



The G7 Research Group presents the

2020 G7 Virtual Summit Final Compliance Report

17 March 2020 to 6 May 2021

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

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

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

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

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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.¹⁸⁸² As the body of the United Nations responsible for directing and coordinating health, the WHO has been monitoring the novel coronavirus since December 2019.¹⁸⁸³ In March 2020, the WHO declared COVID-19 a global pandemic.¹⁸⁸⁴

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.¹⁸⁸⁵ 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.¹⁸⁸⁶

As the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting people across the world, the pandemic has disproportionately impacted developing countries with devastating impacts on human health.¹⁸⁸⁷ The most vulnerable countries are those with limited financial resources and fragile health systems.¹⁸⁸⁸ This disproportionate impact has

¹⁸⁸² 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>.

¹⁸⁸³ 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>.

¹⁸⁸⁴ 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>.

¹⁸⁸⁵ What We Do, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/about/what-we-do>.

¹⁸⁸⁶ Regional Offices, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/about/who-we-are/regional-offices>.

¹⁸⁸⁷ 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-awazir>.

¹⁸⁸⁸ 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-awazir>.

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.¹⁸⁸⁹

G7/G8 summits have identified the WHO as an integral international organization since first referencing it at the 1997 Denver Summit.¹⁸⁹⁰ Since 1997 to 2020, there have been 18 commitments made specific to working with the WHO.¹⁸⁹¹

At the 1997 Denver Summit, the G8 leaders committed to more effective coordination of international responses to disease outbreaks.¹⁸⁹² This included the promotion of a global surveillance network and building public health capacity to prevent, detect, and control infectious diseases globally.¹⁸⁹³ 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.”¹⁸⁹⁴

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.”¹⁸⁹⁵ More specifically, they also pledged their support for the WHO’s Roll Back Malaria initiative.¹⁸⁹⁶

At the 1999 Köln Summit, the G8 leaders reaffirmed their support to the WHO and its Roll Back Malaria and Stop TB initiatives.¹⁸⁹⁷

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, the G8 leaders made significant commitments to the WHO and global health.¹⁸⁹⁸ They committed to implementing a plan on infectious diseases, notably HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis.¹⁸⁹⁹ 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.¹⁹⁰⁰ 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.”¹⁹⁰¹

¹⁸⁸⁹ 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>.

¹⁸⁹⁰ 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>.

¹⁸⁹¹ 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>.

¹⁸⁹² 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>.

¹⁸⁹³ 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>.

¹⁸⁹⁴ 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>.

¹⁸⁹⁵ 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>.

¹⁸⁹⁶ 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>.

¹⁸⁹⁷ 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>.

¹⁸⁹⁸ 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>.

¹⁸⁹⁹ 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>.

¹⁹⁰⁰ 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>.

¹⁹⁰¹ 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.¹⁹⁰² 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.¹⁹⁰³ 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.”¹⁹⁰⁴ This summit was also the first time G8 health ministers met, and the WHO was also in participation.¹⁹⁰⁵

At the 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako Summit, the G8 leaders built on the St. Petersburg commitments to fight infectious diseases.¹⁹⁰⁶ They committed to increasing workforce coverage towards the WHO threshold of 2.3 health workers per 1,000 people.¹⁹⁰⁷ In addition, the leaders cited support for the WHO Plan to address neglected tropical diseases.¹⁹⁰⁸

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.”¹⁹⁰⁹ 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.¹⁹¹⁰

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, the G7 leaders reaffirmed the WHO’s central role in coordinating responses to public health emergencies.¹⁹¹¹ 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.¹⁹¹² 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.¹⁹¹³

¹⁹⁰² 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>.

¹⁹⁰³ 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>.

¹⁹⁰⁴ 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>.

¹⁹⁰⁵ 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>.

¹⁹⁰⁶ 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>.

¹⁹⁰⁷ 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>.

¹⁹⁰⁸ 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>.

¹⁹⁰⁹ 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>.

¹⁹¹⁰ 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>.

