group on COVID-19 responding to global challenges, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 3 November 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/ 2020/11/readout-canada-continues-to-lead-ministerial-coordination-group-on-covid-19-responding-to-global-challenges, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 3 November 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/ 2020/11/readout-canada-continues-to-lead-ministerial-coordination-group-on-covid-19-responding-to-global-challenges.html.

insecurity.<sup>2470</sup> In this statement, Canada stated that it "must support other countries in their fight against COVID-19" and "work together to address the pandemic, to assist vulnerable populations, to support the continued flow of goods and services, and to develop and provide equitable global access to effective therapeutics, diagnostics, and vaccines."<sup>2471</sup>

On 19 February 2021, the Government of Canada provided an additional USD59 million in funding to the ACT-Accelerator to "fund the development and equitable rollout of tests, treatments and vaccines needed to end the acute phase of the COVID-19 pandemic." Canada coordinated its investment with other G7 members such as the United States, Germany, the European Union, and the United Kingdom, which altogether provided USD4.3 billion of new investments in the ACT-Accelerator. The G7 coordinated investment aimed to fund initiatives that share additional vaccine surplus with developing countries and "support rapid reduction of virus transmission amongst some of the world's most vulnerable and exposed populations." <sup>2473</sup>

On 27 April 2021, Minister of International Development Karina Gould announced that Canada will provide CAD10 million in funding for humanitarian assistance to the Canadian Red Cross.<sup>2474</sup> This funding will help the Canadian Red Cross to support the Indian Red Cross Society's response to the COVID-19 situation in India.<sup>2475</sup> Minister Gould stated that the funding "will help meet some of the most urgent medical needs like purchasing and distributing essential supplies as well as supporting vital blood and ambulance services."<sup>2476</sup>

By providing humanitarian assistance, development aid, and investments in global COVID-19 response initiatives, Canada has fully complied with its commitment to ensuring a strong global response, through closer cooperation and enhanced cooperation of their efforts.

Thus, Canada has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Nwal Anwar

#### France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to ensuring a strong global response, through closer cooperation and enhanced cooperation of their efforts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2470</sup> UN Security Council open debate on ensuring equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines in contexts affected by conflict and insecurity, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 February 2021. Access Date: 10 March 2021.

 $https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\_relations-relations\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2021-02-17-vaccines-COVID-19-vaccins.aspx?lang=eng.\\$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2471</sup> UN Security Council open debate on ensuring equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines in contexts affected by conflict and insecurity, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 February 2021. Access Date: 10 March 2021.

https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\_relations-relations\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2021-02-17-vaccines-COVID-19-vaccins.aspx?lang=eng.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2472</sup> G7 leaders commit US\$ 4.3 billion to finance global equitable access to tests, treatments and vaccines in 2021, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.who.int/news/item/19-02-2021-g7-leaders-commit-us-4.3-billion-to-finance-global-equitable-access-to-tests-treatments-and-vaccines-in-2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2473</sup> 7 leaders commit US\$ 4.3 billion to finance global equitable access to tests, treatments and vaccines in 2021, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.who.int/news/item/19-02-2021-g7-leaders-commit-us-4.3-billion-to-finance-global-equitable-access-to-tests-treatments-and-vaccines-in-2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2474</sup> Canada announces funding support in response to COVID-19 in India, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-funds-49-additional-covid-19-research-projects.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2475</sup> Canada announces funding support in response to COVID-19 in India, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-funds-49-additional-covid-19-research-projects.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2476</sup> Canada announces funding support in response to COVID-19 in India, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-funds-49-additional-covid-19-research-projects.html.

On 25 March 2020, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian issued a statement in the G7 Foreign Ministers' meeting.<sup>2477</sup> Minister Le Drian emphasized the "need to strengthen international cooperation to combat COVID-19" and the "need to coordinate [the G7 members'] efforts to allow [their] citizens who are temporarily overseas to return home."<sup>2478</sup>

On 27 March 2020, Minister Le Drian discussed the situation of French nationals visiting Russia with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia Sergey Lavrov.<sup>2479</sup> The two ministers agreed to cooperate by implementing the following steps: "firstly, the return of French nationals visiting Russia and Russian nationals visiting France and, secondly, flights over Russian airspace by planes bringing home French nationals who were visiting Asia."<sup>2480</sup>

On 9 April 2020, the Agence Française du Développement (AFD) approved the "Covid-19 – Health in Common" initiative, which provides immediate access to funds and relief to combat the economic, social, and health effects of the Covid-19 pandemic in African nations.<sup>2481</sup> This initiative's objectives are to support African countries' responses to the pandemic and strengthen their healthcare systems and research systems by providing EUR150 million in donations and EUR1 billion in loans.<sup>2482</sup> The AFD coordinates with local stakeholders, such as research institutes, non-government organizations, and the private sector, to create solutions specific for those countries to boost long-term responsiveness.<sup>2483</sup>

On 16 April 2020, the Government of France signed onto the COVID-19 Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism.<sup>2484</sup> The Joint Declaration emphasized the importance of enhanced international cooperation and worldwide solidarity and called for a "co-operative, transparent, science-based and

<sup>2477</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting – COVID-19 – Statement by Jean-Yves Le Drian, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-

<sup>2483</sup> The "Covid-19 – Health in Common" Initiative, Agence Française de Development (Paris) 8 July 2020. Access Date: 21

February 2021. https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/covid-19-health-common-initiative.

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nationals-in-france/coronavirus-statements/article/g7-foreign-ministers-meeting-covid-19-statement-by-jean-yves-le-drian-minister. <sup>2478</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting – COVID-19 – Statement by Jean-Yves Le Drian, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreignnationals-in-france/coronavirus-statements/article/g7-foreign-ministers-meeting-covid-19-statement-by-jean-yves-le-drian-minister.<sup>2479</sup> Statement by M. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/coronavirusstatements/article/covid-19-statement-by-m-jean-vves-le-drian-minister-for-europe-and-foreign. <sup>2480</sup> Statement by M. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/coronavirusstatements/article/covid-19-statement-by-m-jean-yves-le-drian-minister-for-europe-and-foreign. <sup>2481</sup> France Launches, via AFD, the "Covid-19 – Health in Common" Initiative to Support African Countries, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreignpolicy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/france-launches-via-afd-the-covid-19-health-in-common-initiative-to-support. <sup>2482</sup> France Launches, via AFD, The "Covid-19 – Health in Common" Initiative to Support African Countries, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreignpolicy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/france-launches-via-afd-the-covid-19-health-in-common-initiative-to-support.

coordinated global response."<sup>2485</sup> The Joint Declaration also outlined the signatories' support for United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres for an immediate global ceasefire.<sup>2486</sup>

On 24 April 2020, the United Nations led by United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, World Health Organization Director General Dr. Tedros and President Emmanuel Macron launched a multilateral initiative to the COVID-19 pandemic in response to France and other members' calls for a more effective and equitable response.<sup>2487</sup> The aim of this initiative is to coordinate an international response to expedite development and guarantee free, equal access to vaccines, treatments, and testing while strengthening the most vulnerable health systems worldwide.<sup>2488</sup>

On 24 April 2020, stakeholders such as the Government of France the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator was formed as a framework for a global response by doctors, scientists, philanthropists, governments, businesses, and health organizations to accelerate the development and access to vaccines, testing, and treatment in an equitable manner worldwide.<sup>2489</sup> The ACT-Accelerator aims to end the pandemic as fast as possible, restore social and economic global activity, and control the spread of the disease.<sup>2490</sup> Access to the COVID-19 tools is determined by the Access and Allocation workstream, which ensures the tools are equitably allocated to the States who need them most.<sup>2491</sup>

On 4 May 2020, France along with the European Union, Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Norway, Spain, and the United Kingdom co-convened a pledging event to mobilize EUR7.5 million to serve the objectives of the ACT-Accelerator.<sup>2492</sup> The ACT-Accelerator is designed as a coordination structure to accelerate the development, production and equitable access to new diagnostics, therapies and vaccines against the Covid-19 pandemic."<sup>2493</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2485</sup> COVID-19 - Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism (16 Apr. 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/multilateralism-a-principle-of-action-for-france/alliance-for-multilateralism/news-about-the-alliance-for-multilateralism/article/covid-19-joint-declaration-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism-16-apr-2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2486</sup> COVID-19 - Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism (16 Apr. 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/multilateralism-a-principle-of-action-for-france/alliance-for-multilateralism/news-about-the-alliance-for-multilateralism/article/covid-19-joint-declaration-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism-16-apr-2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2487</sup> COVID19: launch of a global initiative on diagnostic testing, treatments and vaccine, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York City) 25 April 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. https://onu.delegfrance.org/Nouvelle-traduction-Lutte-contre-le-COVID-19-Initiative-mondiale-sur-les

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2488</sup> COVID19: launch of a global initiative on diagnostic testing, treatments and vaccine, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York City) 25 April 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. https://onu.delegfrance.org/Nouvelle-traduction-Lutte-contre-le-COVID-19-Initiative-mondiale-sur-les

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2489</sup> Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, World Health Organization (Geneva) 24 April 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/access-to-covid-19-tools-(act)-accelerator.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2490</sup> The Access to Covid-19 Tools Accelerator, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 21 February 2020. https://www.who.int/initiatives/act-accelerator.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2491</sup> The ACT Accelerator Frequently Asked Questions, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://www.who.int/initiatives/act-accelerator/fag.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2492</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: €7.4 billion raised for universal access to vaccines, European Commission (Brussels) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\_20\_797.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2493</sup> The World Health Assembly: a historic meeting in the context of the Covid-19 crisis, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (Paris) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/ministere/europe-et-international/actualites-europeennes-et-internationales/article/l-assemblee-mondiale-de-la-sante-un-rendez-vous-historique-dans-le-contexte-de.

