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The G7 Research Group presents the

## **2020 G7 USA Virtual Summit Interim Compliance Report**

17 March 2020 to 25 February 2021

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16 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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## 10. Health: Supporting the World Health Organization

“We fully support the World Health Organization in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, leaving no geographical vacuum.”

*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 World Health Organization (WHO) has been at the forefront of international efforts to address the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>1728</sup> As the body of the United Nations responsible for directing and coordinating health, the WHO has been monitoring the novel coronavirus since December 2019.<sup>1729</sup> In March 2020, the WHO declared COVID-19 a global pandemic.<sup>1730</sup>

As a core international organization in the area of health, the WHO’s broad mandate includes promoting universal health coverage, responding to health emergencies, and prioritizing the health and well-being of all people.<sup>1731</sup> The WHO has over 150 country offices and six regional offices: one for Africa, the Americas, South-East Asia, Europe, the Eastern Mediterranean, and the West Pacific.<sup>1732</sup>

As the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting people across the world, the pandemic has disproportionately impacted developing countries with devastating impacts on human health.<sup>1733</sup> The most vulnerable countries are those with limited financial resources and fragile health systems.<sup>1734</sup> This disproportionate impact has

<sup>1728</sup> Listing of WHO’s response to COVID-19, World Health Organization (Geneva) 15 December 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/news/item/29-06-2020-covidtimeline>.

<sup>1729</sup> Listing of WHO’s response to COVID-19, World Health Organization (Geneva) 15 December 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/news/item/29-06-2020-covidtimeline>.

<sup>1730</sup> Listing of WHO’s response to COVID-19, World Health Organization (Geneva) 15 December 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/news/item/29-06-2020-covidtimeline>.

<sup>1731</sup> What We Do, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/about/what-we-do>.

<sup>1732</sup> Regional Offices, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/about/who-we-are/regional-offices>.

<sup>1733</sup> World’s Most Vulnerable Countries Lack the Capacity to Respond to a Global Pandemic, United Nations (Geneva) 24 August 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.un.org/ohrlls/news/world’s-most-vulnerable-countries-lack-capacity-respond-global-pandemic-credit-mfdelyas-alwazir>.

<sup>1734</sup> World’s Most Vulnerable Countries Lack the Capacity to Respond to a Global Pandemic, United Nations (Geneva) 24 August 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.un.org/ohrlls/news/world’s-most-vulnerable-countries-lack-capacity-respond-global-pandemic-credit-mfdelyas-alwazir>.

presented an urgent challenge for the international community and advanced economies to support states with the least capacity to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>1735</sup>

G7/G8 summits have identified the WHO as an integral international organization since first referencing it at the 1997 Denver Summit.<sup>1736</sup> Since 1997 to 2020, there have been 18 commitments made specific to working with the WHO.<sup>1737</sup>

At the 1997 Denver Summit, the G8 leaders committed to more effective coordination of international responses to disease outbreaks.<sup>1738</sup> This included the promotion of a global surveillance network and building public health capacity to prevent, detect, and control infectious diseases globally.<sup>1739</sup> They noted that “central to this work will be strengthening and linking existing activities in and among each of our countries, with developing countries, and in other fora, especially the World Health Organization.”<sup>1740</sup>

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, the G8 leaders pledged to “enhance mutual cooperation on infectious and parasitic diseases and support the World Health Organisation’s efforts in those areas.”<sup>1741</sup> More specifically, they also pledged their support for the WHO’s Roll Back Malaria initiative.<sup>1742</sup>

At the 1999 Köln Summit, the G8 leaders reaffirmed their support to the WHO and its Roll Back Malaria and Stop TB initiatives.<sup>1743</sup>

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, the G8 leaders made significant commitments to the WHO and global health.<sup>1744</sup> They committed to implementing a plan on infectious diseases, notably HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis.<sup>1745</sup> The leaders committed to strengthening partnerships with the WHO and other international organizations, as well as governments, industry, academic institutions, non-governmental organizations, and civil society actors to meet UN health targets.<sup>1746</sup> They noted the importance of giving priority to the development of equitable and effective health systems and working to make health interventions “more universally available and affordable in developing countries.”<sup>1747</sup>

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<sup>1735</sup> World’s Most Vulnerable Countries Lack the Capacity to Respond to a Global Pandemic, United Nations (Geneva) 24 August 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.un.org/ohrlls/news/world’s-most-vulnerable-countries-lack-capacity-respond-global-pandemic-credit-mfdelyas-alwazir>.

<sup>1736</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1737</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1738</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1739</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1740</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1741</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1742</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1743</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1744</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1745</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1746</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1747</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, the G8 leaders committed to intensifying global scientific research on infectious diseases, with a particular focus on involving scientists in developing countries in international scientific research programs.<sup>1748</sup> They pledged to support the efforts of “relevant international organizations” to respond to outbreaks of avian influenza and prepare for a possible human influenza pandemic. They also pledged to fulfill prior G8 commitments on the major infectious diseases, notably HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, polio, and measles.<sup>1749</sup> Moreover, the leaders committed to “continuing to support existing global networks under World Health Organization auspices, such as the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network.”<sup>1750</sup> This summit was also the first time G8 health ministers met, and the WHO was also in participation.<sup>1751</sup>

At the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, the G8 leaders built on the St. Petersburg commitments to fight infectious diseases.<sup>1752</sup> They committed to increasing workforce coverage towards the WHO threshold of 2.3 health workers per 1,000 people.<sup>1753</sup> In addition, the leaders cited support for the WHO Plan to address neglected tropical diseases.<sup>1754</sup>

At the 2015 Elamu Summit, the G7 leaders affirmed their support for efforts to “reform and strengthen the WHO’s capacity to prepare for and respond to complex health crises while reaffirming the central role of the WHO for international health security.”<sup>1755</sup> They committed to implementing health interventions in close cooperation with the WHO and pledged support for the WHO Global Observatory on Health Research and Development.<sup>1756</sup>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, the G7 leaders reaffirmed the WHO’s central role in coordinating responses to public health emergencies.<sup>1757</sup> They urged and supported the WHO to implement reforms to enable and support more swift and effective responses in light of recent outbreaks of Ebola and Zika.<sup>1758</sup> The leaders noted the pressing need for health systems strengthening in developing countries and committed to support country-led efforts to strengthen health systems in collaboration with the WHO.<sup>1759</sup>

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<sup>1748</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1749</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1750</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1751</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1752</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1753</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1754</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1755</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1756</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1757</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1758</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>.

<sup>1759</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, the G7 leaders did not mention the WHO specifically but committed to advancing global health security by “strengthening health systems, preparedness for, and a prompt, effective and coordinated response to public health emergencies.”<sup>1760</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, the G7 leaders did not mention the WHO specifically but reconfirmed their commitment to working with “partners” to eradicate polio.<sup>1761</sup>

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, the G7 leaders did not mention the WHO specifically but reconfirmed their commitment to end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.<sup>1762</sup>

On 16 March 2020, under the U.S. presidency, G7 leaders met virtually to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. 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**

The G7 members agreed to “fully support the World Health Organization in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, leaving no geographical vacuum.”

The first component of the commitment is to “fully support the World Health Organization and its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences.” “Support” is understood as “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”<sup>1763</sup> To “fully” support can be translated to support to a maximum.<sup>1764</sup> The WHO is the UN body responsible for directing and coordinating health.<sup>1765</sup> It has a global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences.<sup>1766</sup> A “disease outbreak” is defined as “the occurrence of disease cases in excess of normal expectancy.”<sup>1767</sup> Moreover, “the number of cases varies according to the disease-causing agent, and the size and type of previous and existing exposure to the agent.”<sup>1768</sup> An “emergency” is a term describing a state.<sup>1769</sup> As per the WHO, emergency “is a managerial term, demanding decision and follow-up in terms of extraordinary measures. A “state of emergency” demands to “be declared” or imposed by somebody in authority, who, at a certain moment, will also lift it. Thus, it is usually defined in time and space, it requires threshold values to be recognized, and it implies rules of engagement and an exit strategy.”<sup>1770</sup> These emergencies have

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<sup>1760</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué (G7 Information Centre) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 22 January 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

<sup>1761</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>

<sup>1762</sup> Putting Humanitarian Health First: G7 Summit Health Performance, 1975-2020 (G7 Information Centre) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/dobson-kirton-putting-humanitarian-health-first.pdf>

<sup>1763</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy Global Governance Program (Toronto) 6 August 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2020. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2019.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2019.pdf).

<sup>1764</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy Global Governance Program (Toronto) 6 August 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2020. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2019.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2019.pdf).

<sup>1765</sup> What We Do, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/about/what-we-do>.

<sup>1766</sup> What We Do, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/about/what-we-do>.

<sup>1767</sup> Disease Outbreaks, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020.

<https://www.who.int/teams/environment-climate-change-and-health/emergencies/disease-outbreaks/>.