¹⁹¹¹ 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>.

¹⁹¹² 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>.

¹⁹¹³ 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.”¹⁹¹⁴

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.¹⁹¹⁵

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.¹⁹¹⁶

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.”¹⁹¹⁷ To “fully” support can be translated to support to a maximum.¹⁹¹⁸ The WHO is the UN body responsible for directing and coordinating health.¹⁹¹⁹ It has a global mandate to lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences.¹⁹²⁰ A “disease outbreak” is defined as “the occurrence of disease cases in excess of normal expectancy.”¹⁹²¹ 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.”¹⁹²² An “emergency” is a term describing a state.¹⁹²³ 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.”¹⁹²⁴ These emergencies have

¹⁹¹⁴ G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué (G7 Information Centre) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 22 January 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

¹⁹¹⁵ 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>

¹⁹¹⁶ 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>

¹⁹¹⁷ 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.

¹⁹¹⁸ 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.

¹⁹¹⁹ What We Do, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/about/what-we-do>.

¹⁹²⁰ What We Do, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/about/what-we-do>.

¹⁹²¹ Disease Outbreaks, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/teams/environment-climate-change-and-health/emergencies/disease-outbreaks/>.

¹⁹²² Disease Outbreaks, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/teams/environment-climate-change-and-health/emergencies/disease-outbreaks/>.

¹⁹²³ Definitions: Emergencies, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/hac/about/definitions/en/>.

¹⁹²⁴ 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”¹⁹²⁵ which affects one’s “state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.”¹⁹²⁶

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.¹⁹²⁷ 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 (WHO) on disease outbreaks and health emergencies, while leaving no geographical vacuum.

¹⁹²⁵ Consequence, Merriam Webster Dictionary (Massachusetts). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/consequence>.

¹⁹²⁶ Definitions: Emergencies, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 21 December 2020. <https://www.who.int/hac/about/definitions/en/>.

¹⁹²⁷ 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.

As of 19 February 2021, Canada has contributed over CAD2 billion towards international efforts against COVID-19.¹⁹²⁸ 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."¹⁹²⁹ 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."¹⁹³⁰ As of 23 February 2021, Canada is second in the world for total amount donated to the ACT-Accelerator.¹⁹³¹

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."¹⁹³²

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."¹⁹³³ 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."¹⁹³⁴ 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."¹⁹³⁵

On 2 July 2020, the Government of Canada issued a statement to the United Nations Security Council during a videoconference on "Pandemics and Security."¹⁹³⁶ In its statement, Canada emphasized that it "deeply values the leadership and coordination role of the World Health Organization in the COVID-19 response.

¹⁹²⁸ 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>.

¹⁹²⁹ 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>.

¹⁹³⁰ 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>.

¹⁹³¹ The ACT Accelerator Funding Tracker, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 23 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/initiatives/act-accelerator/funding-tracker>.

¹⁹³² 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>.

¹⁹³³ 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>.

¹⁹³⁴ 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>.

¹⁹³⁵ 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>.

¹⁹³⁶ 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.

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.”¹⁹³⁷

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.¹⁹³⁸ As with the COVAX facility, UNICEF is heavily involved with WHO’s efforts against COVID-19 due to its “expertise in procurement and logistics.”¹⁹³⁹ 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.”¹⁹⁴⁰

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.”¹⁹⁴¹ 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.”¹⁹⁴²

On 29 March 2021, the Government of Canada announced an additional contribution of CAD1.2 million to PAHO in order to support COVID-19 responses in six Caribbean countries.¹⁹⁴³ The contribution “will be used to acquire essential personal protection equipment, laboratory and medical equipment, as well as supplies to be used by health care workers and hospitals in the Bahamas, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, as part of PAHO’s technical cooperation in the fight against the pandemic. It will also help strengthen communication efforts around public health risks, continued promotion of protective measures and community engagement.”¹⁹⁴⁴

¹⁹³⁷ 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.

¹⁹³⁸ 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/>.

¹⁹³⁹ 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>.