On 18 May 2020, President Macron and Minister of Solidarity and Health Olivier Véran attended the World Health Assembly that focused on the COVID-19 crisis.<sup>2494</sup> During the session, President Macron expressed France's commitment to multilateralism and called for strengthened international coordination.<sup>2495</sup>

On 18 May 2020, President Macron and Chancellor of Germany Angela Merkel presented a joint initiative to create a EUR500 billion recovery fund to provide assistance to countries and regions "hardest hit" by the coronavirus.<sup>2496</sup> The joint announcement detailed that financial assistance from the recovery fund will be in the form of grants and not loans.<sup>2497</sup>

On 27 May 2020, the European Commission established the Next Generation EU, based on a joint proposal from France and Germany to mitigate the economic and social effects of the pandemic in Europe.<sup>2498</sup> The 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework was adopted to establish a "joint-debt" and EUR750 billion economic recovery plan, signifying further integration and coordination of the European states in response to the pandemic.<sup>2499</sup> The European Union also coordinated its response by establishing a common reserve of medical equipment, increasing development and supply of personal protective equipment, and easing movement of people and goods across Europe.<sup>2500</sup>

On 23 June 2020, the Government of France announced the launch of a strategic investment development plan on cooperation by making plans to mobilize domestic resources to developing countries in the context of global warming and the COVID-19 crisis. The Government of France provided a four-year budget of more than EUR60,000 for the strategy period of 2020-2023. The plan aims to "bilateral and multilateral initiatives to increase the mobilization of domestic resources in sub-Saharan Africa."<sup>2501</sup>

On 26 June 2020, France attended a ministerial meeting with Germany and issued a joint statement on strengthening their multilateral health architecture.<sup>2502</sup> In this joint statement, France and Germany agreed to support adoption by the 73rd session of the World Health Assembly of the resolution "Strengthening preparedness for health emergencies: application of the International Health Regulations (2005)," which requests WHO, in consultation with member states, "to warn the international community of the severity

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2494</sup> The World Health Assembly: a historic meeting in the context of the Covid-19 crisis, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (Paris) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/ministere/europe-et-international/actualiteseuropeennes-et-internationales/article/l-assemblee-mondiale-de-la-sante-un-rendez-vous-historique-dans-le-contexte-de.<sup>2495</sup> The World Health Assembly: a historic meeting in the context of the Covid-19 crisis, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (Paris) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/ministere/europe-et-international/actualiteseuropeennes-et-internationales/article/l-assemblee-mondiale-de-la-sante-un-rendez-vous-historique-dans-le-contexte-de.<sup>2496</sup> Covid-19: France and Germany propose €500 billion EU recovery fund, France 24 (Paris) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.france24.com/en/20200518-live-macron-and-merkel-present-joint-covid-19-recovery-plan-for-eu. <sup>2497</sup> Covid-19: France and Germany propose €500 billion EU recovery fund, France 24 (Paris) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.france24.com/en/20200518-live-macron-and-merkel-present-joint-covid-19-recovery-plan-for-eu. <sup>2498</sup> European Solidarity in the face of COVID-19, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/europe/news/article/european-solidarity-in-the-face-of-covid-19. <sup>2499</sup> European Solidarity in the face of COVID-19, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/europe/news/article/european-solidarity-in-the-face-of-covid-19. <sup>2500</sup> European Solidarity in the face of COVID-19, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/europe/news/article/european-solidarity-in-the-face-of-covid-19. <sup>2501</sup> A French strategy on cooperation around domestic resource mobilization in developing economies (23 Jun. 20), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 11 September 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/photos $publications- and \verb|-graphics/publications/article/a-french-strategy-on-cooperation- around-domestic-resource-mobilization- in.$ <sup>2502</sup> Ministerial meeting (26.06.20) - Joint statement by France and Germany: Strengthening the multilateral health architecture, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 26 June 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/news-and-events/news/news-2020/article/ministerialmeeting-26-06-20-joint-statement-by-france-and-germany.

and/or scale of a public health emergency with a view to mobilizing essential aid and facilitating international cooperation."<sup>2503</sup>

On 10 July 2020, Minister Le Drian and foreign ministers from other countries such as Germany and Italy issued a statement to reaffirm their commitment to international cooperation to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2504</sup> The statement emphasized the need to "pool [their] resources through detailed political dialogue in the spirit of solidarity and cooperation which fuels the relationship between our two regions."<sup>2505</sup>

On 10 July 2020, the Government of France announced its financial initiative to assist Latin American and Caribbean countries in their responses to the COVID-19 crisis.<sup>2506</sup> France will provide grants and loans that amount to more than EUR800 million alongside the European Union and other European countries "to enhance cooperation in the public health field."<sup>2507</sup> This assistance aims to provide healthcare support, social protection for the most vulnerable populations and economic consequences of the pandemic in Latin America.<sup>2508</sup> For example, France will provide EUR3.2 million in funding to Brazil for the "enabling equipment to be purchased, essential food and hygiene products to be distributed and training and awareness-raising activities" in order to "enhance French-Brazilian cooperation in the fight against the spread of the virus in regions near the border with French Guiana."<sup>2509</sup>

On 15 December 2020, the Ministers of Health from France, Germany, Italy and other European countries agreed to coordinate the launch of their COVID-19 vaccination campaigns.<sup>2510</sup> The Ministers stated that in addition to coordinate the timing, they will also rapidly share information on the proceedings of the vaccination campaigns.<sup>2511</sup>

On 23 April 2021, President Macron announced that the Government of France has begun donating COVID-19 vaccines from France's domestic supply to COVAX.<sup>2512</sup> This initiative marks the first donation of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2503</sup> Ministerial meeting (26.06.20) - Joint statement by France and Germany: Strengthening the multilateral health architecture, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 26 June 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021.

https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/news-and-events/news/news-2020/article/ministerial-meeting-26-06-20-joint-statement-by-france-and-germany.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2504</sup> Statement by the Foreign Ministers from 18 countries in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy – COVID-19 (10 July 2020), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 July 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-

files/americas/news/article/statement-by-the-foreign-ministers-from-18-countries-in-europe-latin-america.

2505 Statement by the Foreign Ministers from 18 countries in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the High

Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy – COVID-19 (10 July 2020), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 July 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-

files/americas/news/article/statement-by-the-foreign-ministers-from-18-countries-in-europe-latin-america.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2506</sup> France's bilateral support to Latin America and the Caribbean in response to COVID-19, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 July 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-

files/americas/news/article/france-s-bilateral-support-to-latin-america-and-the-caribbean-in-response-to.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2507</sup> France's bilateral support to Latin America and the Caribbean in response to COVID-19, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 July 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-

files/americas/news/article/france-s-bilateral-support-to-latin-america- and -the-caribbean-in-response-to.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2508</sup> France's bilateral support to Latin America and the Caribbean in response to COVID-19, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 July 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/americas/news/article/france-s-bilateral-support-to-latin-america-and-the-caribbean-in-response-to.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2509</sup> France's bilateral support to Latin America and the Caribbean in response to COVID-19, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 July 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-

files/americas/news/article/france-s-bilateral-support-to-latin-america-and-the-caribbean-in-response-to.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2510</sup> Large EU states commit to coordinated launch of COVID vaccinations, Reuters (Rome) 15 December 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-europe-vaccination-idUSR1N2H0002.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2511</sup> Large EU states commit to coordinated launch of COVID vaccinations, Reuters (Rome) 15 December 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-europe-vaccination-idUSR1N2H0002.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2512</sup> France makes importance vaccine dose donation to COVAX, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 23 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/france-makes-important-vaccine-dose-donation-covax.

vaccine doses by a high-income country to COVAX. France plans to provide at least 5 per cent of its acquired doses to COVAX over the course of 2021, with the first batch of 105,500 doses being planned for April. President Macron called on all G7 members and other high-income countries to provide a proportion of their domestic doses to the 92 lower-income economies eligible for support under the Gavi COVAX AMC.<sup>2513</sup>

France has actively promoted a strong global response to the COVID-19 pandemic through international cooperation and coordination by providing financial assistance to developing countries, issuing joint statements on international cooperation, and mobilizing COVID-19 resources to other countries.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexandra Safarewitz

### Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to doing whatever is necessary to ensure a strong global response through closer cooperation and enhanced coordination of their efforts.

On 25 March 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs Heiko Maaas issued a statement after attending a virtual meeting with his counterparts of the G7.<sup>2514</sup> He stated that the Ministers of Foreign Affairs agreed to "contain the spread [of COVID-19] through international cooperation in the development and provision of medicines and vaccines, and also through our support for the countries in the world that are the least well equipped to respond to the virus."<sup>2515</sup>

On 16 April 2020, the Government of Germany signed onto the COVID-19 Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism.<sup>2516</sup> The Joint Declaration emphasized the importance of enhanced international cooperation and worldwide solidarity and called for a "co-operative, transparent, science-based and coordinated global response."<sup>2517</sup> The Joint Declaration also outlined the signatories' support for United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres for an immediate global ceasefire.<sup>2518</sup>

On 23 April 2020, the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development presented the Emergency COVID-19 Support Program, a worldwide fund aimed to provide COVID-19 relief for developing countries.<sup>2519</sup> The program directs EUR1.15 billion towards pandemic control, basic food services, stabilization of fragile regions affected by displacement, social protection, economic support for key

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2513</sup> France makes importance vaccine dose donation to COVAX, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 23 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/france-makes-important-vaccine-dose-donation-covax.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2514</sup> Foreign Minister Maas following a virtual meeting of the G7 Foreign Ministers, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 March 2021. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2328788.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2515</sup> Foreign Minister Maas following a virtual meeting of the G7 Foreign Ministers, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 March 2021. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2328788.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2516</sup> COVID-19 - Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism (16 Apr. 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-

nations/multilateralism-a-principle-of-action-for-france/alliance-for-multilateralism/news-about-the-alliance-for-multilateralism/article/covid 19 ioint declaration of the alliance for multilateralism 16 apr 2020

multilateralism/article/covid-19-joint-declaration-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism-16-apr-2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2517</sup> COVID-19 - Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism (16 Apr. 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/multilateralism-a-principle-of-action-for-france/alliance-for-multilateralism/news-about-the-alliance-for-

multilateralism/article/covid-19-joint-declaration-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism-16-apr-2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2518</sup> COVID-19 - Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism (16 Apr. 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/multilateralism-a-principle-of-action-for-france/alliance-for-multilateralism/news-about-the-alliance-for-multilateralism/article/covid-19-joint-declaration-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism-16-apr-2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2519</sup> Germany Development Ministry presents Emergency COVID-19 Support Programme, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 23 April 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. http://www.bmz.de/20200423-1en.

enterprises, government liquidity and international cooperation.<sup>2520</sup> Minister of Development Gerd Muller said: "we either beat COVID-19 worldwide or we do not beat it at all."<sup>2521</sup>

On 27 April 2020, the Foreign Office announced that Germany will fund EUR300 million to COVID-19 related humanitarian assistance around the world.<sup>2522</sup> The funds will finance international organizations that aim to "lessen the potentially disastrous impact of the COVID-19 pandemic" such as the World Food Programme, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).<sup>2523</sup>

On 4 May 2020, Germany along with the European Union, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Norway, Spain, and the United Kingdom co-convened a pledging event to mobilize EUR7.5 million to serve the objectives of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator.<sup>2524</sup> The ACT-Accelerator is designed as a coordination structure to accelerate the development, production and equitable access to new diagnostics, therapies and vaccines against the Covid-19 pandemic."<sup>2525</sup>

On 31 May 2020, Minister Maas issued a statement regarding international cooperation and coordination in the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2526</sup> Maas emphasized the importance of a "united response in a spirit of solidarity from all countries" and stated that Germany will "will continue to hold intensive talks in Washington to try to convince the US Government of this approach."<sup>2527</sup>

On 26 June 2020, Germany attended a ministerial meeting with France and issued a joint statement on strengthening their multilateral health architecture.<sup>2528</sup> In this joint statement, Germany and France agreed to support adoption by the 73rd session of the World Health Assembly of the resolution "Strengthening preparedness for health emergencies: application of the International Health Regulations (2005)," which requests WHO, in consultation with member states, "to warn the international community of the severity and/or scale of a public health emergency with a view to mobilizing essential aid and facilitating international cooperation."<sup>2529</sup>

<sup>2520</sup> Germany Development Ministry presents Emergency COVID-19 Support Programme, Federal Ministry for Economic

Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 23 April 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. http://www.bmz.de/20200423-1en. <sup>2521</sup> Germany Development Ministry presents Emergency COVID-19 Support Programme, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 23 April 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. http://www.bmz.de/20200423-1en. <sup>2522</sup> Foreign Minister Maas on the Federal Foreign Office's Covid-19-related humanitarian assistance, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 27 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-covid19/2337446. <sup>2523</sup> Foreign Minister Maas on the Federal Foreign Office's Covid-19-related humanitarian assistance, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 27 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-covid19/2337446.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2524</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: €7.4 billion raised for universal access to vaccines, European Commission (Brussels) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\_20\_797.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2525</sup> The World Health Assembly: a historic meeting in the context of the Covid-19 crisis, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (Paris) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/ministere/europe-et-international/actualites-europeennes-et-internationales/article/l-assemblee-mondiale-de-la-sante-un-rendez-vous-historique-dans-le-contexte-de. <sup>2526</sup> We need strong global cooperation and solidarity to fight COVID-19, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 May 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/alliance-multilateralism-covid19/2333394. <sup>2527</sup> We need strong global cooperation and solidarity to fight COVID-19, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 May 2020. Access

Date: 25 February 2021. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/alliance-multilateralism-covid19/2333394.