<sup>1768</sup> Disease Outbreaks, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020.

<https://www.who.int/teams/environment-climate-change-and-health/emergencies/disease-outbreaks/>.

<sup>1769</sup> Definitions: Emergencies, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020.

<https://www.who.int/hac/about/definitions/en/>.

<sup>1770</sup> Definitions: Emergencies, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020.

<https://www.who.int/hac/about/definitions/en/>.

“health consequences” meaning “something produced by a cause”<sup>1771</sup> which affects one’s “state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.”<sup>1772</sup>

This commitment continues by stating that efforts to support the WHO must “leave no geographical vacuum.” To “leave no geographical vacuum” is understood as taking explicit action to aid, assist, or back up initiatives in all countries in the world as defined by the UN, including developed economies, economies in transition, developing economies, and small island developing states.<sup>1773</sup> Examples of compliance include supporting WHO efforts to universally distribute guidelines, vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics, preventative measures, and other international public health goods.

In scoring compliance greater weight will be given to the first part of the commitment. While there are two parts to this commitment, the second part is connected to the first part, suggesting that the first more general part on supporting the global mandate of the WHO is the intended core of this commitment. However, the second part of the commitment will be measured by a depth compliance. If the G7 member supports universal efforts across all countries to support the global mandate of the WHO, this will constitute as partially attempting to leave no geographical vacuum. If the G7 member supports universal efforts as well as efforts targeted towards hard-to-reach populations, developing economies, and small island developing states, this will constitute as fully attempting to leave no geographical vacuum.

To achieve full compliance, G7 members must take action according to both parts of the commitment by fully supporting the WHO in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, while also aiming to leave no geographical vacuum through universal efforts and targeted efforts.

Partial compliance will be awarded only if the first part of the commitment is met but efforts to leave no geographical vacuum are only universal and not targeted. A score of no compliance will be awarded only with no demonstrable compliance to any part of the commitment.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	G7 member does NOT take any efforts to fully support the World Health Organization in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences AND has not aimed to leave no geographical vacuum.
0	G7 member has taken any efforts to fully support the World Health Organization in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences but HAS NOT aimed to leave no geographical vacuum.
+1	G7 member has taken efforts to fully support the World Health Organization in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences AND has aimed to leave no geographical vacuum.

*Compliance Director: Foti Veto  
Lead Analyst: Marjila Yousof*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support the global leadership mandate of the World Health Organization’s (WHO) on disease outbreaks and health emergencies, while leaving no geographical vacuum.

<sup>1771</sup> Consequence, Merriam Webster Dictionary (Massachusetts). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/consequence>.

<sup>1772</sup> Definitions: Emergencies, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/hac/about/definitions/en/>.

<sup>1773</sup> Country Classification, United Nations (Geneva) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 21 December 2020. [https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/publication/WESP2020\\_FullReport\\_web.pdf](https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/publication/WESP2020_FullReport_web.pdf).

As of 19 February 2021, Canada has contributed over CAD2 billion towards international efforts against COVID-19.<sup>1774</sup> This includes CAD940 million for the WHO's Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, which is an "international partnership to ensure equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines."<sup>1775</sup> Canada's donations to the ACT-Accelerator include its contributions to COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX), "the only global initiative that is working with governments and manufacturers to ensure COVID-19 vaccines are available worldwide to both higher-income and lower-income countries."<sup>1776</sup> As of 23 February 2021, Canada is second in the world for total amount donated to the ACT-Accelerator.<sup>1777</sup>

On 7 April 2020, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau issued a statement in recognition of World Health Day. Prime Minister Trudeau stated that "difficult times like these remind us of the importance of working together. Canada is working with the World Health Organization and other partners to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and protect those most vulnerable."<sup>1778</sup>

On 4 May 2020, Canada co-hosted the Coronavirus Global Response Initiative, an online pledging event which sought to "kick-start global cooperation between scientists and regulators, industry and governments, international organizations, foundations, and health care professionals; raise more than USD8 billion by the end of the pledging period to support the development of rapid coronavirus diagnostics, treatments, and vaccines; and work with the World Health Organization to coordinate and prioritize efforts to vulnerable countries."<sup>1779</sup> As part of this event, the Government of Canada contributed CAD850 million, which included funding to help "find a safe and effective treatment for COVID-19 through the World Health Organization Solidarity Trial."<sup>1780</sup> Regarding the event, Minister of International Development Karina Gould remarked that "COVID-19 is a threat that does not recognize borders and will only be overcome through coordinated global action. We need to continue working together as partners to make a future treatment or vaccine available, accessible, and affordable to all."<sup>1781</sup>

On 2 July 2020, the Government of Canada issued a statement to the United Nations Security Council during a videoconference on "Pandemics and Security."<sup>1782</sup> In its statement, Canada emphasized that it "deeply values the leadership and coordination role of the World Health Organization in the COVID-19 response.

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<sup>1774</sup> Prime Minister concludes productive G7 Leaders' meeting, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/02/19/prime-minister-concludes-productive-g7-leaders-meeting>.

<sup>1775</sup> Prime Minister concludes productive G7 Leaders' meeting, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2021/02/19/prime-minister-concludes-productive-g7-leaders-meeting>.

<sup>1776</sup> 172 countries and multiple candidate vaccines engaged in COVID-19 vaccine Global Access Facility, World Health Organization (Geneva) 24 August 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/news/item/24-08-2020-172-countries-and-multiple-candidate-vaccines-engaged-in-covid-19-vaccine-global-access-facility>.

<sup>1777</sup> The ACT Accelerator Funding Tracker, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/initiatives/act-accelerator/funding-tracker>.

<sup>1778</sup> Statement by the Prime Minister on World Health Day, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2020/04/07/statement-prime-minister-world-health-day>.

<sup>1779</sup> Canada and international partners launch the Coronavirus Global Response, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/05/04/canada-and-international-partners-launch-coronavirus-global-response>.

<sup>1780</sup> Canada and international partners launch the Coronavirus Global Response, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/05/04/canada-and-international-partners-launch-coronavirus-global-response>.

<sup>1781</sup> Canada and international partners launch the Coronavirus Global Response, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/05/04/canada-and-international-partners-launch-coronavirus-global-response>.

<sup>1782</sup> Canada National Statement United Nations Security Council Open VTC on Pandemics and Security, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2 July 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-ONU/statements-declarations/2020-06-02-pandemics-pandemies.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-ONU/statements-declarations/2020-06-02-pandemics-pandemies.aspx?lang=eng).



The rules-based international system is essential to help us accomplish together what no country could accomplish alone. In responding to COVID-19, Canada remains fully committed to multilateralism and multi-sectoral global health-security cooperation to ensure our collective health, prosperity, and security.”<sup>1783</sup>

On 14 December 2020, the Government of Canada announced a contribution of CAD230 million to the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) for COVID-19 antibody therapeutics in developing countries.<sup>1784</sup> As with the COVAX facility, UNICEF is heavily involved with WHO’s efforts against COVID-19 due to its “expertise in procurement and logistics.”<sup>1785</sup> The contribution “will enable UNICEF to procure up to 3 million courses of novel COVID-19 antibody therapeutics as soon as clinical trials and regulatory approvals have been completed. The initiative builds on the important work done with the COVID-19 Therapeutics Accelerator via the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to secure manufacturing capacity for novel antibody therapeutics production dedicated to developing countries.”<sup>1786</sup>

On 17 February 2021, during a UN Security Council debate on COVID-19 vaccines in unstable and insecure countries, the Government of Canada stated that “all countries must 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>1787</sup> Canada is fully committed to the ACT-Accelerator, including as a member of the COVAX facility, and supporter of the Advanced Market Commitment. Through COVAX, the Government of Canada is supporting rapid, fair, and equitable access to safe, effective, and high-quality vaccines for all participating countries.”<sup>1788</sup>

Through its consistent and vocal support of the WHO, as well as substantial funding of WHO affiliated initiatives that encompass a wide geographical expanse, Canada has fully supported WHO’s global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and health emergencies, while leaving no geographical void.

Thus, Canada has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jai Singh*

**France: +1**

France fully complied with its commitment to fully support the World Health Organization (WHO) in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, leaving no geographical vacuum.

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<sup>1783</sup> Canada National Statement United Nations Security Council Open VTC on Pandemics and Security, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2 July 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-06-02-pandemics-pandemies.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-06-02-pandemics-pandemies.aspx?lang=eng).

<sup>1784</sup> Canada promises \$1 billion for nutrition, COVID vaccines in poor countries, iPolitics (Ottawa) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://ipolitics.ca/2020/12/14/canada-promises-1-billion-for-nutrition-covid-vaccines-in-poor-countries/>.

<sup>1785</sup> Covid: WHO scheme Covax delivers first vaccines, BBC World News (London) 24 February 2021. Access Date: 24 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-56180161>.