¹⁹⁴⁰ 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>.

¹⁹⁴¹ 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.

¹⁹⁴² 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.

¹⁹⁴³ Canada scales up its support to PAHO in its COVID-19 response in the Caribbean, World Health Organization-Pan American Health Organization (Washington, D.C.) 29 March 2021. Access Date: 21 April 2021. <https://www.paho.org/en/news/29-3-2021-canada-scales-its-support-paho-its-covid-19-response-caribbean>.

¹⁹⁴⁴ Canada scales up its support to PAHO in its COVID-19 response in the Caribbean, World Health Organization-Pan American Health Organization (Washington, D.C.) 29 March 2021. Access Date: 21 April 2021. <https://www.paho.org/en/news/29-3-2021-canada-scales-its-support-paho-its-covid-19-response-caribbean>.

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.

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.”¹⁹⁴⁵ The finance minister was to work closely with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group to facilitate this process.¹⁹⁴⁶

On 25 March 2020, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian participated in the G7 Foreign Ministers' meeting.¹⁹⁴⁷ 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.¹⁹⁴⁸ 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.¹⁹⁴⁹

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.”¹⁹⁵⁰

¹⁹⁴⁵ 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>.

¹⁹⁴⁶ 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>.

¹⁹⁴⁷ 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>.

¹⁹⁴⁸ 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>.

¹⁹⁴⁹ 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>.

¹⁹⁵⁰ 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>.

On 18 May 2020, President Emmanuel Macron and Minister of Solidarity and Health Olivier Véran attended the World Health Assembly.¹⁹⁵¹ 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."¹⁹⁵² 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.¹⁹⁵³

On 23 June 2020, the Government of France published a strategic guidance document on supporting developing countries disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁹⁵⁴ The document outlines policies which intend to modernize and improve tax administrations to be implemented over a four-year period.¹⁹⁵⁵

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.¹⁹⁵⁶ 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.¹⁹⁵⁷

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.¹⁹⁵⁸ France sent EUR17.5 million to over 10 countries in order to help healthcare management.¹⁹⁵⁹ In addition, France set up an assistance and social transfer program in partnership with the World Bank Group and the Inter-American Development Bank.¹⁹⁶⁰

¹⁹⁵¹ 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>.

¹⁹⁵² 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>.

¹⁹⁵³ 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>.

¹⁹⁵⁴ 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>.

¹⁹⁵⁵ 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>.

¹⁹⁵⁶ 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>.

¹⁹⁵⁷ 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>.

¹⁹⁵⁸ 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>.

¹⁹⁵⁹ 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>.

¹⁹⁶⁰ 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>.

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.”¹⁹⁶¹ France stated that it “welcomes the leadership and coordination of the WHO” in developing policy measures to curb the spread of COVID-19.¹⁹⁶²

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.”¹⁹⁶³

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.¹⁹⁶⁴

On 11 November 2020, France held the third Paris Peace Forum which focused on “building a better world after the pandemic.”¹⁹⁶⁵ Topics discussed include the distribution of resources, implementation of joint-measures, and value chains.¹⁹⁶⁶

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.¹⁹⁶⁷ In this statement, France jointly agreed to “provide assistance in particular to the most vulnerable.”¹⁹⁶⁸

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.¹⁹⁶⁹

On 9 February 2021, Minister Le Drian met with the members of the ACT-A Facilitation Council, including the WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom and representatives from participating members. During the

¹⁹⁶¹ 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>.

¹⁹⁶² 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>.

¹⁹⁶³ 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>.

¹⁹⁶⁴ 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>.

¹⁹⁶⁵ 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>.

¹⁹⁶⁶ 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>.

¹⁹⁶⁷ 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>.

¹⁹⁶⁸ 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>.

¹⁹⁶⁹ 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>.

meeting, Minister Le Drian reaffirmed verbal support for the WHO and developed a scheme to assist the WHO in achieving its “Triple Billion Targets.”¹⁹⁷⁰

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.