Signature 2528 Ministerial meeting (26.06.20) - Joint statement by France and Germany: Strengthening the multilateral health architecture, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 26 June 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021.

https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/news-and-events/news/news-2020/article/ministerial-meeting-26-06-20-joint-statement-by-france-and-germany.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2529</sup> Ministerial meeting (26.06.20) - Joint statement by France and Germany: Strengthening the multilateral health architecture, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 26 June 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021.

https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/news-and-events/news/news-2020/article/ministerial-meeting-26-06-20-joint-statement-by-france-and-germany.

On 10 July 2020, Minister Maas and foreign ministers of other countries such as France and Italy issued a statement to reaffirm their commitment to international cooperation to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2530</sup> The statement emphasized the need to "pool [their] resources through detailed political dialogue in the spirit of solidarity and cooperation which fuels the relationship between our two regions."<sup>2531</sup>

On 29 July 2020, the German Epidemic Preparedness Team of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation (BMZ) handed over 1.4 million COVID-19 laboratory and testing materials to the African Union (AU) as part of the BMZ's Emergency COVID-19 Support Program.<sup>2532</sup> The Epidemic Preparedness Team aimed to provide laboratory materials, build laboratory capacity, and offer training and technical advice to members of the African Union.<sup>2533</sup>

On 14 December 2021, Minister Maas hosted an informal Ministerial Meeting with his counterparts in the European Union, Latin America, and the Caribbean.<sup>2534</sup> The ministers discussed their views on new initiatives for regional health cooperation such as establishing a transnational institute for infectious diseases and reinforced their commitment of cooperation with the Caribbean to ensure their participation in the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) facility.<sup>2535</sup> The ministers also emphasized the "importance of close coordination with the development priorities of the Latin American and Caribbean countries.<sup>2536</sup>

On 15 December 2020, the ministers of health from Germany, France, Italy and other European countries agreed to coordinate the launch of their COVID-19 vaccination campaigns.<sup>2537</sup> The ministers stated that in addition to coordinate the timing, they will also rapidly share information on the proceedings of the vaccination campaigns.<sup>2538</sup>

On 2 February 2021, Minister Muller acknowledged the start of vaccination campaigns in 18 developing nations through the COVAX immunization alliance.<sup>2539</sup> COVAX is an initiative of Gavi, the Vaccine

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2530</sup> Statement by the Foreign Ministers from 18 countries in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy - COVID-19 (10 July 2020), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 July 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/countryfiles/americas/news/article/statement-by-the-foreign-ministers-from-18-countries-in-europe-latin-america. <sup>2531</sup> Statement by the Foreign Ministers from 18 countries in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy - COVID-19 (10 July 2020), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 July 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/countryfiles/americas/news/article/statement-by-the-foreign-ministers-from-18-countries-in-europe-latin-america. <sup>2532</sup> German Epidemic Preparedness Team hands over 1.4 million tests to the African Union, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 29 July 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. http://www.bmz.de/20200729-1en <sup>2533</sup> German Epidemic Preparedness Team hands over 1.4 million tests to the African Union, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 29 July 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. http://www.bmz.de/20200729-1en. <sup>2534</sup> Joint Communiqué: EU27 - Latin America and Caribbean Informal Ministerial Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/eu-lac-communique/2426940. <sup>2535</sup> Joint Communiqué: EU27 - Latin America and Caribbean Informal Ministerial Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/eu-lac-communique/2426940. <sup>2536</sup> Joint Communiqué: EU27 - Latin America and Caribbean Informal Ministerial Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/eu-lac-communique/2426940. <sup>2537</sup> Large EU states commit to coordinated launch of COVID vaccinations, Reuters (Rome) 15 December 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-europe-vaccination-idUSR1N2HO002. <sup>2538</sup> Large EU states commit to coordinated launch of COVID vaccinations, Reuters (Rome) 15 December 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-europe-vaccination-idUSR1N2HO002. <sup>2539</sup> Minister Muller welcomes start of vaccination campaigns in 18 developing countries through COVAX immunization alliance, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 4 February 2021. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. http://www.bmz.de/20210204-1en.

Alliance, of which Germany has been the fourth-largest official donor.<sup>2540</sup> The Ministry for Development (BMZ) pledged a further EUR 1.5 billion to COVAX.<sup>2541</sup>

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to doing whatever is necessary to ensure a strong global response through closer cooperation and enhanced coordination of their efforts by implementing joint statements, initiatives and funding with other countries and coordinating its vaccine campaign with other countries.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Debasmita Bhattacharya

## Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitments to doing whatever is necessary to ensure a strong global response through closer cooperation and enhanced coordination of their efforts.

On 8 April 2020, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Emanuela Del Re attended the Foreign Affairs -Development Council of the European Union meeting and affirmed Italy's support for the European Commission's Team Europe package.<sup>2542</sup> The Team Europe package was established to provide a cohesive response to help EU partner countries face the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2543</sup>

On 14 April 2020, Vice Minister Del Re affirmed Italy's support for COVID-19 humanitarian response plans.<sup>2544</sup> She stated that Italy has contributed to the World Health Organization (WHO) response plan and intends to contribute to the United Nations global humanitarian appeal.<sup>2545</sup>

On 15 April 2020, Vice Minister Re participated in the proposal of the Covid-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP) with the other main donors from United Nations agencies.<sup>2546</sup> The GHRP is the

<sup>2540</sup> Minister Muller welcomes start of vaccination campaigns in 18 developing countries through COVAX immunization alliance, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 4 February 2021. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. http://www.bmz.de/20210204-1en.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2541</sup> Minister Muller welcomes start of vaccination campaigns in 18 developing countries through COVAX immunization alliance, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 4 February 2021. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. http://www.bmz.de/20210204-1en.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2542</sup> Coronavirus, Del Re to the EU: Global Alliance for Vaccine and Universal Immunisation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and

International Cooperation (Rome) 8 April 2020. Access date: 19 February 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala stampa/ archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/04/coronavirus-del-re-alla-ue-alleanza-globale-per-vaccino-e-immunizzazione-universale. html.<sup>2543</sup> Coronavirus, Del Re to the EU: Global Alliance for Vaccine and Universal Immunisation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 8 April 2020. Access date: 19 February 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\_stampa/ archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/04/coronavirus-del-re-alla-ue-alleanza-globale-per-vaccino-e-immunizzazione-universale.html. <sup>2544</sup> Del Re: "Development cooperation and Covid-19: working together to provide effective responses" (Agenzia S.I.R.), Ministry

of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 14 April 2020. Access date: 19 February 2021.  $https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\_stampa/interviste/2020/04/del-re-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo-e-covid-19-lavorare-lavo$ 

sinergicamente-per-dare-risposte-efficaci-agenzia-s-i-r.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2545</sup> Del Re: "Development cooperation and Covid-19: working together to provide effective responses" (Agenzia S.I.R.), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 14 April 2020. Access date: 19 February 2021.

https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala stampa/interviste/2020/04/del-re-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo-e-covid-19-lavoraresinergicamente-per-dare-risposte-efficaci-agenzia-s-i-r.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2546</sup> Del Re: "Coronavirus, the international cooperation will save us" (Agenzia Dire), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 20 April 2020. Access date: 19 February 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala stampa/interviste/2020/04/delre-coronavirus-ci-salvera-la-cooperazione-internazionale-agenzia-dire.html.

collective response of UN agencies worth USD2 billion that seeks to help the most vulnerable populations through a coordinated global response to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2547</sup>

On 16 April 2020, the Government of Italy signed onto the COVID-19 Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism.<sup>2548</sup> The Joint Declaration emphasized the importance of enhanced international cooperation and worldwide solidarity and called for a "co-operative, transparent, science-based and coordinated global response."<sup>2549</sup> The Joint Declaration also outlined the signatories' support for United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres for an immediate global ceasefire.<sup>2550</sup>

On 4 May 2020, the European Commission partnered with Italy and other countries to launch the Coronavirus Global Response pledging marathon.<sup>2551</sup> The Coronavirus Global Response program has raised EUR15.9 billion in pledges since its launch on 4 May 2020, and Italy has pledged EUR381 million.<sup>2552</sup> The money raised from the Coronavirus Global Response program is put toward universal access to COVID-19 tests, treatment, and vaccines.<sup>2553</sup>

On 6 May 2020, the Government of Italy announced that it will provide EUR120 million in direct funding to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance in order to "support the vaccination of hundreds of millions of children against diseases ... as well as support universal access to a COVID-19 vaccine.<sup>2554</sup> This funding is a new pledge to Italy's previous five-year direct pledge of EUR100 million to Gavi for the 2016-2020 period.<sup>2555</sup> In the context of announcing this funding, Vice-Minister Del Re stated that "Italy confirms its strong commitment to global cooperation, effective multilateralism and global health."<sup>2556</sup>

On 19 May 2020, Law Decree No. 34/2020 (the Rilancio Decree) came into effect in Italy.<sup>257</sup> Under the Rilancio Degree, the import of all goods used to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, including personal protective equipment, COVID-19 test kits, thermometers, medical devices, and soap, were exempt from

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2547</sup> Global Humanitarian Response Plan COVID-19, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (Geneva) 28 March 2020. Access date: 20 February 2021. https://www.unocha.org/sites/unocha/files/Global-Humanitarian-Response-Plan-COVID-19.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2548</sup> COVID-19 - Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism (16 Apr. 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/multilateralism-a-principle-of-action-for-france/alliance-for-multilateralism/news-about-the-alliance-for-multilateralism/article/covid-19-joint-declaration-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism-16-apr-2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2549</sup> COVID-19 - Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism (16 Apr. 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/multilateralism-a-principle-of-action-for-france/alliance-for-multilateralism/news-about-the-alliance-for-multilateralism/article/covid-19-joint-declaration-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism-16-apr-2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2550</sup> COVID-19 - Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism (16 Apr. 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/multilateralism-a-principle-of-action-for-france/alliance-for-multilateralism/news-about-the-alliance-for-multilateralism/article/covid-19-joint-declaration-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism-16-apr-2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2551</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: Pledge, European Union (Brussels) n.d. Access date: 19 February 2021. https://global-response.europa.eu/pledge\_it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2552</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: Pledge, European Union (Brussels) n.d. Access date: 19 February 2021. https://global-response.europa.eu/pledge\_it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2553</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: Pledge, European Union (Brussels) n.d. Access date: 19 February 2021. https://global-response.europa.eu/pledge it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2554</sup> Italy pledges new support to Gavi, Gavi (Geneva) 6 May 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021.