<sup>1786</sup> Canada announces additional support for equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/12/canada-announces-additional-support-for-equitable-access-to-covid-19-tests-treatments-and-vaccines.html>.

<sup>1787</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: 24 February 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](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>1788</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: 24 February 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](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).

On 16 March 2020, France pledged to provide international assistance to help “emerging and developing economies, face the health and economic shock of COVID-19.”<sup>1789</sup> The finance minister was to work closely with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group to facilitate this process.<sup>1790</sup>

On 25 March 2020, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian participated in the G7 Foreign Ministers’ meeting.<sup>1791</sup> Minister Le Drian proposed that the G7 members should provide assistance to vulnerable countries, especially in Africa, and establish this as a priority at the next G20 meeting jointly.

On 9 April 2020, the French Development Agency launched “COVID-19 – Health in Common” to provide support for African countries in their fight against the health crisis.<sup>1792</sup> Funds, amounting to EUR1.2 billion, will be allocated to central governments, civil society organizations, public development banks, and private entities in the form of loans and donations.<sup>1793</sup>

On 16 April 2020, France issued a Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism in support of United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres’ call for an immediate global ceasefire, remarking that “the focus must now be on the most immediate medical, political and economic challenges raised by the pandemic.”<sup>1794</sup>

On 18 May 2020, President Emmanuel Macron and Minister of Solidarity and Health Olivier Véran attended the World Health Assembly.<sup>1795</sup> During the event, President Macron reaffirmed France’s commitment in supporting the WHO, stressing the “country’s attachment to multilateralism and [call] for strengthened international coordination.”<sup>1796</sup> In addition, France welcomed a joint-initiative to share research and regulations with other EU member states, as per the recommendation of the Director-General of WHO.<sup>1797</sup>

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<sup>1789</sup> Coronavirus COVID-19: G7 Leaders’ Statement (16 Mar. 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/coronavirus-statements/article/covid-19-communique-issued-by-m-jean-yves-le-drian-and-m-jean-baptiste-djebbari>.

<sup>1790</sup> Coronavirus COVID-19: G7 Leaders’ Statement (16 Mar. 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/coronavirus-statements/article/covid-19-communique-issued-by-m-jean-yves-le-drian-and-m-jean-baptiste-djebbari>.

<sup>1791</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: 25 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/coronavirus-statements/article/g7-foreign-ministers-meeting-covid-19-statement-by-jean-yves-le-drian-minister>.

<sup>1792</sup> France Launches, via AFD, The “Covid-19 – Health in Common” Initiative to Support African Countries (9 April 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/france-launches-via-afd-the-covid-19-health-in-common-initiative-to-support>.

<sup>1793</sup> France Launches, via AFD, The “Covid-19 – Health in Common” Initiative to Support African Countries (9 April 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/france-launches-via-afd-the-covid-19-health-in-common-initiative-to-support>.

<sup>1794</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: 25 February 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>1795</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: 25 February 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>1796</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: 25 February 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>1797</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: 25 February 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 23 June 2020, the Government of France published a strategic guidance document on supporting developing countries disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>1798</sup> The document outlines policies which intend to modernize and improve tax administrations to be implemented over a four-year period.<sup>1799</sup>

On 26 June 2020, France issued a joint statement with Germany expressing its support for the WHO's mandate in curbing the virus, pledging to strengthen health systems in the most vulnerable countries through donations.<sup>1800</sup> In addition, France committed to strengthening international health regulations as recommended by the WHO and to improve its health system to better notify the public of health risks.<sup>1801</sup>

On 10 July 2020, France pledged its support for “the States and populations of Latin America in their fight against the pandemic and its impact” and set up a three-pillar program to provide assistance.<sup>1802</sup> France sent EUR17.5 million to over 10 countries in order to help healthcare management.<sup>1803</sup> In addition, France set up an assistance and social transfer program in partnership with the World Bank Group and the Inter-American Development Bank.<sup>1804</sup>

On 10 September 2020, Minister Le Drian attended a meeting hosted by the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator. During the meeting, officials discussed how to deliver “equitable diagnostics, treatment, and vaccinations.”<sup>1805</sup> France stated that it “welcomes the leadership and coordination of the WHO” in developing policy measures to curb the spread of COVID-19.<sup>1806</sup>

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<sup>1798</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: 25 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/photos-publications-and-graphics/publications/article/a-french-strategy-on-cooperation-around-domestic-resource-mobilization-in>.

<sup>1799</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: 25 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/photos-publications-and-graphics/publications/article/a-french-strategy-on-cooperation-around-domestic-resource-mobilization-in>.

<sup>1800</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: 25 February 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>1801</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: 25 February 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>1802</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: 25 February 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>1803</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: 25 February 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>1804</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: 25 February 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>1805</sup> Global health – Participation of Clément Beaune in the first council meeting of the initiative Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) (10 Sept. 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 September 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/coronavirus-statements/article/global-health-participation-of-clement-beaune-in-the-first-council-meeting-of>.

<sup>1806</sup> Global health – Participation of Clément Beaune in the first council meeting of the initiative Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) (10 Sept. 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 10 September 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/coronavirus-statements/article/global-health-participation-of-clement-beaune-in-the-first-council-meeting-of>.

On 17 September 2020, Minister Véran delivered a statement at the G20 Summit underlining “the central role of WHO in coordinating the international response to the health crisis.”<sup>1807</sup>

On 12 October 2020, France launched an initiative in partnership with the European Commission and WHO to address the unavailability of essential drugs in France which has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>1808</sup>

On 11 November 2020, France held the third Paris Peace Forum which focused on “building a better world after the pandemic.”<sup>1809</sup> Topics discussed include the distribution of resources, implementation of joint-measures, and value chains.<sup>1810</sup>

On 21 November 2020, President Macron participated in the meeting of the G20 Health Expert Group and released a joint statement with the other heads of states in attendance the following day.<sup>1811</sup> In this statement, France jointly agreed to “provide assistance in particular to the most vulnerable.”<sup>1812</sup>

On 8 January 2021, French government delivered a statement on “European solidarity in the face of COVID-19,” verbally reaffirming its commitment in supporting the WHO.<sup>1813</sup>

France fully complied with its commitment to fully support the WHO in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, leaving no geographical vacuum. France followed the recommendations of the WHO and coordinated its plans with other states through consultation. France provided assistance abroad in Africa and Latin America to help vulnerable populations sustain the health crisis.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Yana Sadeghi*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany fully complied with its commitment to fully support the World Health Organization (WHO) in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, leaving no geographical vacuum.

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<sup>1807</sup> Joint Meeting of G20 Health and Finance Ministers, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (Paris) 25 September 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/ministere/europe-et-international/actualites-europeennes-et-internationales/article/reunion-conjointe-des-ministres-de-la-sante-et-des-finances-du-g20>.

<sup>1808</sup> Guaranteeing the availability of antibiotics in human and veterinary medicine while preserving the environment: a government priority, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (Paris) 12 October 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/garantir-la-disponibilité-des-antibiotiques-en-médecine-humaine-et-vétérinaire>.

<sup>1809</sup> The Third Paris Peace Forum: building a better world after the pandemic, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 13 November 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/civil-society/paris-peace-forum/article/the-third-paris-peace-forum-building-a-better-world-after-the-pandemic>.

<sup>1810</sup> The Third Paris Peace Forum: building a better world after the pandemic, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 13 November 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/civil-society/paris-peace-forum/article/the-third-paris-peace-forum-building-a-better-world-after-the-pandemic>.

<sup>1811</sup> Meeting of the G20 health expert group, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (Paris) 25 November 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/ministere/europe-et-international/actualites-europeennes-et-internationales/article/reunion-du-groupe-d-experts-sante-du-g20>.

<sup>1812</sup> Declaration of Heads of State and Government at the end of the G20 Summit in Riyadh, Élysée Palace (Paris) 22 November 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2020/11/22/sommet-g20-de-riyad>.

<sup>1813</sup> European solidarity in the face of COVID-19, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 8 January 2021. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/europe/news/article/european-solidarity-in-the-face-of-covid-19>.