On 25 March 2020, Germany attended the G7 virtual meeting to develop joint-plans to reduce the spread of COVID-19.¹⁹⁷¹ Germany pledged to support countries in the world that are the least well equipped to respond to the virus by providing medicine and vaccines.¹⁹⁷²

On 23 April 2020, the German government provided a verbal statement declaring its support for Africa in its fight against COVID-19.¹⁹⁷³ 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.¹⁹⁷⁴

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.¹⁹⁷⁵ This funding is intended to ensure that “access can be gained to people in need despite the restrictions in place worldwide.”¹⁹⁷⁶

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.¹⁹⁷⁷

On 25 May 2020, Germany issued a joint statement endorsing the WHO and promoting international cooperation.¹⁹⁷⁸ Germany pledged “to ensure adequate financing to contain the pandemic and protect people, with particular attention to the most vulnerable.”¹⁹⁷⁹

¹⁹⁷⁰ Global health - Jean-Yves Le Drian's participation in the ACT-A Facilitation Council meeting (Paris, 9 February 2021), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 12 February 2021. Access Date: 22 April 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/>.

¹⁹⁷¹ 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>.

¹⁹⁷² 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>.

¹⁹⁷³ 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>.

¹⁹⁷⁴ 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>.

¹⁹⁷⁵ 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>.

¹⁹⁷⁶ 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>.

¹⁹⁷⁷ 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>.

On 1 June 2020, Minister Maas released a public statement discussing bilateral cooperation with the United States.¹⁹⁸⁰ 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.¹⁹⁸¹

On 7 September 2020, Minister Maas attended the 13th Asia-Europe Meeting to coordinate policies in reducing the spread of COVID-19.¹⁹⁸² During the meeting, Minister Maas agreed to implement the measures outlined by the WHO, targeting vulnerable populations.¹⁹⁸³

On 25 September 2020, Germany participated in the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly, representing the country in the Alliance for Multilateralism.¹⁹⁸⁴ As part of the alliance, Germany “presented initiatives to promote access for all to vaccines.”¹⁹⁸⁵

On 14 December 2020, Minister Maas hosted a meeting with countries from the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean to discuss multilateral affairs.¹⁹⁸⁶ 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.¹⁹⁸⁷

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.

¹⁹⁷⁸ 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>.

¹⁹⁷⁹ 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>.

¹⁹⁸⁰ “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>.

¹⁹⁸¹ “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>.

¹⁹⁸² 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>.

¹⁹⁸³ 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>.

¹⁹⁸⁴ 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>.

¹⁹⁸⁵ 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>.

¹⁹⁸⁶ 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>.

¹⁹⁸⁷ 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>.

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.¹⁹⁸⁸ 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."¹⁹⁸⁹

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 Maas¹⁹⁹⁰ stressing Italy's contribution to the "WHO Response Plan and announced that new contributions to vaccine research and distribution are being considered, which will require an inclusive global effort."¹⁹⁹¹

On 24 April 2020, Italy co-founded and became a member of the COVID-19 Access Tool (ACT) Accelerator.¹⁹⁹² The ACT-Accelerator aimed to speed up "the development of universally accessible vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics, and the improvement of the necessary health systems."¹⁹⁹³

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.¹⁹⁹⁴ Italy pledged EUR381 million "towards universal access to tests, treatments, and vaccines against coronavirus and for the global recovery."¹⁹⁹⁵ 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."¹⁹⁹⁶

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.¹⁹⁹⁷ Italy stated that it "will contribute EUR120 million,

¹⁹⁸⁸ 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.

¹⁹⁸⁹ 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.

¹⁹⁹⁰ 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.

¹⁹⁹¹ 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.

¹⁹⁹² 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,

¹⁹⁹³ 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.

¹⁹⁹⁴ 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.

¹⁹⁹⁵ Pledge: fund raised, European Commission (Brussels) 27 June 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. https://global-response.europa.eu/pledge_en.

¹⁹⁹⁶ 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.