https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/italy-pledges-new-support-gavi.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2555</sup> Italy pledges new support to Gavi, Gavi (Geneva) 6 May 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021.

https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/italy-pledges-new-support-gavi.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2556</sup> Italy pledges new support to Gavi, Gavi (Geneva) 6 May 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021.

https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/italy-pledges-new-support-gavi.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2557</sup> New VAT provisions for medical devices supplied during the COVID-19 emergency, BDO: Italy Indirect Tax News (Milan) n.d. Access date: 19 February 2021. https://www.bdo.global/en-gb/microsites/tax-newsletters/indirect-tax-news/issue-3-2020/italy-new-vat-provisions-for-medical-devices-supplied-during-the-covid-19-emergency.

value-added tax until 31 December 2020.<sup>2558</sup> After 1 January 2020, all COVID-19 supplies were subject to a five per cent value-added tax.<sup>2559</sup>

On 1 June 2020, the Government of Italy announced it will provide EUR150 million in funding, to be paid in equal installments from 2026-2030, to Gavi's financial tools, namely the International Finance Facility for Immunisation (IFFIm) and the Advance Market Commitment.<sup>2560</sup> In response to receiving the funding, Gavi stated that Italy's new, long-term support provides IFFIm with the resources necessary to help Gavi extend life-saving vaccines to every child in the world and to take on the COVID-19 crisis."<sup>2561</sup>

On 4 June 2020, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte attended the Global Vaccine Summit in London, England. He highlighted Italy's support for Gavi's mission to send donor-funded COVID-19 vaccines to lower-income countries.<sup>2562</sup> Italy pledged EUR120 million to help fund Gavi's COVAX AMC initiative.<sup>2563</sup>

On 5 June 2020, the WHO and Central European Initiative (CEI) launched a joint task force to establish a coordinated regional response to the COVID-19 pandemic; Italy joined the task force along with the 16 other CEI member states.<sup>2564</sup> The task force is committed to exchanging relevant information and supports a coherent response to the consequences of the pandemic.<sup>2565</sup>

On 10 July 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs Luigi Di Maio and foreign ministers from other countries such as Germany and France issued a statement to reaffirm their commitment to international cooperation to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2566</sup> The statement emphasized the need to "pool [their] resources through detailed political dialogue in the spirit of solidarity and cooperation which fuels the relationship between our two regions."<sup>2567</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2558</sup> New VAT provisions for medical devices supplied during the COVID-19 emergency, BDO: Italy Indirect Tax News (Milan) n.d. Access date: 19 February 2021. https://www.bdo.global/en-gb/microsites/tax-newsletters/indirect-tax-news/issue-3-2020/italy-new-vat-provisions-for-medical-devices-supplied-during-the-covid-19-emergency.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2559</sup> New VAT provisions for medical devices supplied during the COVID-19 emergency, BDO: Italy Indirect Tax News (Milan) n.d. Access date: 19 February 2021. https://www.bdo.global/en-gb/microsites/tax-newsletters/indirect-tax-news/issue-3-2020/italy-new-vat-provisions-for-medical-devices-supplied-during-the-covid-19-emergency.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2560</sup> Italy deepens support for Gavi with €150 million IFFIm pledge, Gavi (London) 1 June 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2020. https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/italy-deepens-support-gavi-eu150-million-iffim-pledge.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2561</sup> Italy deepens support for Gavi with €150 million IFFIm pledge, Gavi (London) 1 June 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2020. https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/italy-deepens-support-gavi-eu150-million-iffim-pledge.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2562</sup> Donor Profiles: Italy, Gavi: The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) n.d. Access date: 20 February 2021. https://www.gavi.org/investing-gavi/funding/donor-profiles/italy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2563</sup> Donor Profiles: Italy, Gavi: The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) n.d. Access date: 20 February 2021. https://www.gavi.org/investing-gavi/funding/donor-profiles/italy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2564</sup> WHO joins forces with 17 central European countries to step up tailored COVID-19 response, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 5 June 2020. Access date: 21 February 2021. https://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/italy/news/news/2020/6/who-joins-forces-with-17-central-european-countries-to-step-up-tailored-covid-19-response.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2565</sup> WHO joins forces with 17 central European countries to step up tailored COVID-19 response, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 5 June 2020. Access date: 21 February 2021. https://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/italy/news/news/2020/6/who-joins-forces-with-17-central-european-countries-to-step-up-tailored-covid-19-response.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2566</sup> Statement by the Foreign Ministers from 18 countries in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy – COVID-19 (10 July 2020), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 July 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-

files/americas/news/article/statement-by-the-foreign-ministers-from-18-countries-in-europe-latin-america.

2567 Statement by the Foreign Ministers from 18 countries in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the High

Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy – COVID-19 (10 July 2020), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 July 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/americas/news/article/statement-by-the-foreign-ministers-from-18-countries-in-europe-latin-america.

On 20 July 2020, Vice Minister Del Re participated in the presentation of the updated COVID-19 GHRP of the UN.<sup>2568</sup> She stated that Italy would intensify humanitarian efforts in response to the pandemic and highlighted that Italy has contributed to the GHRP logistics.<sup>2569</sup>

On 20 July 2020, the Italian National Council for Development Cooperation met and validated the Italian cooperation guidelines in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in vulnerable countries.<sup>2570</sup> The guideline states that Italy is committed to a multilateral and coordinated response to the pandemic.<sup>2571</sup>

On 10 September 2020, Vice Minister Del Re attended the first Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator Facilitation Council meeting.<sup>2572</sup> The ACT-Accelerator is the international cooperation platform for the acceleration of COVID-19 research and vaccine development and distribution.<sup>2573</sup> Vice Minister Del Re stated that Italy has worked to ensure a coordinated global response to the pandemic and would continue to contribute to more equitable vaccine access, bringing Italy's total contribution to over USD100 million.<sup>2574</sup>

On 28 October 2020, the Government of Italy formally joined the Coalition of Innovations for Disease Preparation (CEPI) and provided EUR5 million in its first investment to financially support the CEPI and the development of COVID-19 vaccine candidates.<sup>2575</sup> The funding will go towards advancing at least three COVID-19 vaccine candidates for licensing and expanding the CEPI portfolio.<sup>2576</sup> In the announcement to join the CEPI, Vice Minister Del Re stated that Italy is "proud to join and contribute to the coalition" and believes that "only together can [they] accelerate action to overcome the pandemic."<sup>2577</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2568</sup> Vice Minister Del Re participates in the presentation of the COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan of the United Nations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 20 July 2020. Access date: 22 February 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/07/la-vice-ministra-del-re-partecipa-alla-presentazione-del-covid-19-global-humanitarian-response-plan-delle-nazioni-unite.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2569</sup> Vice Minister Del Re participates in the presentation of the COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan of the United Nations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 20 July 2020. Access date: 22 February 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/07/la-vice-ministra-del-re-partecipa-alla-presentazione-del-covid-19-global-humanitarian-response-plan-delle-nazioni-unite.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2570</sup> Italy releases cooperation guidelines in response to COVID-19 crisis, Donor Tracker (Berlin) 20 July 2020. Access date: 22 February 2021. https://donortracker.org/policy-updates/italy-releases-cooperation-guidelines-response-covid-19-crisis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2571</sup> Italy releases cooperation guidelines in response to COVID-19 crisis, Donor Tracker (Berlin) 20 July 2020. Access date: 22 February 2021. https://donortracker.org/policy-updates/italy-releases-cooperation-guidelines-response-covid-19-crisis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2572</sup> VM Del Re: Italy promotes a coordinated global response to the pandemic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 10 September 2020. Access date: 23 February 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/del-re-italia-promuove-risposta-globale-coordinata-alla-pandemia.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2573</sup> VM Del Re: Italy promotes a coordinated global response to the pandemic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 10 September 2020. Access date: 23 February 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/del-re-italia-promuove-risposta-globale-coordinata-alla-pandemia.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2574</sup> VM Del Re: Italy promotes a coordinated global response to the pandemic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 10 September 2020. Access date: 23 February 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/del-re-italia-promuove-risposta-globale-coordinata-alla-pandemia.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2575</sup> Covid-19, towards the vaccine. Italy joins the CEPI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala\_stampa/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2576</sup> Covid-19, towards the vaccine. Italy joins the CEPI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala\_stampa/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2577</sup> Covid-19, towards the vaccine. Italy joins the CEPI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala\_stampa/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html.

On 28 October 2020, Italy pledged EUR10 million to CEPI and contributed EUR5 million.<sup>2578</sup> Vice Minister Del Re stated that Italy is proud to join CEPI and contribute to the COVID-19 vaccine progress.<sup>2579</sup>

On 5 November 2020, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN launched the Italian-led Food Coalition to prevent a food supply chain crisis in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and renew efforts to eliminate hunger.<sup>2580</sup> The Food Coalition was proposed by Italy, and Italy pledged and delivered resources.<sup>2581</sup>

On 15 December 2020, the Ministers of Health from Italy, France, Germany and other European countries agreed to coordinate the launch of their COVID-19 vaccination campaigns.<sup>2582</sup> The Ministers stated that in addition to coordinate the timing, they will also rapidly share information on the proceedings of the vaccination campaigns.<sup>2583</sup>

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to ensure a strong global response through closer cooperation and enhanced coordination by providing humanitarian assistance and financial support for global COVID-19 related projects as well as cooperating and coordinating with other countries in joint funding, statements and in their vaccination campaigns.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexandra Nicu

## Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to ensuring a strong global response, through closer cooperation and enhanced cooperation of their efforts.