On 25 March 2020, Germany attended the G7 virtual meeting to develop joint-plans to reduce the spread of COVID-19.<sup>1814</sup> Germany pledged to support countries in the world that are the least well equipped to respond to the virus by providing medicine and vaccines.<sup>1815</sup>

On 23 April 2020, the German government provided a verbal statement declaring its support for Africa in its fight against COVID-19.<sup>1816</sup> Germany announced its plan for targeting the virus in Africa which consists of multilateral action, such as the development of vaccines and medicines, and partnerships at the local level with African stakeholders.<sup>1817</sup>

On 27 April 2020, the Federal Foreign Office announced that it will donate EUR300 million in humanitarian aid as per the request of the United Nations.<sup>1818</sup> This funding is intended to ensure that “access can be gained to people in need despite the restrictions in place worldwide.”<sup>1819</sup>

On 19 May 2020, Foreign Minister Heiko Maas provided a statement in support of the WHO, stressing the importance of strengthening and cooperating with the organization.<sup>1820</sup>

On 25 May 2020, Germany issued a joint statement endorsing the WHO and promoting international cooperation.<sup>1821</sup> Germany pledged “to ensure adequate financing to contain the pandemic and protect people, with particular attention to the most vulnerable.”<sup>1822</sup>

On 1 June 2020, Minister Maas released a public statement discussing bilateral cooperation with the United States.<sup>1823</sup> Minister Maas informed that Germany will be holding meetings in Washington “to try to convince the United States government” to adopt the WHO’s recommendations.<sup>1824</sup>

On 7 September 2020, Minister Maas attended the 13th Asia-Europe Meeting to coordinate policies in reducing the spread of COVID-19.<sup>1825</sup> During the meeting, Minister Maas agreed to implement the measures outlined by the WHO, targeting vulnerable populations.<sup>1826</sup>

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<sup>1814</sup> Foreign Minister Maas following a virtual meeting of the G7 Foreign Ministers, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2328788>.

<sup>1815</sup> Foreign Minister Maas following a virtual meeting of the G7 Foreign Ministers, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2328788>.

<sup>1816</sup> Africa: Solidarity in the fight against Covid-19, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 23 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/afrika/covid-afrika/2336778>.

<sup>1817</sup> Africa: Solidarity in the fight against Covid-19, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 23 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/afrika/covid-afrika/2336778>.

<sup>1818</sup> Foreign Minister Maas on the Federal Foreign Office’s Covid-19-related humanitarian assistance, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 27 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-covid19/2337446>.

<sup>1819</sup> Foreign Minister Maas on the Federal Foreign Office’s Covid-19-related humanitarian assistance, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 27 April 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-covid19/2337446>.

<sup>1820</sup> Foreign Minister Maas on the World Health Assembly’s endorsement of the resolution on COVID-19, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 19 May 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-wha/2342968>.

<sup>1821</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>1822</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>1823</sup> “We still need functioning multilateralism in the 21st century,” Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 1 June 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-who/2346304>.

<sup>1824</sup> “We still need functioning multilateralism in the 21st century,” Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 1 June 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-who/2346304>.

<sup>1825</sup> Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Statement on Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 7 September 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/asem-coronavirus/2381556>.

<sup>1826</sup> Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Statement on Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 7 September 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/asem-coronavirus/2381556>.

On 25 September 2020, Germany participated in the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly, representing the country in the Alliance for Multilateralism.<sup>1827</sup> As part of the alliance, Germany “presented initiatives to promote access for all to vaccines.”<sup>1828</sup>

On 14 December 2020, Minister Maas hosted a meeting with countries from the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean to discuss multilateral affairs.<sup>1829</sup> During the meeting, the “ministers reaffirmed their determination to step up joint efforts to overcome ... challenges brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic” and developed strategic plans to help vulnerable states.<sup>1830</sup>

Germany fully complied with its commitment to fully support the WHO in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, leaving no geographical vacuum. The government participated in multilateral institutions and coordinated its policies with other states, following the guidelines of the WHO. In addition, Germany provided foreign aid to curb the spread of the virus, targeting the most vulnerable populations.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Yana Sadeghi*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to fully support the World Health Organization (WHO) in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, leaving no geographical vacuum.

On 15 April 2020, Vice Minister Emanuela Del Re attended a meeting with the Undersecretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and UN Emergency Aid Coordinator, Mark Lowcock, and the WHO Director Mike Ryan.<sup>1831</sup> During the meeting, the vice minister confirmed Italy’s commitment “to contribute to the global response to COVID-19 while continuing to dedicate itself to the humanitarian needs before this crisis.”<sup>1832</sup>

On 16 April 2020, Vice Minister Marina Sereni attended a videoconference with the France’s Foreign Minister Jean Yves Le Drian and Germany’s Foreign Minister Heiko Maas<sup>1833</sup> stressing Italy’s contribution to

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<sup>1827</sup> Press Statement of the Ministerial Meeting of the Alliance for Multilateralism, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 September 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/allianz-fuer-multilateralismus/2398070>.

<sup>1828</sup> Press Statement of the Ministerial Meeting of the Alliance for Multilateralism, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 September 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/allianz-fuer-multilateralismus/2398070>.

<sup>1829</sup> Joint Communiqué: EU27 - Latin America and Caribbean Informal Ministerial Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/eu-lac-communique/2426940>.

<sup>1830</sup> Joint Communiqué: EU27 - Latin America and Caribbean Informal Ministerial Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2021. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/eu-lac-communique/2426940>.

<sup>1831</sup> COVID-19 - Del Re: Italy contributes to UN global response, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 15 April 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-del-re-italia-contribuisce-a-risposta-onu.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-del-re-italia-contribuisce-a-risposta-onu.html).

<sup>1832</sup> COVID-19 - Del Re: Italy contributes to UN global response, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 15 April 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-del-re-italia-contribuisce-a-risposta-onu.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-del-re-italia-contribuisce-a-risposta-onu.html).

<sup>1833</sup> Coronavirus; Sereni, global alliance for drugs and vaccine, and Coalition for Food to prevent a health crisis from adding to a food crisis, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/04/coronavirus-sereni-alleanza-globale-per-farmaci-e-vaccino-e-coalition-for-food-per-evitare-che-crisi-sanitaria-si-sommi-a-una-alimentare.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/04/coronavirus-sereni-alleanza-globale-per-farmaci-e-vaccino-e-coalition-for-food-per-evitare-che-crisi-sanitaria-si-sommi-a-una-alimentare.html).

the “WHO Response Plan and announced that new contributions to vaccine research and distribution are being considered, which will require an inclusive global effort.”<sup>1834</sup>

On 24 April 2020, Italy co-founded and became a member of the COVID-19 Access Tool (ACT) Accelerator.<sup>1835</sup> The ACT-Accelerator aimed to speed up “the development of universally accessible vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics, and the improvement of the necessary health systems.”<sup>1836</sup>

On 4 May 2020, the Government of Italy announced its commitment to provide funding the Coalition of Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) during the Coronavirus Global Response Commitment Conference which was held by the European Union.<sup>1837</sup> Italy pledged EUR381 million “towards universal access to tests, treatments, and vaccines against coronavirus and for the global recovery.”<sup>1838</sup> The Italian government also reaffirmed its role as “a responsible and supportive actor, announcing a contribution of EUR140 million in favour of the ACT platform.”<sup>1839</sup>

On 4 June 2020, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte reaffirmed Italy’s support to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance during the Global Vaccine Summit held in London.<sup>1840</sup> Italy stated that it “will contribute EUR120 million, representing a 20% increase from their previous pledge.”<sup>1841</sup> With this pledge, Italy funded Gavi’s new COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Advanced Market Commitment (AMC) with USD103 million and deepened its commitment to the International Finance Facility for Immunization by extending its contribution until 2030 with a new pledge of EUR150 million.<sup>1842</sup>

On 27 June 2020, Italy reaffirmed its commitment “to support cooperative actions, international solidarity and the global response to defeat COVID-19” during the Global Goal: Unite for Our Future – The Summit alongside other G7 members.<sup>1843</sup>

On 28 October 2020, Italy formally joined CEPI. The Italian government pledged to contribute EUR5 million which is the “first part of a total commitment of EUR10 million.”<sup>1844</sup> The financial contribution was

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<sup>1834</sup> Coronavirus; Sereni, global alliance for drugs and vaccine, and Coalition for Food to prevent a health crisis from adding to a food crisis, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/04/coronavirus-sereni-alleanza-globale-per-farmaci-e-vaccino-e-coalition-for-food-per-evitare-che-crisi-sanitaria-si-sommi-a-una-alimentare.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/04/coronavirus-sereni-alleanza-globale-per-farmaci-e-vaccino-e-coalition-for-food-per-evitare-che-crisi-sanitaria-si-sommi-a-una-alimentare.html).

<sup>1835</sup> Covid-19, towards the vaccine. Italy joins the CEPI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html),

<sup>1836</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: WHO and Commission launch the Facilitation Council to strengthen global collaboration, European Commission (Brussels) 10 September 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_20\\_1581](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_1581).

<sup>1837</sup> Covid-19, towards the vaccine. Italy joins the CEPI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html).

<sup>1838</sup> Pledge: fund raised, European Commission (Brussels) 27 June 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://global-response.europa.eu/pledge\\_en](https://global-response.europa.eu/pledge_en).

<sup>1839</sup> Covid and Cooperation. An interview with the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Emanuela Claudia Del Re (L'Espresso), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\\_stampa/interviste/2020/05/del-re-covid-e-cooperazione-espresso-repubblica-it.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/interviste/2020/05/del-re-covid-e-cooperazione-espresso-repubblica-it.html).

<sup>1840</sup> Italy, Gavi The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/investing-gavi/funding/donor-profiles/italy>.