¹⁹⁹⁷ Italy, Gavi The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/investing-gavi/funding/donor-profiles/italy>.

representing a 20% increase from their previous pledge.¹⁹⁹⁸ 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.¹⁹⁹⁹

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.²⁰⁰⁰

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.”²⁰⁰¹ The financial contribution was carried out by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation.²⁰⁰² The funding aimed to “increase the chances of developing more safe and effective vaccines,”²⁰⁰³ and furthered CEPI's goal to “advance at least three COVID-19 vaccine candidates for licensing.”²⁰⁰⁴ 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.”²⁰⁰⁵

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.”²⁰⁰⁶ He also restated Italy's cooperation with COVAX AMC “since its inception in June 2020 and has pledged to date more than USD100 million.”²⁰⁰⁷ With this pledge, Italy is one of the first countries to support the COVAX

¹⁹⁹⁸ Italy, Gavi The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/investing-gavi/funding/donor-profiles/italy>.

¹⁹⁹⁹ Italy, Gavi The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 2020. Access Date: 26 February 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/investing-gavi/funding/donor-profiles/italy>.

²⁰⁰⁰ ‘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/>.

²⁰⁰¹ 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.

²⁰⁰² 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.

²⁰⁰³ 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.

²⁰⁰⁴ 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.

²⁰⁰⁵ 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/.

²⁰⁰⁶ 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>.

²⁰⁰⁷ 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>.

AMC, a COVAX financing mechanism that will support 92 low- and middle-income countries' access to safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines.²⁰⁰⁸

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.

On 10 December 2020, Japan's contribution towards international efforts against COVID-19 totalled more than USD1.54 billion.²⁰⁰⁹ This includes supplying more than 89 developing countries with USD436 million worth of medical equipment and providing USD13 million worth of technical cooperation.²⁰¹⁰

On 30 March 2020, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe spoke with Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the WHO.²⁰¹¹ Prime Minister Abe "stated Japan's desire to continue to collaborate closely with the WHO, including through information exchange."²⁰¹² 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."²⁰¹³ 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."²⁰¹⁴ 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."²⁰¹⁵

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

²⁰⁰⁸ 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/.

²⁰⁰⁹ 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.

²⁰¹⁰ 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.

²⁰¹¹ 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.

²⁰¹² 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.

²⁰¹³ 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.

²⁰¹⁴ 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.

²⁰¹⁵ 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.

to the novel COVID-19 pandemic.²⁰¹⁶ 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.”²⁰¹⁷ 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.”²⁰¹⁸

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 head protection, 800 protective suits and 20 N95 respirators.”²⁰¹⁹ PAHO also stated that “Japan has provided valuable aid to the Americas throughout the pandemic.”²⁰²⁰

On 25 September 2020, Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga addressed the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly.²⁰²¹ 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.”²⁰²² 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.”²⁰²³

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).²⁰²⁴ The Group of Friends of UHC is “an informal

²⁰¹⁶ 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>.

²⁰¹⁷ 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>.

²⁰¹⁸ 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>.

²⁰¹⁹ 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>.

²⁰²⁰ 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>.

²⁰²¹ 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/fp/unp_a/page4e_001095.html.

²⁰²² 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/fp/unp_a/page4e_001095.html.

²⁰²³ 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/fp/unp_a/page4e_001095.html.

²⁰²⁴ 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.

platform for UN Member States to build global momentum towards achieving UHC by 2030.”²⁰²⁵ 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.”²⁰²⁶ 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.”²⁰²⁷ 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 2020.²⁰²⁸

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 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.”²⁰²⁹

On 9 February 2021, Minister Motegi addressed the “Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator 4th Facilitation Council hosted by the WHO.”²⁰³⁰ 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.”²⁰³¹

On 9 March 2021, the Government of Japan announced an emergency grant aid of USD41 million to support 25 Southeast Asian, Southwest Asian, and Pacific Island countries in their COVID-19 response.²⁰³² This assistance, provided in partnership with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), will provide “cold

²⁰²⁵ 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.