On 1 May 2020, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry signed an agreement with the Ministry of Trade and Economy of Singapore to pursue bilateral coordination to combat COVID-19.<sup>2584</sup> Japan and Singapore agreed to "refrain from imposing export prohibitions or restrictions with respect to essential goods, including medical supplies and agricultural food products."<sup>2585</sup> The ministries also agreed to coordinate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2578</sup> Italy pledges first EUR 5 million funding to CEPI to advance COVID-19 vaccine development efforts, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 October 2020. Access date: 23 February 2021.

https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/10/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-alla-coalizione-delle-innovazioni-per-la-preparazione-alle-epidemie.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2579</sup> Italy pledges first EUR 5 million funding to CEPI to advance COVID-19 vaccine development efforts, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 October 2020. Access date: 23 February 2021.

https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/10/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-alla-coalizione-delle-innovazioni-per-la-preparazione-alle-epidemie.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2580</sup> FAO launches Food Coalition to lift food access, sustainable agri-food systems, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) 5 November 2020. Access date: 24 February 2021. http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1322089/icode/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2581</sup> FAO launches Food Coalition to lift food access, sustainable agri-food systems, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) 5 November 2020. Access date: 24 February 2021. http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1322089/icode/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2582</sup> Large EU states commit to coordinated launch of COVID vaccinations, Reuters (Rome) 15 December 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-europe-vaccination-idUSR1N2H0002.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2583</sup> Large EU states commit to coordinated launch of COVID vaccinations, Reuters (Rome) 15 December 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-europe-vaccination-idUSR1N2H0002.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2584</sup> Singapore and Japan agree to deepen bilateral cooperation to combat COVID-19, Ministry of Trade and Industry Singapore (Singapore) 1 May 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.mti.gov.sg/Newsroom/Press-Releases/2020/05/Singapore-and-Japan-agree-to-deepen-bilateral-cooperation-to-combat-COVID-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2585</sup> Singapore and Japan agree to deepen bilateral cooperation to combat COVID-19, Ministry of Trade and Industry Singapore (Singapore) 1 May 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.mti.gov.sg/Newsroom/Press-Releases/2020/05/Singapore-and-Japan-agree-to-deepen-bilateral-cooperation-to-combat-COVID-19.

by agreeing to "expedite and facilitate the flow and transit of essential goods, including medical supplies and agricultural food products." 2586

On 4 May 2020, Japan and the G7 members hosted the Coronavirus Global Response Pledging Conference to begin accumulating funds for combatting COVID-19. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe pledged that Japan would invest USD834 million, focusing on development and access to vaccines.<sup>2587</sup>

On 15 September 2020, Japan provided USD165 million towards the World Health Organization's (WHO) COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX).<sup>2588</sup> This investment is intended to support a fair and equitable distribution of vaccines globally and prevent a monopolization of COVID-19 treatments.<sup>2589</sup>

On 24 September 2020, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and WHO stated that it recently supported Peru's COVID-19 response with financial backing from the Government of Japan.<sup>2590</sup> Japan's funding will assist the WHO's and PAHO's efforts to "strengthen infection prevention and control (IPC) programs and risk communications activities in five selected hospitals."<sup>2591</sup> It will provide a stock of personal protective equipment (PPE) consisting of 5,000 masks, 5,000 pairs of gloves, 5,000 gowns, 5,000 pieces of head protection, 800 protective suits and 20 N95 respirators."<sup>2592</sup>

On 25 September 2020, Prime Minister Suga Yoshihide delivered a statement at the General Debate of the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly.<sup>2593</sup> He called upon the General Assembly to "unite in solidarity so we can turn the current [COVID-19] crisis into an opportunity to reinforce our cooperation."<sup>2594</sup> Prime Minister Suga also stated Japan's progress in working with international organizations and Japan's support for the "development of therapeutics, vaccines and diagnostics, and works towards ensuring fair and equitable access for all, including those in developing countries."<sup>2595</sup>

On 8 October 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs Toshimitsu Motegi pledged USD130 million to the Gavi COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC), which aims to disseminate effective vaccines to developing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2586</sup> Singapore and Japan agree to deepen bilateral cooperation to combat COVID-19, Ministry of Trade and Industry Singapore (Singapore) 1 May 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.mti.gov.sg/Newsroom/Press-Releases/2020/05/Singapore-and-Japan-agree-to-deepen-bilateral-cooperation-to-combat-COVID-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2587</sup> Prime Minister Shinzo Abe Participates in the Coronavirus Global Response Pledging Conference, Friends of the Global Fund, Japan (Tokyo) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. http://fgfj.jcie.or.jp/en/news/pm-shinzo-abe-covid-pledging-conference. <sup>2588</sup> Japan to participate in COVAX, Donor Tracker 1 (Berlin) 1 September 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://donortracker.org/policy-updates/japan-participate-covax.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2589</sup> Japan to participate in COVAX, Donor Tracker 1 (Berlin) 1 September 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://donortracker.org/policy-updates/japan-participate-covax.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2590</sup> Peru: protective equipment and surveillance support with funding from Japan, World Health Organization (Geneva) 24 September 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/peru-protective-equipment-and-surveillance-support-with-funding-from-japan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2591</sup> Peru: protective equipment and surveillance support with funding from Japan, World Health Organization (Geneva) 24 September 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/peru-protective-equipment-and-surveillance-support-with-funding-from-japan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2592</sup> Peru: protective equipment and surveillance support with funding from Japan, World Health Organization (Geneva) 24 September 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/peru-protective-equipment-and-surveillance-support-with-funding-from-japan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2593</sup> Address by Prime Minister Suga at the Seventy-Fifth Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 26 September 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp a/page4e 001095.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2594</sup> Address by Prime Minister Suga at the Seventy-Fifth Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 26 September 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp\_a/page4e\_001095.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2595</sup> Address by Prime Minister Suga at the Seventy-Fifth Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 26 September 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp\_a/page4e\_001095.html.

countries.<sup>2596</sup> This enabled the GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance to reach USD1.8 billion and helped ensure that vaccines would be reserved for low to middle-income countries.<sup>2597</sup> Furthermore, in this statement, Minister Motegi also announced its global initiative to "Leave No One's Health Behind" and efforts to achieve universal health coverage.<sup>2598</sup>

On 4 December 2020, Prime Minister Suga delivered a statement at the General Debate of the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2599</sup> He emphasized the importance of a "comprehensive, innovative and coordinated global response based on multilateral cooperation."<sup>2600</sup> He supported multilateral cooperation frameworks such as the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator and stated that Japan, as a founding donor, "responded rapidly to the call for contributions to the COVAX facility."<sup>2601</sup>

On 10 December 2020, Japan extended loans to the Philippines, Indonesia, India, Bangladesh, Maldives, Mongolia, and Cambodia in economic recovery efforts for developing countries.<sup>2602</sup> Japan pledged over USD1.54 billion in providing medical assistance through international organizations to more than 89 countries globally.<sup>2603</sup> Through multilateral healthcare systems, Japan assisted with the provision of sanitary goods, hygiene items, training of healthcare workers, and raising awareness of disease impacts through numerous international organizations such as the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme, and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.<sup>2604</sup> Japan continued efforts in commitments toward the Tokyo International Conference of African Development, where they spent the past year strengthening Africa's ability to effectively respond to COVID-19 by providing medical equipment, training for health services and ensuring equitable access to vaccines through GAVI and Global Fund.<sup>2605</sup>

On 4 February 2021, the WHO with the financial backing of the Government of Japan worth over USD162,000 will establish a port health facility at the Juba International Airport in South Sudan. The Head of Development Cooperation of the Embassy of Japan Nobuhiro Kikuchi stated that he intends for the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2596</sup> Japan pledges US\$130 million to support global access to COVID-19 vaccines, Gavi 8 (Geneva) 8 October 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/japan-pledges-us-130-million-support-global-access-covid-19-vaccines.
<sup>2597</sup> Japan pledges US\$130 million to support global access to COVID-19 vaccines, Gavi 8 (Geneva) 8 October 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/japan-pledges-us-130-million-support-global-access-covid-19-vaccines <sup>2598</sup> Japan pledges US\$130 million to support global access to COVID-19 vaccines, Gavi 8 (Geneva) 8 October 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/japan-pledges-us-130-million-support-global-access-covid-19-vaccines. <sup>2599</sup> Address by Prime Minister SUGA at the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 December 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ghp/page1e 000292.html#.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2600</sup> Address by Prime Minister SUGA at the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 December 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ghp/page1e 000292.html#.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2601</sup> Address by Prime Minister SUGA at the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 December 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ghp/page1e 000292.html#.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2602</sup> Japan's aid policies to COVID-19 for developing countries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) n.d. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/100098665.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2603</sup> Japan's aid policies to COVID-19 for developing countries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) n.d. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/100098665.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2604</sup> Japan's aid policies to COVID-19 for developing countries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) n.d. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/100098665.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2605</sup> Fight against COVID-19 Japan's Distribution through the TICAD, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) n.d. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/100124482.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2606</sup> WHO with funding from the Government of Japan to establish port health facility in Juba International Airport, South Sudan, World Health Organization (Geneva) 5 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.afro.who.int/news/who-funding-government-japan-establish-port-health-facility-juba-international-airport-south.

"facilities will be fully utilized by the Ministry of Public Health in response to COVID-19 to protect people of South Sudan from the pandemic." <sup>2607</sup>

On 9 February 2021, Minister Motegi delivered a statement at the ACT-Accelerator 4th Facilitation Council. Minister Motegi underlined the importance of international cooperation in tackling the COVID-19 pandemic and achieving universal health coverage. He also announced that Japan will provide an additional USD200 million in funding to the COVAX Advance Market Commitment.<sup>2608</sup>

On 19 February 2021, Japan and the G7 members released the G7 Leaders' Statement regarding their commitment to international cooperation in the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2609</sup> In this statement, Japan committed to cooperate with G7 members and international partners on securely carrying out the 2021 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo as a "symbol of global unity" in overcoming the global health crisis.<sup>2610</sup>

On 19 February 2021, Japan coordinated its investment with other G7 members in providing USD4.3 billion of new investments in the ACT-Accelerator.<sup>2611</sup> In this coordinated investment, Japan committed USD79 million for the COVAX AMC and UNITAID.<sup>2612</sup>

On 22 February 2021, Government of Japan and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) signed an Arrangement Letter to support a project titled "Developing Digital skills and Education for Sustainable Development through Distance Learning in Palestine – Phase I."<sup>2613</sup> The goal of the project is to improve digital and sustainable development skills in general education in Palestine especially in the context of COVID-19.<sup>2614</sup> The Head of Office and UNESCO Representative Noha Bawazir stated that the project "is a milestone in the cooperation between UNESCO and the Government of Japan."<sup>2615</sup>

Through its initiatives of financially assisting numerous international organizations, agreeing on bilateral and multilateral initiatives and agreements and aiming for equitable vaccine distribution in response to combating the COVID-19 pandemic, Japan has fully committed to ensuring enhanced cooperation and coordination with its international partners.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2607</sup> WHO with funding from the Government of Japan to establish port health facility in Juba International Airport, South Sudan, World Health Organization (Geneva) 5 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.afro.who.int/news/who-funding-government-japan-establish-port-health-facility-juba-international-airport-south.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2608</sup> Video message by Minister for Foreign Affairs MOTEGI At the ACT Accelerator 4th Facilitation Council, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\_002974.html. <sup>2609</sup> G7 Leaders' statement, European Council (Brussels) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021.

https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/02/19/g7-february-leaders-statement/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2610</sup> G7 Leaders' statement, European Council (Brussels) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021.

https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/02/19/g7-february-leaders-statement/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2611</sup> G7 leaders commit US\$ 4.3 billion to finance global equitable access to tests, treatments and vaccines in 2021, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.who.int/news/item/19-02-2021-g7-leaders-commit-us-4.3-billion-to-finance-global-equitable-access-to-tests-treatments-and-vaccines-in-2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2612</sup> G7 leaders commit US\$ 4.3 billion to finance global equitable access to tests, treatments and vaccines in 2021, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.who.int/news/item/19-02-2021-g7-leaders-commit-us-4.3-billion-to-finance-global-equitable-access-to-tests-treatments-and-vaccines-in-2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2613</sup> UNESCO and Japan Sign a Milestone Agreement for the Benefit of Palestinian Youth during COVID-19, UNESCO (Ramallah) 22 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-and-japan-sign-milestone-agreement-benefit-palestinian-youth-during-covid-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2614</sup> UNESCO and Japan Sign a Milestone Agreement for the Benefit of Palestinian Youth during COVID-19, UNESCO (Ramallah) 22 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-and-japan-sign-milestone-agreement-benefit-palestinian-youth-during-covid-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2615</sup> UNESCO and Japan Sign a Milestone Agreement for the Benefit of Palestinian Youth during COVID-19, UNESCO (Ramallah) 22 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-and-japan-sign-milestone-agreement-benefit-palestinian-youth-during-covid-19.