<sup>1841</sup> Italy, Gavi The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/investing-gavi/funding/donor-profiles/italy>.

<sup>1842</sup> Italy, Gavi The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/investing-gavi/funding/donor-profiles/italy>.

<sup>1843</sup> ‘Global Goal: Unite for Our Future,’ Global Citizen and The European Commission Mobilize \$1.5 Billion In Cash Grants, and \$5.4 Billion In Loans and Guarantees—For A Total Of \$6.9 Billion Pledged—To Combat the Disproportionate Impact of Covid-19 On Vulnerable and Disadvantaged Communities, Global Citizen (New York/Brussels) 27 June 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/enquiries/press/global-goal-unite-our-future-global-citizen-and-european-commiss/>.

carried out by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation.<sup>1845</sup> The funding aimed to “increase the chances of developing more safe and effective vaccines,”<sup>1846</sup> and furthered CEPI’s goal to “advance at least three COVID-19 vaccine candidates for licensing.”<sup>1847</sup> Italy has also joined the COVAX facility “a global initiative that brings together governments and manufacturers to ensure eventual COVID-19 vaccines reach those in greatest need, whoever they are and wherever they live.”<sup>1848</sup>

On 24 February 2021, Director General of the Treasury, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Alessandro Rivera said “Italy is glad to see that COVAX will begin its vaccine rollout in AMC-eligible countries in the coming days. This represents a landmark event, since we successfully allowed poorest countries to get access to safe and effective vaccine within months from their approval in high income countries.”<sup>1849</sup> He also restated Italy’s cooperation with COVAX AMC “since its inception in June 2020 and has pledged to date more than USD100 million.”<sup>1850</sup> With this pledge, Italy is one of the first countries to support the COVAX AMC, a COVAX financing mechanism that will support 92 low- and middle-income countries’ access to safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines.<sup>1851</sup>

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to fully support the WHO in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, leaving no geographical vacuum. Italy has worked with WHO and other vaccines alliances to increase its efforts to push global distribution of vaccines, therapeutic services and preventive measures.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1

*Analyst: Tanmaya Ramprasad*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to support the global leadership mandate of the World Health Organization’s (WHO) on disease outbreaks and health emergencies, while leaving no geographical vacuum.

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<sup>1844</sup> Covid-19, towards the vaccine. Italy joins the CEPI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala\\_stamp/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html).

<sup>1845</sup> Covid-19, towards the vaccine. Italy joins the CEPI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala\\_stamp/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html).

<sup>1846</sup> Covid-19, towards the vaccine. Italy joins the CEPI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala\\_stamp/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html).

<sup>1847</sup> Covid-19, towards the vaccine. Italy joins the CEPI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala\\_stamp/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/eventi/covid-19-verso-il-vaccino-l-italia-aderisce-al-cepi.html).

<sup>1848</sup> Italy pledges first EUR 5 million funding to CEPI to advance COVID-19 vaccine development efforts, CEPI (Oslo) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://cepi.net/news\\_cepi/italy-pledges-first-eur-5-million-funding-to-cepi-to-advance-covid-19-vaccine-development-efforts/](https://cepi.net/news_cepi/italy-pledges-first-eur-5-million-funding-to-cepi-to-advance-covid-19-vaccine-development-efforts/).

<sup>1849</sup> COVID-19 vaccine doses shipped by the COVAX Facility head to Ghana, marking beginning of global rollout, World Health Organization (Geneva) 24 February 2021. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/news/item/24-02-2021-covid-19-vaccine-doses-shipped-by-the-covax-facility-head-to-ghana-marking-beginning-of-global-rollout>.

<sup>1850</sup> COVID-19 vaccine doses shipped by the COVAX Facility head to Ghana, marking beginning of global rollout, World Health Organization (Geneva) 24 February 2021. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/news/item/24-02-2021-covid-19-vaccine-doses-shipped-by-the-covax-facility-head-to-ghana-marking-beginning-of-global-rollout>.

<sup>1851</sup> Italy pledges first EUR 5 million funding to CEPI to advance COVID-19 vaccine development efforts, CEPI (Oslo) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. [https://cepi.net/news\\_cepi/italy-pledges-first-eur-5-million-funding-to-cepi-to-advance-covid-19-vaccine-development-efforts/](https://cepi.net/news_cepi/italy-pledges-first-eur-5-million-funding-to-cepi-to-advance-covid-19-vaccine-development-efforts/).



On 10 December 2020, Japan’s contribution towards international efforts against COVID-19 totalled more than USD1.54 billion.<sup>1852</sup> This includes supplying more than 89 developing countries with USD436 million worth of medical equipment and providing USD13 million worth of technical cooperation.<sup>1853</sup>

On 30 March 2020, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe spoke with Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the WHO.<sup>1854</sup> Prime Minister Abe “stated Japan’s desire to continue to collaborate closely with the WHO, including through information exchange.”<sup>1855</sup> In response, Dr. Tedros thanked Prime Minister Abe for his leadership in taking an effective whole-of-government approach to confronting COVID-19 and stated that “promoting Universal Health Coverage (UHC), for which Japan has shown global leadership, would be useful in implementing the novel coronavirus measures.”<sup>1856</sup> Prime Minister Abe also stated that “Japan has led the global effort for international assistance and supported countries with weak health systems through the WHO/SPRP Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan with USD46 million and expressly asked Dr. Tedros to make this fund available for effective technical assistance to health workers and others in developing countries where the number of cases is rapidly increasing.<sup>1857</sup> Prime Minister Abe and Dr. Tedros “discussed the importance of international collaboration through G20 and other fora as well as the importance of leaving no geographical vacuum in addressing the novel coronavirus.”<sup>1858</sup>

On 15 May 2020, Japan agreed to contribute over USD2.7 million to help nine countries in the Americas – Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and Venezuela – scale up their response to the novel COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>1859</sup> The contribution will support the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the WHO’s Regional Office for the Americas, and their efforts to “mitigate the impact of the spread of virus and slow down the human-to-human transmission of COVID-19 in the Americas.”<sup>1860</sup> The contribution will enable PAHO to “strengthen their readiness and response operations to save lives and protect the most vulnerable individuals, including healthcare workers, and to reduce the transmission of the virus among individuals, in an effort to slow the spread of the disease.”<sup>1861</sup>

On 24 September 2020, PAHO announced that it has “supported Peru’s COVID-19 response backed by funding from the Government of Japan. WHO, with Japan’s support, will contribute to strengthening infection prevention and control programs and risk communications activities in five selected hospitals in Lima, Callao, La Libertad, Lambayeque and Piura. WHO’s assistance included the delivery of a stock of personal protective equipment consisting of 5,000 masks, 5,000 pairs of gloves, 5,000 gowns, 5,000 pieces of

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<sup>1852</sup> Japan’s Response to COVID-19 for Developing countries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 December 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ap\\_m/page23e\\_000595.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ap_m/page23e_000595.html).

<sup>1853</sup> Japan’s Response to COVID-19 for Developing countries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 December 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ap\\_m/page23e\\_000595.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ap_m/page23e_000595.html).

<sup>1854</sup> Telephone Talk between Prime Minister ABE Shinzo and WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/page1e\\_000277.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/page1e_000277.html).

<sup>1855</sup> Telephone Talk between Prime Minister ABE Shinzo and WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/page1e\\_000277.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/page1e_000277.html).

<sup>1856</sup> Telephone Talk between Prime Minister ABE Shinzo and WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/page1e\\_000277.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/page1e_000277.html).

<sup>1857</sup> Telephone Talk between Prime Minister ABE Shinzo and WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/page1e\\_000277.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/page1e_000277.html).

<sup>1858</sup> Telephone Talk between Prime Minister ABE Shinzo and WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/page1e\\_000277.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/page1e_000277.html).

<sup>1859</sup> Government of Japan contributes \$2.7 m to scale up COVID-19 response in nine countries of the Americas, World Health Organization-Pan American Health Organization (Washington, D.C.) 15 May 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2021. <https://www.paho.org/en/news/15-5-2020-government-japan-contributes-27-m-scale-covid-19-response-nine-countries-americas>.

<sup>1860</sup> Government of Japan contributes \$2.7 m to scale up COVID-19 response in nine countries of the Americas, World Health Organization-Pan American Health Organization (Washington, D.C.) 15 May 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2021. <https://www.paho.org/en/news/15-5-2020-government-japan-contributes-27-m-scale-covid-19-response-nine-countries-americas>.