²⁰²⁶ 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.

²⁰²⁷ 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.

²⁰²⁸ 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.

²⁰²⁹ 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#.

²⁰³⁰ 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.

²⁰³¹ 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.

²⁰³² Emergency Grant Aid in Improving Cold Chain in Southeast and Southwest Asian and Pacific Island countries that suffer from the impact of Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 9 March 2021. Access Date: 21 April 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000274.html.

chain equipment including medical equipment such as cold-storage facilities and transportation... to ensure vaccination in each country.”²⁰³³

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.²⁰³⁴ FIND stated that the funds will be used to develop global diagnostic innovation and boost testing capacities in low- and middle-income countries.²⁰³⁵

On 29 March 2020, the Government of the United Kingdom committed GBP40 million to the COVID-19 Therapeutics Accelerator (CTA).²⁰³⁶ 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 distribution of COVID-19 treatments.²⁰³⁷ The funds aim to contribute to the CTA's development of anti-retrovirals and immunotherapies to aid patients in combating COVID-19.²⁰³⁸

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.²⁰³⁹ 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.²⁰⁴⁰

²⁰³³ Emergency Grant Aid in Improving Cold Chain in Southeast and Southwest Asian and Pacific Island countries that suffer from the impact of Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 9 March 2021. Access Date: 21 April 2021. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000274.html.

²⁰³⁴ 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>.

²⁰³⁵ 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/>.

²⁰³⁶ 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>.

²⁰³⁷ Advancing research into accessible coronavirus treatments, Therapeutics Accelerator (London). Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://www.therapeuticsaccelerator.org/>.

²⁰³⁸ 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>.

²⁰³⁹ 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>.

²⁰⁴⁰ 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>.

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.²⁰⁴¹ 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.²⁰⁴²

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 2021.²⁰⁴³ 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.²⁰⁴⁴

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.²⁰⁴⁵

On 4 June 2020, the UK hosted the Global Vaccine Summit, raising USD8.8 billion to help immunise 300 million children in lower-income countries against diseases like measles, polio and diphtheria by the end of 2025.²⁰⁴⁶ The funds will be additionally used to support and maintain infrastructure within health systems necessary to ensure distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine.²⁰⁴⁷

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

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 2021.²⁰⁴⁸ The withdrawal process would

²⁰⁴¹ 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>.

²⁰⁴² 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>.

²⁰⁴³ 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>.

²⁰⁴⁴ 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>.

²⁰⁴⁵ 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>.

²⁰⁴⁶ The Global Vaccine Summit, hosted by the UK, raises US \$8.8 billion for immunisation, Government of the UK (London) 5 June 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-global-vaccine-summit-hosted-by-the-uk-raises-us-88-for-immunisation>.

²⁰⁴⁷ The Global Vaccine Summit, hosted by the UK, raises US \$8.8 billion for immunisation, Government of the UK (London) 5 June 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-global-vaccine-summit-hosted-by-the-uk-raises-us-88-for-immunisation>.

²⁰⁴⁸ 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>.

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.²⁰⁴⁹

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.²⁰⁵⁰ 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.²⁰⁵¹ 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.²⁰⁵²

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.²⁰⁵³ The funds will contribute to expanding Gavi's delivery of vaccines and assist in preventing child deaths.²⁰⁵⁴

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.²⁰⁵⁵

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).²⁰⁵⁶ The COVAX AMC aims to support the purchase and delivery of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines for 92 low- and middle-income economies. The United States contribution seeks to support the delivery of vaccines for vulnerable and at-risk populations, including frontline health care workers.²⁰⁵⁷

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.²⁰⁵⁸ The report indicates that as of February 2021, the United States had contributed

²⁰⁴⁹ 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>.

²⁰⁵⁰ 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>.

²⁰⁵¹ 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/>.

²⁰⁵² 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>.

²⁰⁵³ 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>.

²⁰⁵⁴ 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>.

²⁰⁵⁵ 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>.

²⁰⁵⁶ 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>.