Thus, Japan has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Nwal Anwal

## United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to do whatever is necessary to ensure a strong global response through closer cooperation and enhanced coordination of their efforts.

On 26 March 2020, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced the United Kingdom will be providing GBP210 million of funding to the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations in addition to its original investment of GBP40 million. <sup>2616</sup> The funding will aim to assist "scientists and researchers continue to lead global efforts to develop a workable coronavirus vaccine." Prime Minister Johnson also announced new funding of GBP50 million in a joint campaign with Unilever to deliver information campaigns about the virus spread in developing countries and provide over 20 million hygiene and cleaning products. <sup>2618</sup> This announcement brought the total amount of United Kingdom COVID-19 related funding to GBP544 million. <sup>2619</sup>

On 12 April 2020, the Government of the United Kingdom announced it will provide GBP200 million in COVID-19 aid to developing countries.<sup>2620</sup> The funding will aim to help "install hand-washing stations and isolation and treatment centres in refugee camps, and increase access to clean water for those living in areas of armed conflict."<sup>2621</sup> GBP130 million of the funding will go towards United Nations agencies and GBP50 million fund the Red Cross in their assistance to areas affected by armed conflict.<sup>2622</sup> International Development Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan stated that "boosting fragile health systems overseas would help prevent a "second wave" of infections hitting the UK."<sup>2623</sup>

On 26 April 2020, the European Commission approved a bill to prohibit the export of medical personal protective equipment in an attempt to avoid supply shortages of masks, gloves and suits and to ensure adequate supply within the European Union, United Kingdom and the European Free Trade Association members.<sup>2624</sup> This bill was made to be repealed in 30 days from its time of implementation and was indeed repealed on 25 May 2020.<sup>2625</sup>

On 29 April 2020, International Development Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan announced that the United Kingdom will fund GBP330 million a year for the next five years to Gavi, the Vaccine, "which will help fund

<sup>2616</sup> PM announces record funding to find a coronavirus vaccine, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-announces-record-funding-to-find-a-coronavirus-vaccine. PM announces record funding to find a coronavirus vaccine, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-announces-record-funding-to-find-a-coronavirus-vaccine. PM announces record funding to find a coronavirus vaccine, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-announces-record-funding-to-find-a-coronavirus-vaccine. PM announces record funding to find a coronavirus vaccine, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 26 March 2020.

Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-announces-record-funding-to-find-a-coronavirus-vaccine. <sup>2620</sup> Coronavirus: UK gives £200 in aid to developing nations, BBC (London) 12 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-52258449.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2621</sup> Coronavirus: UK gives £200 in aid to developing nations, BBC (London) 12 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-52258449.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2622</sup> Coronavirus: UK gives £200 in aid to developing nations, BBC (London) 12 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-52258449.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2623</sup> Coronavirus: UK gives £200 in aid to developing nations, BBC (London) 12 April 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-52258449.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2624</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/568 of 23 April 2020 making the exportation of certain products subject to the production of an export authorisation, Access to European Union Law (Brussels) 23 April 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32020R0568.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2625</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/568 of 23 April 2020 making the exportation of certain products subject to the production of an export authorisation, Access to European Union Law (Brussels) 23 April 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32020R0568.

immunisation of 75 million children in the world's poorest countries."<sup>2626</sup> In the announcement, Trevelyan stated that "As coronavirus vaccine trials begin, we need to make sure any successful vaccine will be available to everyone."<sup>2627</sup>

On 4 May 2020, the United Kingdom along with the European Union, Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Norway, Spain, and France co-convened a pledging event to mobilize EUR7.5 million to serve the objectives of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator.<sup>2628</sup> The ACT-Accelerator is designed as a coordination structure to accelerate the development, production and equitable access to new diagnostics, therapies and vaccines against the Covid-19 pandemic."<sup>2629</sup>

On 22 May 2020, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development agreed to contribute USD3.8 million to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to help eight countries of the Caribbean mitigate the effects of COVID-19.<sup>2630</sup> The program aims to develop early detection measures and strengthen existing surveillance systems.<sup>2631</sup> In this announcement, PAHO stated that with the funds from the United Kingdom, it will "support a coherent public health response" and "ensure strong coordination and management."<sup>2632</sup>

On 4 June 2020, the United Kingdom hosted the Global Vaccine Summit that gathered leaders from governments, foundations, the private sector and civil society around the world.<sup>2633</sup> The Global Vaccine Summit raised USD8.8 billion in pledges from 62 governments and 12 foundations corporations and organizations.<sup>2634</sup> The funding will assist Gavi "protect a further 300 million more children against infectious diseases like measles, typhoid and polio and save up to 8 million lives over the next five years."<sup>2635</sup> The summit also announced the launch of a new Gavi fund called the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Advance Market Commitment (AMC) that aims to accelerate access to coronavirus vaccines in developing countries.<sup>2636</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2626</sup> UK leads global fight to protect up to 75 million children against deadly diseases, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 29 April 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-global-fight-to-protect-up-to-75-million-children-against-deadly-diseases.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2627</sup> UK leads global fight to protect up to 75 million children against deadly diseases, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 29 April 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-global-fight-to-protect-up-to-75-million-children-against-deadly-diseases.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2628</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: €7.4 billion raised for universal access to vaccines, European Commission (Brussels) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\_20\_797.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2629</sup> The World Health Assembly: a historic meeting in the context of the Covid-19 crisis, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (Paris) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2021. https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/ministere/europe-et-international/actualites-europeennes-et-internationales/article/l-assemblee-mondiale-de-la-sante-un-rendez-vous-historique-dans-le-contexte-de. <sup>2630</sup> The United Kingdom contributes \$3.8m for COVID-19 response in the Caribbean, Pan American Health Organization (Washington) 22 May 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. https://www.paho.org/en/news/22-5-2020-united-kingdom-contributes-38m-covid-19-response-caribbean.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2631</sup> The United Kingdom contributes \$3.8m for COVID-19 response in the Caribbean, Pan American Health Organization (Washington) 22 May 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. https://www.paho.org/en/news/22-5-2020-united-kingdom-contributes-38m-covid-19-response-caribbean.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2632</sup> The United Kingdom contributes \$3.8m for COVID-19 response in the Caribbean, Pan American Health Organization (Washington) 22 May 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. https://www.paho.org/en/news/22-5-2020-united-kingdom-contributes-38m-covid-19-response-caribbean.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2633</sup> Global Vaccine Summit, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 4 June 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/global-vaccine-summit-2020/about.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2634</sup> Global Vaccine Summit, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 4 June 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/global-vaccine-summit-2020/about.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2635</sup> Global Vaccine Summit, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 4 June 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/global-vaccine-summit-2020/about.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2636</sup> Global Vaccine Summit, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 4 June 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/global-vaccine-summit-2020/about.

On 23 July 2020, the Department of Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs cut their foreign aid by EUR2.5 billion in lieu of the United Kingdom "experiencing a severe economic downturn as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic." Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said the UK would still meet its commitment to spend 0.7 per cent of Gross National Income on aid. 2638

On 26 September 2020, Prime Minister Johnson pledged EUR500 million in aid to the COVAX vaccine procurement pool.<sup>2639</sup> The COVAX vaccine aims to provide vaccines to developing countries.<sup>2640</sup> The Prime Minister also pledged EUR340 million to the World Health Organization over the next four years.<sup>2641</sup> The United Kingdom also announced it would match every USD4 pledge to the COVAX AMC by other donors with GBP1 in funding.<sup>2642</sup>

On 10 January 2021, the Government of the United Kingdom provided an update to its initiative in September 2020 to match every USD4 pledge to the COVAX AMC by other donors with GBP1 in funding. <sup>2643</sup> The United Kingdom announced that it has contributed GBP548 million. <sup>2644</sup>

On 23 February 2021, Prime Minister Johnson announced that the United Kingdom will donate most of the United Kingdom's surplus vaccine supply to developing countries in his speech to a virtual G7 meeting.<sup>2645</sup> In his statement, he also encouraged the other G7 attendees to support a 100-day target for developing new vaccines for future emerging diseases.<sup>2646</sup> Prime Minister Johnston stated that he wanted to "ensure that we distribute vaccines at cost around the world — make sure everybody gets the vaccines that they need so that the whole world can come through this pandemic together."<sup>2647</sup>

On 23 February 2021, the United Kingdom published its international treaty with the European Union with regards to the United Kingdom's exit out of the European Union.<sup>2648</sup> The treaty included an article on health security in which the United Kingdom and the European Union agreed to support "effective arrangements and information sharing between the UK and the EU in the event of a serious cross border threat to health,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2637</sup> Coronavirus: UK foreign aid spending cut by €2.5 bn amid economic downturn, BBC News UK Edition (London) 23 July 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-53508933.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2638</sup> Coronavirus: UK foreign aid spending cut by €2.5 bn amid economic downturn, BBC News UK Edition (London) 23 July 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-53508933.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2639</sup> Coronavirus: UK pledges €500m to global vaccine-sharing scheme, BBC News UK Edition (London) 26 September 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. https://www.bbc.com/news/health-54303061.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2640</sup> Coronavirus: UK pledges €500m to global vaccine-sharing scheme, BBC News UK Edition (London) 26 September 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. https://www.bbc.com/news/health-54303061.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2641</sup> Coronavirus: UK pledges €500m to global vaccine-sharing scheme, BBC News UK Edition (London) 26 September 2020. Date of Access: 24 February 2021. https://www.bbc.com/news/health-54303061.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2642</sup> UK meets £250 million match aid target to COVAX, the global vaccines facility, Government of the UK (London) 10 January 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-raises-1bn-so-vulnerable-countries-can-get-vaccine.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2643</sup> UK meets £250 million match aid target to COVAX, the global vaccines facility, Government of the UK (London) 10 January 2021.

Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-raises-1bn-so-vulnerable-countries-can-get-vaccine. <sup>2644</sup> UK meets £250 million match aid target to COVAX, the global vaccines facility, Government of the UK (London) 10 January 2021.

Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-raises-1bn-so-vulnerable-countries-can-get-vaccine. <sup>2645</sup> Covid vaccines: Boris Johnson pledges surplus to poorer countries at G7, BBC (London) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 11

March 2021. https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-56117120.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2646</sup> Covid vaccines: Boris Johnson pledges surplus to poorer countries at G7, BBC (London) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-56117120.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2647</sup> Covid vaccines: Boris Johnson pledges surplus to poorer countries at G7, BBC (London) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-56117120.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2648</sup> International treaty Summary Explainer, Government of the UK (London) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/agreements-reached-between-the-united-kingdom-of-great-britain-and-northern-ireland-and-the-european-union/summary-explainer.

which is particularly important in the context of Covid-19."<sup>2649</sup> This article allows the United Kingdom to request access to the European Union's Early Warning and Response System so that the United Kingdom and the European Union can "coordinate measures to protect public health."<sup>2650</sup>

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitments to doing whatever is necessary to ensure a strong global response through closer cooperation and enhanced coordination of their effort by demonstrating initiatives towards easing the distribution of COVID-19 materials and resources to other countries, pursuing coordinated initiatives and agreements, and funding international COVID-19 frameworks.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Debasmita Bhattacharya

#### United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitments to doing whatever is necessary to ensure a strong global response through closer cooperation and enhanced coordination of their efforts

In 9 April 2020, the Government of the United States announced that it will provide USD2.3 million in funding to help mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus in the Pacific Islands region.<sup>2651</sup> In this announcement, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) stated that the United States will "coordinat[e] with the governments of 12 Pacific Island countries, namely Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu and other stakeholders to identify priority areas for investment." USAID stated its intention to cooperate with the Pacific Islands region by aiming to "help governments prepare laboratory systems, implement infection prevention and control measures, strengthen port of entry screening, activate case-finding and event-based surveillance, and support rapid response and preparedness and more."

On 18 June 2020, USAID announced its funding of over USD10 million to support the Government of Iraq in its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2652</sup> The funding will go towards supporting healthcare facilities, providing medical equipment to hospitals and providing support to the East Mosul Medical Fluid Factory, a large source of medical supplies to government hospitals, primary healthcare centres and pharmacies. The USAID Mission Director Dana Mansuri stated that "the United states is proud to support this work to combat COVID-19 and assist the people of Iraq."<sup>2653</sup>

On 6 July 2020, President Donald Trump provided its formal notification to the United Nations that the United States will withdraw from the World Health Organization (WHO).<sup>2654</sup> The WHO will aim to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2649</sup> International treaty Summary Explainer, Government of the UK (London) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/agreements-reached-between-the-united-kingdom-of-great-britain-and-northern-ireland-and-the-european-union/summary-explainer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2650</sup> International treaty Summary Explainer, Government of the UK (London) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/agreements-reached-between-the-united-kingdom-of-great-britain-and-northern-ireland-and-the-european-union/summary-explainer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2651</sup> United States Provides Assistance to the Pacific to Respond to COVID-19, United States Agency for International Development (New Delhi) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.usaid.gov/pacific-islands/press-releases/apr-9-2020-united-states-provides-assistance-pacific-response-covid19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2652</sup> Timely \$10 million USAID contribution protects more communities against COVID-19 outbreak, United Nations Development Programme (Baghdad) 18 June 2020. Access Date: 1 May 2021. https://www.iq.undp.org/content/iraq/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2020/06/usaid-contribution-protects-more-communities-against-covid-19-ou.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2653</sup> Timely \$10 million USAID contribution protects more communities against COVID-19 outbreak, United Nations Development Programme (Baghdad) 18 June 2020. Access Date: 1 May 2021. https://www.iq.undp.org/content/iraq/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2020/06/usaid-contribution-protects-more-communities-against-covid-19-ou.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2654</sup> Note to Correspondents in answer to the questions regarding the World Health Organization, United Nations Secretary General (Geneva) 7 July 2020. Date Accessed: 11 March 2021. https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/note-correspondents/2020-07-07/note-correspondents-answer-questions-regarding-the-world-health-organization.

"coordinat[e] clinical trials of treatments" and "manufacture and equitably distribute the [COVID-19] vaccines." 2655

On 18 September 2020, the United States announced that it has donated 200 ventilators to a stockpile of medical supplies that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has established in its response to the second wave of COVID-19.<sup>2656</sup> USAID delivered the ventilators to the NATO Support and Procurement Agency in Italy.<sup>2657</sup>

On 28 December 2020, the Government of the United States provided USD4 billion in funding for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.<sup>2658</sup> The funding will go towards ensuring that "will ensure that lower-income economies have equitable access to safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines, helping to end the acute phase of the pandemic."<sup>2659</sup> The United States also announced it will provide USD290 million for the next four years to Gavi's core programs which will aim to strengthen routine immunisation in lower-income countries, protecting millions of children from vaccine-preventable diseases."<sup>2660</sup>

On 16 June 2020, USAID announced that it has donated a shipment of 100 new ventilators to India in their response to the COVID-19 crisis. <sup>2661</sup> USAID stated that in addition to the donation of ventilators, it will fund a package of support that includes "accompanying equipment and medical supplies, technical assistance, and service plans." <sup>2662</sup> In the announcement, USAID also commented on its overall cooperation with India, stating that it is "working closely with the Government of India's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Indian Red Cross Society, and other relevant stakeholders in India and the United States to assist in the delivery, transportation, and placement of ventilators in select health care facilities throughout the country." <sup>2663</sup>

On 20 January 2021, President Joe Biden announced that the United States will retract the former decision to withdraw from the WHO.<sup>2664</sup> In a letter to the United Nations Secretary-General, President Biden emphasized the importance of the WHO in leading international cooperation efforts against the COVID-19

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2655</sup> Note to Correspondents in answer to the questions regarding the World Health Organization, United Nations Secretary General (Geneva) 7 July 2020. Date Accessed: 11 March 2021. https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/note-correspondents/2020-07-07/note-correspondents-answer-questions-regarding-the-world-health-organization.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2656</sup> Coronavirus response: United States delivers ventilators for NATO stockpile, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 18 September 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news 178096.htm.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2657</sup> Coronavirus response: United States delivers ventilators for NATO stockpile, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 18 September 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news\_178096.htm.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2658</sup> Gavi welcomes final approval of U.S. support for global immunisation in Year-End Omnibus and COVID Supplemental Package, Gavi (Geneva) 2020. Date Accessed: 11 March 2021. https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/gavi-welcomes-final-approval-us-support-global-immunisation-covid-supplemental-package.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2659</sup> Gavi welcomes final approval of U.S. support for global immunisation in Year-End Omnibus and COVID Supplemental Package, Gavi (Geneva) 2020. Date Accessed: 11 March 2021. https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/gavi-welcomes-final-approval-us-support-global-immunisation-covid-supplemental-package.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2660</sup> Gavi welcomes final approval of U.S. support for global immunisation in Year-End Omnibus and COVID Supplemental Package, Gavi (Geneva) 2020. Date Accessed: 11 March 2021. https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/gavi-welcomes-final-approval-us-support-global-immunisation-covid-supplemental-package.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2661</sup> The United States provides ventilators to India to battle COVID-19, United States Agency for International Development (New Delhi) 16 June 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.usaid.gov/india/press-releases/jun-16-2020-united-states-provides-ventilators-india-battle-covid-19.

The United States provides ventilators to India to battle COVID-19, United States Agency for International Development (New Delhi) 16 June 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.usaid.gov/india/press-releases/jun-16-2020-united-states-provides-ventilators-india-battle-covid-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2663</sup> The United States provides ventilators to India to battle COVID-19, United States. Agency for International Development (New Delhi) 16 June 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.usaid.gov/india/press-releases/jun-16-2020-united-states-provides-ventilators-india-battle-covid-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2664</sup> Biden restores ties with the World Health Organization that were cut by Trump, New York Times (New York) 19 January 2021. Date Accessed: 11 March 2021. https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/20/world/biden-restores-who-ties.html.

pandemic by stating "The W.H.O. plays a crucial role in the world's fight against the deadly Covid-19 pandemic as well as countless other threats to global health and health security." 2665

As of 20 January 2021, the Government of the United States announced that it has provided over USD1 billion in funding worldwide in emergency health, humanitarian, and development assistance. The United states stated that it provided nearly USD11 million for countries in the Western Hemisphere and over USD22 million for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. The United States also emphasized its role in international coordination with other countries, stating that it "continues to partner with El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico to address the economic, security, and governance drivers of illegal immigration to the United States, particularly given the ongoing health crisis." 2668

On 18 February 2021, President Biden announced that the United States will provide USD2 billion of funding to the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) facility through 2021 and 2022.<sup>2669</sup> The funding will assist COVAX and Gavi to vaccinate vulnerable populations around the world.<sup>2670</sup>

On 9 April 2021, the U.S. announced that it will be restoring its humanitarian assistance to Palestine. The White House stated that this will include USD150 million in aid for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).<sup>2671</sup> Additionally, USAID will be providing USD75 million in economic and development assistance to the West Bank and Gaza, as well as USD10 million for peacebuilding programs.<sup>2672</sup>

On 14 April 2021, USAID announced that it will provide an additional USD2 million in providing COVID-19 technical assistance in Senegal.<sup>2673</sup> The funding will be used to enhancing "COVID-19 vaccine communication campaigns, offer targeted training for health professions, and support coordination systems for vaccine distribution, tracking, and follow-up." USAID stated that this funding is a part of USAID's

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2665</sup> Biden restores ties with the World Health Organization that were cut by Trump, New York Times (New York) 19 January 2021. Date Accessed: 11 March 2021. https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/20/world/biden-restores-who-ties.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2666</sup> U.S. Government Support to El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico During the COVID-19 Pandemic, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 20 January 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.state.gov/u-s-government-support-to-el-salvador-guatemala-honduras-and-mexico-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2667</sup> U.S. Government Support to El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico During the COVID-19 Pandemic, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 20 January 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.state.gov/u-s-government-support-to-el-salvador-guatemala-honduras-and-mexico-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2668</sup> U.S. Government Support to El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico During the COVID-19 Pandemic, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 20 January 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.state.gov/u-s-government-support-to-el-salvador-guatemala-honduras-and-mexico-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2669</sup> Fact Sheet: President Biden to Take Action on Global Health through Support of COVAX and Calling for Health Security Financing, White House (Washington, D.C.) 18 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021.

https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/02/18/fact-sheet-president-biden-to-take-action-on-global-health-through-support-of-covax-and-calling-for-health-security-financing/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2670</sup> Fact Sheet: President Biden to Take Action on Global Health through Support of COVAX and Calling for Health Security Financing, White House (Washington, D.C.) 18 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021.

https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/02/18/fact-sheet-president-biden-to-take-action-on-global-health-through-support-of-covax-and-calling-for-health-security-financing/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2671</sup> Biden restores millions in U.S. humanitarian aid to Palestinians cut under Trump, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 7 April 2021. Access Date: 25 April 2021. https://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/07/biden-restarts-us-aid-relief-programs-to-palestinians.html. Palestinians cut under Trump, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 7 April 2021. Access Date: 25 April 2021. https://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/07/biden-restarts-us-aid-relief-programs-to-palestinians.html. Palestinians cut under Trump, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 7 April 2021. Access Date: 25 April 2021. https://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/07/biden-restarts-us-aid-relief-programs-to-palestinians.html. Palestinians cut under Trump, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 7 April 2021. Access Date: 25 April 2021. https://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/07/biden-restarts-us-aid-relief-programs-to-palestinians.html. Palestinians cut under Trump, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 7 April 2021. Access Date: 25 April 2021. https://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/07/biden-restarts-us-aid-relief-programs-to-palestinians.html. Palestinians cut under Trump, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 7 April 2021. Access Date: 25 April 2021. https://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/07/biden-restarts-us-aid-relief-programs-to-palestinians.html. Palestinians cut under Trump, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 7 April 2021. Access Date: 25 April 2021. https://www.usaid-relief-programs-to-palestinians.html. Palestinians cut under Trump, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 7 April 2021. Access Date: 25 April 2021. https://www.usaid-relief-programs-to-palestinians.html. Palestinians cut under Trump, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 7 April 2021. Access Date: 25 April 2021. https://www.usaid-relief-programs-to-palestinians.html. Palestinians cut under Trump, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 7 April 2021. Access Date: 25 April 2021. https://www.usaid-relief-programs-to-palestinians.html. Palestinians cut under Trump, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 7 April 2021. Access Date: 25 April 2021. https://www.usaid-relief-programs-to-palestinians.html. Palestinians.html. Palestinians.html. Palestinians.html. Palestinians.html. Palestinians.html. Pale

engagement and coordination with the Government of Senegal in strengthening health security in Senegal.<sup>2674</sup>