<sup>1861</sup> Government of Japan contributes \$2.7 m to scale up COVID-19 response in nine countries of the Americas, World Health Organization-Pan American Health Organization (Washington, D.C.) 15 May 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2021. <https://www.paho.org/en/news/15-5-2020-government-japan-contributes-27-m-scale-covid-19-response-nine-countries-americas>.

head protection, 800 protective suits and 20 N95 respirators.”<sup>1862</sup> PAHO also stated that “Japan has provided valuable aid to the Americas throughout the pandemic.”<sup>1863</sup>

On 25 September 2020, Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga addressed the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly.<sup>1864</sup> In his address, Prime Minister Suga stated that “Japan fully supports the development of therapeutics, vaccines and diagnostics, and works towards ensuring fair and equitable access for all, including those in developing countries. Japan also works with international organizations so that relevant international frameworks will be able to deliver results.”<sup>1865</sup> While Prime Minister Suga stated that “the WHO is key in our collective response to infectious diseases,” he also advocated for reform of the WHO and the UN as a whole, stating that “While I greatly respect the activities and efforts of the UN thus far, I would also like to emphasize that the Organization is in need of neutral and fair governance more than ever ... Through its review and reform, I believe the WHO will be able to make even better use of necessary expertise at the right time, in the right manner. With this conviction, Japan stands ready to cooperate in the review and reform process.”<sup>1866</sup>

On 8 October 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs Toshimitsu Motegi co-hosted the Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Friends of Universal Health Coverage (UHC).<sup>1867</sup> The Group of Friends of UHC is “an informal platform for UN Member States to build global momentum towards achieving UHC by 2030.”<sup>1868</sup> At this meeting, Minister Motegi outlined the “three pillars of Japan’s cooperation: (1) developing the countries’ capacity to tackle COVID-19, including ensuring equitable access to vaccines; (2) strengthening health systems in preparation against future health crises; (3) generating an enabling environment for health security.”<sup>1869</sup> Minister Motegi explained that Japan will continue to promote UHC and proactively lead international efforts with a focus on the above together with the international community.”<sup>1870</sup> Minister Motegi announced that Japan will contribute more than USD130 million to the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Advance Market Commitment (AMC), in order to enable countries to ensure equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines. This contribution is a part of Japan’s pledge of USD300 million which was announced at the Global Vaccine Summit in June 2020.<sup>1871</sup>

On 4 December 2020, Prime Minister Suga addressed a Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in response to COVID-19. Prime Minister Suga commented on the WHO’s Access to COVID-19

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<sup>1862</sup> Peru: protective equipment and surveillance support with funding from Japan, World Health Organization (Geneva) 24 September 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/peru-protective-equipment-and-surveillance-support-with-funding-from-japan>.

<sup>1863</sup> Peru: protective equipment and surveillance support with funding from Japan, World Health Organization (Geneva) 24 September 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/peru-protective-equipment-and-surveillance-support-with-funding-from-japan>.

<sup>1864</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: 20 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/foreign/press/unp\\_a/page4e\\_001095.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/foreign/press/unp_a/page4e_001095.html).

<sup>1865</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: 20 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/foreign/press/unp\\_a/page4e\\_001095.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/foreign/press/unp_a/page4e_001095.html).

<sup>1866</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: 20 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/foreign/press/unp\\_a/page4e\\_001095.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/foreign/press/unp_a/page4e_001095.html).

<sup>1867</sup> Minister MOTEGI Toshimitsu co-hosted Ministerial Meeting of Group of Friends of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 8 October 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002929.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002929.html).

<sup>1868</sup> Minister MOTEGI Toshimitsu co-hosted Ministerial Meeting of Group of Friends of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 8 October 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002929.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002929.html).

<sup>1869</sup> Minister MOTEGI Toshimitsu co-hosted Ministerial Meeting of Group of Friends of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 8 October 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002929.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002929.html).

<sup>1870</sup> Minister Motegi Toshimitsu co-hosted Ministerial Meeting of Group of Friends of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 8 October 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002929.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002929.html).

<sup>1871</sup> Minister Motegi Toshimitsu co-hosted Ministerial Meeting of Group of Friends of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 8 October 2020. Access Date: 20 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002929.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002929.html).

Tools (ACT) Accelerator, and stated that “to overcome the pandemic, multilateral cooperation schemes such as the ACT-Accelerator are of critical importance. Japan, as a founding donor of the ACT, responded rapidly to the call for contributions to the COVAX facility, and will promote the supply of therapeutics through voluntary licensing of patents.”<sup>1872</sup>

On 9 February 2021, Minister Motegi addressed the “Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator 4th Facilitation Council hosted by the WHO.”<sup>1873</sup> In this address, Minister Motegi “emphasized the importance of international cooperation in tackling the COVID-19 pandemic and achieving universal health coverage. Minister Motegi announced that Japan will increase its contribution to the COVAX Advance Market Commitment to a total of USD200 million.”<sup>1874</sup>

Through its consistent and vocal support of the WHO, as well as substantial funding of WHO affiliated initiatives that encompass a wide geographical expanse, Japan has fully supported WHO’s global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and health emergencies, while leaving no geographical void.

Thus, Japan has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jai Singh*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to fully support the World Health Organization (WHO) in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, while leaving no geographical vacuum.

On 26 March 2020, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced that the United Kingdom will provide GBP23 million to the Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostic (FIND), a partnership between academic organizations and pharmaceutical companies to build rapid testing technology.<sup>1875</sup> FIND stated that the funds will be used to develop global diagnostic innovation and boost testing capacities in low- and middle-income countries.<sup>1876</sup>

On 29 March 2020, the Government of the United Kingdom committed GBP40 million to the COVID-19 Therapeutics Accelerator (CTA).<sup>1877</sup> The CTA is a philanthropic organization supported by the Wellcome Trust and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, that contributes to the research, development, and

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<sup>1872</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: 21 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ghp/page1e\\_000292.html#](https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ghp/page1e_000292.html#).

<sup>1873</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: 21 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002974.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002974.html).

<sup>1874</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: 21 February 2021. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002974.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002974.html).

<sup>1875</sup> PM announced record funding to find a coronavirus vaccine, Government of the UK (London) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-announces-record-funding-to-find-a-coronavirus-vaccine>.

<sup>1876</sup> UK Government Invests GPD23 Million for FIND to Drive Diagnostic Innovation and Boost Country Testing Capacity to Support COVID-19 Response, FIND (Geneva) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.finddx.org/newsroom/pr-27mar20/>.

<sup>1877</sup> COVID-19 Therapeutics Accelerator awards \$20 million in initial grants to fund clinical trials, Wellcome (London) 29 March 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://wellcome.org/press-release/covid-19-therapeutics-accelerator-awards-20-million-initial-grants-fund-clinical>.

distribution of COVID-19 treatments.<sup>1878</sup> The funds aim to contribute to the CTA's development of anti-retrovirals and immunotherapies to aid patients in combating COVID-19.<sup>1879</sup>

On 12 April 2020, the Government of the United Kingdom sent GBP200 million to aid developing nations in battling COVID-19 to assist in mitigating the possibility of transmission that could lead to a second severe wave of the coronavirus.<sup>1880</sup> Of the total amount, GBP130 million will go to the United Nations agencies and GBP65 million will be delivered to the WHO to assist in coordinating the global response to the pandemic.<sup>1881</sup>

On 29 April 2020, Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Secretary of State for the Department for International Development (DIFD), announced a pledge of GBP330 million a year to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance partnership whose goal is to increase access to immunization in poorer countries.<sup>1882</sup> The pledge is set to be delivered annually for the upcoming five-year period of 2021 to 2025, totalling GBP1.65 billion for that period.<sup>1883</sup>

On 10 January 2021, the Government of the United Kingdom pledged GBP548 million to aid the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Advance Market Commitment (AMC), which aims to distribute one billion doses of coronavirus vaccines to 92 developing countries in 2021.<sup>1884</sup> The United Kingdom's contribution is combined with the remaining USD452 million raised for the COVAX AMC, bringing the total amount raised for the Committee to USD1 billion.<sup>1885</sup>

On 19 February 2021, Prime Minister Johnson announced that the United Kingdom will be donating its surplus vaccine supply to poorer countries. The United Kingdom has ordered more than 400 million doses of coronavirus vaccines.<sup>1886</sup>

The United Kingdom has complied with its commitment to support WHO in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences and has aimed to leave no geographical vacuum.

Thus, the United Kingdom has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Leila Koobi*

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<sup>1878</sup> Advancing research into accessible coronavirus treatments, Therapeutics Accelerator (London). Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://www.therapeuticsaccelerator.org/>.

<sup>1879</sup> UK Pledges £250 million to find coronavirus vaccine, Government of the UK (London) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 19 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pledges-544-million-to-find-coronavirus-vaccine>.

<sup>1880</sup> Coronavirus: UK gives £200 in aid to developing nations, BBC (London) 12 April 2020. Access Date: 19 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-52258449>.

<sup>1881</sup> Coronavirus: UK gives £200 in aid to developing nations, BBC (London) 12 April 2020. Access Date: 19 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-52258449>.

<sup>1882</sup> Gavi welcomes UK funding pledge, Gavi (Geneva) 29 April 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/gavi-welcomes-uk-funding-pledge>.

<sup>1883</sup> The UK's work with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance-Information Note (June 2020), Independent Commission for Aid Impact (London), 4 June 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://reliefweb.int/report/united-kingdom-great-britain-and-northern-ireland/uk-s-work-gavi-vaccine-alliance-information>.

<sup>1884</sup> UK meets £250 million match aid target to COVAX, the global vaccines facility, Government of the UK (London) 10 January 2021. Access Date: 19 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-raises-1bn-so-vulnerable-countries-can-get-vaccine>.

<sup>1885</sup> UK meets £250 million match aid target to COVAX, the global vaccines facility, Government of the UK (London) 10 January 2021. Access Date: 19 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-raises-1bn-so-vulnerable-countries-can-get-vaccine>.

<sup>1886</sup> Covid vaccines: Boris Johnson pledges surplus to poorer countries at G7, BBC (London) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-56117120>.

## United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to fully support the World Health Organization (WHO) in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences and has aimed to leave no geographical vacuum.

On 6 July 2020, President Donald Trump notified United Nations Secretary General António Guterres that the United States would be withdrawing from the WHO as of 6 July 2021.<sup>1887</sup> The withdrawal process would be official once the Secretary General confirms that the U.S. has met the qualifications of providing a one-year notice and fulfilling its current financial obligations.<sup>1888</sup>

On 28 December 2020, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance announced that it has approved the U.S. pledge of USD4 billion COVID-19 supplemental funding as part of a larger omnibus funding package.<sup>1889</sup> Gavi aims to utilize the funds to ensure lower-income economies have equitable access to safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines.

On 20 January 2021, President Joe Biden announced a recommitment to the WHO and its fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, retracting the decision made by former President Donald Trump to withdraw from WHO.<sup>1890</sup> The U.S. announced that Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, the nation's top infectious disease expert, would head the United States delegation to the agency's executive board.<sup>1891</sup>

On 28 January 2021, the Department of State published its Congressional Budget Justification of Foreign Operations for the 2021 fiscal year announcing its USD290 million contribution to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance's immunization program as part of a USD1.16 billion pledge package.<sup>1892</sup> The funds will contribute to expanding Gavi's delivery of vaccines and assist in preventing child deaths.<sup>1893</sup>

On 9 February 2021, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus announced that the United States will be participating in the WHO-supported Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator.<sup>1894</sup>

On 18 February 2021, the United States announced its pledge of USD200 million to the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Advanced Market Commitment (AMC).<sup>1895</sup> The COVAX AMC aims to support the purchase and delivery of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines for 92 low- and middle-income

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<sup>1887</sup> Note to Correspondents in answer to the questions regarding the World Health Organization, United Nations Secretary General (Geneva) 7 July 2020. Date Accessed: 19 February 2021. <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/note-correspondents/2020-07-07/note-correspondents-answer-questions-regarding-the-world-health-organization>.

<sup>1888</sup> Trump Administration Signals Formal Withdrawal from the W.H.O., New York Times (New York) 7 July 2020. Date Accessed: 19 February 2021. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/07/us/politics/coronavirus-trump-who.html>.

<sup>1889</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: 19 February 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/gavi-welcomes-final-approval-us-support-global-immunisation-covid-supplemental-package>.

<sup>1890</sup> Letter to His Excellency António Guterres, White House (Washington, D.C.) 20 January 2021. Date Accessed: 19 February 2021. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/01/20/letter-his-excellency-antonio-guterres/>.

<sup>1891</sup> Biden restores ties with the World Health Organization that were cut by Trump, New York Times (New York) 19 January 2021. Date Accessed: 19 February 2021. <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/20/world/biden-restores-who-ties.html>.

<sup>1892</sup> Congressional Budget Justification of Foreign Operations: Fiscal Year 2021, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 28 January 2021. Date Accessed: 26 February 2021. <https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/FY21-CBJ-Appendix-2-FINAL-508-Version.pdf>.

<sup>1893</sup> Congressional Budget Justification of Foreign Operations: Fiscal Year 2021, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 28 January 2021. Date Accessed: 26 February 2021. <https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/FY21-CBJ-Appendix-2-FINAL-508-Version.pdf>.

<sup>1894</sup> U.S. joins WHO programmed aimed at boosting COVID-19 fight, Reuters (London) 9 February 2021. Date Accessed: 26 February 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-who-act-us-idUSKBN2A91N2>.

<sup>1895</sup> Covax: How will Covid vaccines be shared around the world?, BBC (London) 24 February 2021. Date Accessed: 19 February 2021. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-55795297>.

economies. The United States contribution seeks to support the delivery of vaccines for vulnerable and at-risk populations, including frontline health care workers.<sup>1896</sup>

On 19 February 2021, the ACT-Accelerator published a commitment tracker of funding commitments made in its ACT-Accelerator Pillar budgets to fund the program, which delivers COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines around the world.<sup>1897</sup> The report indicates that as of February 2021, the United States had contributed USD2.5 billion to the ACT-Accelerator, the second largest contribution behind Germany.<sup>1898</sup> The commitment tracker also indicated that the U.S. will provide an additional USD1.5 billion through 2021 and 2022.<sup>1899</sup>

The United States, despite setbacks in its contributions to the WHO due to its temporary withdrawal from the organization, has complied with its commitment to support WHO in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences and has aimed to leave no geographical vacuum.

Thus, the United States has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Leila Koobi*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to fully support the World Health Organization (WHO) in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, leaving no geographical vacuum.

On 16 March 2020, the European Union along with the G7 members pledged to commit to work together to “coordinate on necessary public health measures to protect people at risk from COVID-19”<sup>1900</sup> among other commitments to trade, science and technological cooperation.<sup>1901</sup>

On 23 March 2020, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell acknowledged the need for international action against COVID-19 during a video conference with EU ministers of foreign affairs.<sup>1902</sup>

On 26 March 2020, the President of the European Council Charles Michel and the President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen participated in the G20 video conference called by Saudi Arabia.<sup>1903</sup>

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<sup>1896</sup> The United States Announces a US\$4 billion Contribution to a Global Vaccine Initiative, U.S. Embassy in Barbados the Eastern Caribbean, and the OECS (Washington D.C.) 24 February 2021. Date Accessed: 27 February 2021. <https://bb.usembassy.gov/the-united-states-announces-a-us4-billion-contribution-to-a-global-vaccine-initiative/>.

<sup>1897</sup> Access to COVID-19 tools funding commitment tracker, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 February 2021. Date Accessed: 28 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/access-to-covid-19-tools-tracker>.

<sup>1898</sup> Access to COVID-19 tools funding commitment tracker, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 February 2021. Date Accessed: 28 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/access-to-covid-19-tools-tracker>.

<sup>1899</sup> Access to COVID-19 tools funding commitment tracker, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 February 2021. Date Accessed: 28 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/access-to-covid-19-tools-tracker>.

<sup>1900</sup> Timeline - Council actions on COVID-19, European Council (Geneva) 26 February 2021. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/coronavirus/timeline/>.

<sup>1901</sup> Timeline - Council actions on COVID-19, European Council (Geneva) 26 February 2021. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/coronavirus/timeline/>.

<sup>1902</sup> Video conference of foreign affairs ministers, 23 March 2020, European Council (Brussels) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/03/23/>.

<sup>1903</sup> Statement by President Michel and President von der Leyen after the extraordinary G20 video conference on COVID-19, European Council (Geneva) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/03/26/statement-by-president-michel-and-president-von-der-leyen-after-the-g20-video-conference-on-covid-19/>.

During the conference the EU stated its commitment “to international cooperation in tackling this pandemic and will continue to assist vulnerable countries and communities around the world, especially in Africa.”<sup>1904</sup>

On 8 April 2020, EU development ministers held an informal meeting via videoconferencing to “discuss the implications of COVID-19 worldwide” and to “launch the “Team Europe” package to support partner countries in the fight against the pandemic and its consequences, with an overall financial support amounting to more than EUR20 billion from existing external action resources.”<sup>1905</sup> The Team Europe package is aimed to “help the most vulnerable countries” particularly in Africa, Asia, the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean.<sup>1906</sup> It is aimed to focus on “people most at risk including children, women, the elderly, disabled people, migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons, and their host communities.”<sup>1907</sup>

On 4 May 2020, the European Commission registered EUR7.4 billion “in pledges from donors worldwide during the Coronavirus Global Response pledging event.”<sup>1908</sup> The pledging initiative was a response to the call from the WHO for “accelerated development, production and equitable global access to new coronavirus essential health technologies.”<sup>1909</sup> To help reach the objectives of the Coronavirus Global Response, the EU committed EUR1 billion in grants and EUR400 million in guarantees on loans through reprioritization of Horizon 2020 (EUR1 billion), RescEu (EUR80 million), the Emergency Support Instrument (EUR150 million) and external instruments (EUR170 million).<sup>1910</sup> The EU committed to donating EUR100 million to CEPI and EUR158 million to the World Health Organization.<sup>1911</sup>

On 20 May 2020, the European Council adopted a decision to fund EUR3 billion of “macro-financial assistance to 10 enlargement and neighbourhood partners to help them cope with the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic.”<sup>1912</sup> The partners include Albania, Jordan, Kosovo and Ukraine, among others.<sup>1913</sup>

On 4 June 2020, the European Commission announced a pledge of EUR300 million to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, for the period of 2021-2025.<sup>1914</sup> The funding is aimed to help “immunize 300 million children around the world and finance vaccine stockpiles to shield against outbreaks of infectious diseases.”<sup>1915</sup>

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<sup>1904</sup> Statement by President Michel and President von der Leyen after the extraordinary G20 video conference on COVID-19, European Council (Geneva) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/03/26/statement-by-president-michel-and-president-von-der-leyen-after-the-g20-video-conference-on-covid-19/>.