On 15 April 2021, the U.S. announced that it will be providing more than USD95 million in humanitarian assistance to South Sudan.<sup>2675</sup> This aid will fund areas including essential healthcare, emergency food assistance, safe drinking water, sanitation, and economic opportunity. The U.S. restated its commitment to helping the South Sudanese people and remains the largest single donor of humanitarian aid to the country<sup>2676</sup>

On 28 April 2021, USAID deployed its first shipment of emergency COVID-19 relief aid to India.<sup>2677</sup> The shipment included 440 oxygen cylinder regulators. USAID stated that, in addition to this first shipment, it will provide 960,000 rapid diagnostic tests and 100,000 N95 masks to India to help identify infections early and prevent the community spread of COVID-19. USAID has provided USD23 million in assistance to India since the start of the pandemic and has stated that the financial assistance has reached "nearly 10 million Indians."<sup>2678</sup>

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to doing whatever is necessary to ensure a strong global response through closer cooperation through providing funding to international COVID-19 initiatives and providing direct funding to countries and regions.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Nouran Sakr

## European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitments to doing whatever is necessary to ensure a strong global response through closer cooperation and enhanced coordination of their efforts.

On 8 April 2020, European Union development ministers announced its Team Europe approach to the pandemic, committing EUR20 billion to support and bolster partner countries' responses to the pandemic.<sup>2679</sup> The money supports countries that most need it and their most vulnerable populations with the end goal of bolstering their health and sanitation systems, alleviate social and economic crises, and respond to immediate health and humanitarian needs.<sup>2680</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2674</sup> USG offers funds to support COVID-19 vaccination efforts in Senegal, United States Agency for International Development (Washington, D.C.) 14 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. https://www.usaid.gov/senegal/press-releases/apr-14-2021-usg-offers-funds-support-covid-19-vaccination-efforts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2675</sup> New U.S. Humanitarian Assistance for the South Sudan Crisis Response, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 15 April 2021. Access Date: 24 April 2021. https://www.state.gov/new-u-s-humanitarian-assistance-for-the-south-sudan-crisis-response/. <sup>2676</sup> New U.S. Humanitarian Assistance for the South Sudan Crisis Response, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 15 April 2021. Access Date: 24 April 2021. https://www.state.gov/new-u-s-humanitarian-assistance-for-the-south-sudan-crisis-response/. <sup>2677</sup> United States airlifts emergency supplies to help India address deadly second wave of COVID-19 pandemic, United States Agency for International Development (Washington, D.C.) 28 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/apr-28-2021-united-states-airlifts-emergency-supplies-to-help-india-address-deadly-second-wave-of-covid-19-pandemic.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2678</sup> United States airlifts emergency supplies to help India address deadly second wave of COVID-19 pandemic, United States Agency for International Development (Washington, D.C.) 28 April 2021. Access Date: 1 May 2021. https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/apr-28-2021-united-states-airlifts-emergency-supplies-to-help-india-address-deadly-second-wave-of-covid-19-pandemic.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2679</sup> Video conference of foreign affairs ministers (development), Council of the EU (Brussels) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/04/08/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2680</sup> Video conference of foreign affairs ministers (development), Council of the EU (Brussels) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/04/08/.

On 8 April 2020, the EU released a report outlining further steps it is taking to ensure a strong global response in coordination with partner countries.<sup>2681</sup> These strategies include but are not limited to the following: (1) distribution of sanitation kits and protective equipment in Thailand; (2) promoting hygienic practices and providing hygienic products to refugees in Bangladesh; (3) budget support for agribusiness in Afghanistan; (4) financing ventilator procurement in Jamaica; (5) infection prevention education and supplying personal protective equipment in Lebanon; (6) providing funds to increase testing and treatment center capabilities in Ethiopia.<sup>2682</sup>

On 8 June 2020, the EU development ministers met virtually and reinforced their commitment to providing support for a strong response for their partner countries by bolstering healthcare systems, facilitating the flow of goods and services across borders, and increasing research for treatments and vaccines.<sup>2683</sup> It was also announced the amount Team Europe has provided to partner countries had increased to EUR36 billion.<sup>2684</sup>

On 26 November 2020, the EU and Australia announced intentions to cooperate further in responding to the pandemic by reaffirming commitments to securing equitable and affordable COVID-19 treatments and vaccines worldwide and supporting the most vulnerable countries in their response efforts. Further coordination of COVID-19-related research between the EU and Australia was announced, as well as their intentions to complete a free-trade agreement to further integrate their economies and facilitate the flow of goods and persons. 2686

On 18 December 2020, the EU and World Health Organization (WHO) announced a joint, coordinated effort to strengthen and support the responses to the pandemic for southeast Asian countries.<sup>2687</sup> The EU is providing the funds to the WHO, which will use the money to strengthen healthcare systems, boost prevention practices and awareness, control outbreaks, minimize transmission of the virus, and improve treatments.<sup>2688</sup>

On 22 December 2020, the European Commission adopted a recommendation to support a EU coordinated approach to travel and transport in response to a new variant of coronavirus in the United Kingdom. The European Commission recommended to EU member states that they "take coordinated action to discourage non-essential travel between the UK and the EU" and that "the restrictions are coordinated and provide for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2681</sup> EU global response to coronavirus: supporting our partner countries, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/fs\_20\_607.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2682</sup> EU global response to coronavirus: supporting our partner countries, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/fs\_20\_607.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2683</sup> Video conference of foreign affairs ministers (development), Council of the EU (Brussels) 8 June 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/06/08/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2684</sup> Video conference of foreign affairs ministers (development), Council of the EU (Brussels) 8 June 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/06/08/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2685</sup> EU-Australia leaders meet via video conference, Council of the EU (Brussels) 26 November 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/11/26/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2686</sup> EU-Australia leaders meet via video conference, Council of the EU (Brussels) 26 November 2020. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/11/26/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2687</sup> WHO and EU join together to support COVID-19 response and systems strengthening in Asia, World Health Organization (Geneva) 18 December 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://www.who.int/westernpacific/news/detail/18-12-2020-who-and-eu-join-together-to-support-covid-19-response-and-systems-strengthening-in-asia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2688</sup> WHO and EU join together to support COVID-19 response and systems strengthening in Asia, World Health Organization (Geneva) 18 December 2020. Access Date: 21 February 2021. https://www.who.int/westernpacific/news/detail/18-12-2020-who-and-eu-join-together-to-support-covid-19-response-and-systems-strengthening-in-asia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2689</sup> Commission adopts Recommendation on EU coordinated approach to travel and transport in response to new variant of coronavirus in the UK, European Commission (Brussels) 22 December 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip 20 2520.

the necessary exemptions for citizens and residents returning home and other essential travellers."<sup>2690</sup> The Commissioner for Home Affairs Ylva Johansson stated that EU "actions must be coordinated and today we are facilitating swift action to address the new coronavirus variant while ensuring that essential journeys can still take place."<sup>2691</sup>

As of 19 February 2021, Canada committed an additional USD59 million to the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator to "fund the development and equitable rollout of tests, treatments and vaccines needed to end the acute phase of the COVID-19 pandemic." Canada has, along with the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Germany, and Japan, committed to sharing additional vaccine surplus with developing countries and "support rapid reduction of virus transmission amongst some of the world's most vulnerable and exposed populations." Canada has made a total contribution of CAD 940 million to the ACT-Accelerator. Additionally, the country has also pledged CAD 220 million to the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access facility to guarantee that low and middle-income countries have equitable access to medical treatments.

On 23 February 2021, the United Kingdom published its international treaty with the European Union with regards to the United Kingdom's exit out of the European Union.<sup>2696</sup> The treaty included an article on health security in which the United Kingdom and the European Union agreed to support "effective arrangements and information sharing between the UK and the EU in the event of a serious cross border threat to health, which is particularly important in the context of Covid-19."<sup>2697</sup> This article allows the United Kingdom to request access to the European Union's Early Warning and Response System so that the United Kingdom and the European Union can "coordinate measures to protect public health."<sup>2698</sup>

The European Union has taken steps to cooperate and coordinate with partner countries and organizations to ensure a strong global response to the COVID-19 pandemic by funding and strengthening health systems, promoting preventive and hygienic practices, supplying crucial supplies and equipment and making

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2690</sup> Commission adopts Recommendation on EU coordinated approach to travel and transport in response to new variant of coronavirus in the UK, European Commission (Brussels) 22 December 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip 20 2520.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2691</sup> Commission adopts Recommendation on EU coordinated approach to travel and transport in response to new variant of coronavirus in the UK, European Commission (Brussels) 22 December 2020. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip 20 2520.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2692</sup> G7 leaders commit US\$ 4.3 billion to finance global equitable access to tests, treatments and vaccines in 2021, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.who.int/news/item/19-02-2021-g7-leaders-commit-us-4.3-billion-to-finance-global-equitable-access-to-tests-treatments-and-vaccines-in-2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2693</sup> G7 leaders commit US\$ 4.3 billion to finance global equitable access to tests, treatments and vaccines in 2021, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. https://www.who.int/news/item/19-02-2021-g7-leaders-commit-us-4.3-billion-to-finance-global-equitable-access-to-tests-treatments-and-vaccines-in-2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2694</sup> CanWaCH and UNICEF Canada welcome Canada's \$75M investment in the ACT Accelerator, Canadian Manufacturing (Toronto) 22 February 2021. Access Date: 4 March 2021. https://www.canadianmanufacturing.com/manufacturing/canwach-and-unicef-canada-welcome-canadas-75m-investment-in-the-act-accelerator-267157/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2695</sup> Canada's investments to support equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2021. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/12/canadas-investments-to-support-equitable-access-to-covid-19-tests-treatments-and-vaccines.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2696</sup> International treaty Summary Explainer, Government of the UK (London) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/agreements-reached-between-the-united-kingdom-of-great-britain-and-northern-ireland-and-the-european-union/summary-explainer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2697</sup> International treaty Summary Explainer, Government of the UK (London) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/agreements-reached-between-the-united-kingdom-of-great-britain-and-northern-ireland-and-the-european-union/summary-explainer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2698</sup> International treaty Summary Explainer, Government of the UK (London) 23 February 2021. Access Date: 11 March 2021. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/agreements-reached-between-the-united-kingdom-of-great-britain-and-northern-ireland-and-the-european-union/summary-explainer.

recommendations	to ]	EU	members	states	to	coordinate	their	cross-border	management	and:	anti-(	COV	ID-19
measures.													

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

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