<sup>1905</sup> Video conference of foreign affairs ministers (development), 8 April 2020, European Council (Brussels) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/04/08/>.

<sup>1906</sup> Video conference of foreign affairs ministers (development), 8 April 2020, European Council (Brussels) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/04/08/>.

<sup>1907</sup> Video conference of foreign affairs ministers (development), 8 April 2020, European Council (Brussels) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/04/08/>.

<sup>1908</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: €7.4 billion raised for universal access to vaccines, European Commission (Brussels) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_20\\_797](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_797).

<sup>1909</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: €7.4 billion raised for universal access to vaccines, European Commission (Brussels) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_20\\_797](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_797).

<sup>1910</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: €7.4 billion raised for universal access to vaccines, European Commission (Brussels) 4 May 2020. Access date: 28 February 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_20\\_797](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_797).

<sup>1911</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: €7.4 billion raised for universal access to vaccines, European Commission (Brussels) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_20\\_797](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_797).

<sup>1912</sup> COVID-19: Council adopts €3 billion assistance package to support neighbouring partners, European Council (Brussels) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/05/20/covid-19-council-adopts-3-billion-assistance-package-to-support-neighbouring-partners/>.

<sup>1913</sup> COVID-19: Council adopts €3 billion assistance package to support neighbouring partners, European Council (Brussels) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/05/20/covid-19-council-adopts-3-billion-assistance-package-to-support-neighbouring-partners/>.

<sup>1914</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: European Commission pledges €300 million to Gavi, European Commission (Brussels) 4 June 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_20\\_989](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_989).

<sup>1915</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: European Commission pledges €300 million to Gavi, European Commission (Brussels) 4 June 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_20\\_989](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_989).

On 8 June 2020, EU development ministers discussed the progress “made in the implementation of the Team Europe Package.”<sup>1916</sup> The ministers welcomed the announcement that the package had now reached EUR36 billion with contributions from European Commission, EU member states, the European Investment Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.<sup>1917</sup>

On 14 July 2020, the European Council adopted regulation that aimed to “speed up the development and the deployment of a vaccine against COVID-19 in the EU.”<sup>1918</sup> This regulation applied as long as COVID-19 was regarded as a pandemic by the WHO.<sup>1919</sup>

On 31 August 2020, the European Commission confirmed its interest to participate in the COVAX Facility.<sup>1920</sup> President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen said that “the commission is announcing a EUR400 million contribution to COVAX [COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access] for working together in purchasing future vaccines to the benefit of low- and middle-income countries.”<sup>1921</sup>

On 15 October 2020, the European Council stated its commitment to “furthering international debt relief for African countries within the relevant multilateral frameworks” to address the impact of COVID-19.<sup>1922</sup> The Council also committed to “strengthening EU support to health systems and the reinforcement of partners’ preparedness and response capacity.”<sup>1923</sup>

On 21-22 November 2020, during the G20 summit hosted by Saudi Arabia, the EU stressed on the need for multilateral cooperation to fight against the pandemic.<sup>1924</sup> The EU called on the G20 members to provide, before the end of 2020, “USD4.5 billion for mass procurement and delivery of COVID-19 tools. This amount is urgently needed for the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) and its COVAX facility.”<sup>1925</sup> The President of the European Council suggested the need for an “international treaty negotiated with all UN organizations and agencies, in particular the WHO.”<sup>1926</sup>

On 26 November 2020, President of the European Council Charles Michel, President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen met with Australia’s Prime Minister Scott Morrison to reaffirm their commitment to “ensure universal, equitable and early access to safe, effective and affordable COVID-19

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<sup>1916</sup> Video conference of foreign affairs ministers (development), 8 June 2020, European Council (Brussels) 8 June 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/06/08/>.

<sup>1917</sup> Video conference of foreign affairs ministers (development), 8 June 2020, European Council (Brussels) 8 June 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/06/08/>.

<sup>1918</sup> Vaccine against COVID-19: Council adopts measures to facilitate swift development, European Council (Brussels) 14 July 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/07/14/vaccine-against-covid-19-council-adopts-measures-to-facilitate-swift-development/>.

<sup>1919</sup> Vaccine against COVID-19: Council adopts measures to facilitate swift development, European Council (Brussels) 14 July 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/07/14/vaccine-against-covid-19-council-adopts-measures-to-facilitate-swift-development/>.

<sup>1920</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: Commission joins the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility (COVAX), European Commission (Brussels) 31 August 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_20\\_1540](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_1540).

<sup>1921</sup> Coronavirus Global Response: Commission joins the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility (COVAX), European Commission (Brussels) 31 August 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_20\\_1540](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_1540).

<sup>1922</sup> European Council, 15-16 October 2020, European Council (Brussels) 15 October 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/european-council/2020/10/15-16/>.

<sup>1923</sup> European Council, 15-16 October 2020, European Council (Brussels) 15 October 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/european-council/2020/10/15-16/>.

<sup>1924</sup> G20 summit, 21-22 November 2020, European Council (Brussels) 21-22 November 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/11/21-22/>.

<sup>1925</sup> G20 summit, 21-22 November 2020, European Council (Brussels) 21-22 November 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/11/21-22/>.

<sup>1926</sup> G20 summit, 21-22 November 2020, European Council (Brussels) 21-22 November 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/11/21-22/>.



vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics.”<sup>1927</sup> The leaders stressed the importance of “continued international support for the Access to COVID-19 tools (ACT) Accelerator and its COVAX Facility.”<sup>1928</sup> The leaders agreed to “continue to work together to strengthen the World Health Organization and global preparedness and response to health emergencies.”<sup>1929</sup>

On 1 December 2020, the EU, as part of the Team Europe Package, announced a EUR20 million program “to support the preparedness and response capacities of our partners in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).”<sup>1930</sup> Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen said that the program “is part of the European Union’s EUR350 million solidarity response to support our ASEAN partners in tackling the COVID-19 pandemic.”<sup>1931</sup>

On 19 February 2021, the EU joined other G7 members in funding the ACT-Accelerator partnership.<sup>1932</sup> The funding is meant for the “development and equitable rollout of the tests, treatments and vaccines needed to end the acute phase of the COVID-19 pandemic.”<sup>1933</sup> The European Commission committed USD363 million for the COVAX Advance Market Commitment.<sup>1934</sup> The European Investment bank provided “a further USD242 million in loan guarantees which will help the ACT-Accelerator partnership to frontload future payments to speed up the response.”<sup>1935</sup>

On 19 February 2021, the President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen announced EUR100 million in humanitarian assistance to support the rollout of vaccination campaigns in Africa, spearheaded the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC).<sup>1936</sup>

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to fully support the WHO in its global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, leaving no geographical vacuum. Working closely with the WHO and EU members, the European Union has illustrated its efforts to increase global distribution of vaccines, financial and humanitarian aid.

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

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<sup>1927</sup> EU-Australia leaders' meeting via video conference, 26 November 2020, European Council (Brussels) 26 November 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/11/26/>.

<sup>1928</sup> EU-Australia leaders' meeting via video conference, 26 November 2020, European Council (Brussels) 26 November 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/11/26/>.

<sup>1929</sup> EU-Australia leaders' meeting via video conference, 26 November 2020, European Council (Brussels) 26 November 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/11/26/>.

<sup>1930</sup> Team Europe COVID-19 response: EU announces €20 million to support health systems in ASEAN, European Commission (Brussels) 1 December 2020. Access date: 28 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/team-europe-covid-19-response-eu-announces-eu20-million-support-health-systems-asean\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/team-europe-covid-19-response-eu-announces-eu20-million-support-health-systems-asean_en).

<sup>1931</sup> Team Europe COVID-19 response: EU announces €20 million to support health systems in ASEAN, European Commission (Brussels) 1 December 2020. Access date: 28 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/team-europe-covid-19-response-eu-announces-eu20-million-support-health-systems-asean\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/team-europe-covid-19-response-eu-announces-eu20-million-support-health-systems-asean_en).

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