²⁰⁵⁷ 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/>.

²⁰⁵⁸ 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>.

USD2.5 billion to the ACT-Accelerator, the second largest contribution behind Germany.²⁰⁵⁹ The commitment tracker also indicated that the U.S. will provide an additional USD1.5 billion through 2021 and 2022.²⁰⁶⁰

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”²⁰⁶¹ among other commitments to trade, science and technological cooperation.²⁰⁶²

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.²⁰⁶³

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.²⁰⁶⁴ 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.”²⁰⁶⁵

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.”²⁰⁶⁶ The Team Europe package is aimed to “help the most vulnerable countries” particularly in Africa, Asia, the Pacific, Latin America and the

²⁰⁵⁹ 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>.

²⁰⁶⁰ 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>.

²⁰⁶¹ 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/>.

²⁰⁶² 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/>.

²⁰⁶³ 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/>.

²⁰⁶⁴ 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/>.

²⁰⁶⁵ 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/>.

²⁰⁶⁶ 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/>.

Caribbean.²⁰⁶⁷ 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.”²⁰⁶⁸

On 4 May 2020, the European Commission registered EUR7.4 billion “in pledges from donors worldwide during the Coronavirus Global Response pledging event.”²⁰⁶⁹ 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.”²⁰⁷⁰ 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).²⁰⁷¹ The EU committed to donating EUR100 million to CEPI and EUR158 million to the World Health Organization.²⁰⁷²

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.”²⁰⁷³ The partners include Albania, Jordan, Kosovo and Ukraine, among others.²⁰⁷⁴

On 4 June 2020, the European Commission announced a pledge of EUR300 million to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, for the period of 2021-2025.²⁰⁷⁵ The funding is aimed to help “immunize 300 million children around the world and finance vaccine stockpiles to shield against outbreaks of infectious diseases.”²⁰⁷⁶

On 8 June 2020, EU development ministers discussed the progress “made in the implementation of the Team Europe Package.”²⁰⁷⁷ 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.²⁰⁷⁸

²⁰⁶⁷ 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/>.

²⁰⁶⁸ 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/>.

²⁰⁶⁹ 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.

²⁰⁷⁰ 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.

²⁰⁷¹ 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.

²⁰⁷² 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.

²⁰⁷³ 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/>.

²⁰⁷⁴ 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/>.

²⁰⁷⁵ 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.

²⁰⁷⁶ 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.

²⁰⁷⁷ 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/>.

²⁰⁷⁸ 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/>.

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.”²⁰⁷⁹ This regulation applied as long as COVID-19 was regarded as a pandemic by the WHO.²⁰⁸⁰

On 31 August 2020, the European Commission confirmed its interest to participate in the COVAX Facility.²⁰⁸¹ 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.”²⁰⁸²

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-19.²⁰⁸³ The Council also committed to “strengthening EU support to health systems and the reinforcement of partners’ preparedness and response capacity.”²⁰⁸⁴

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.²⁰⁸⁵ 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.”²⁰⁸⁶ The President of the European Council suggested the need for an “international treaty negotiated with all UN organizations and agencies, in particular the WHO.”²⁰⁸⁷

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 vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics.”²⁰⁸⁸ The leaders stressed the importance of “continued international support for the Access to COVID-19 tools (ACT) Accelerator and its COVAX Facility.”²⁰⁸⁹ The leaders agreed to “continue to work together to strengthen the World Health Organization and global preparedness and response to health emergencies.”²⁰⁹⁰

²⁰⁷⁹ Vaccine against COVID-19: Council adopts measures to facilitate swift development, European Council (Brussel) 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/>.

²⁰⁸⁰ Vaccine against COVID-19: Council adopts measures to facilitate swift development, European Council (Brussel) 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/>.

²⁰⁸¹ 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.

²⁰⁸² 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.

²⁰⁸³ European Council, 15-16 October 2020, European Council (Brussel) 15 October 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/european-council/2020/10/15-16/>.

²⁰⁸⁴ European Council, 15-16 October 2020, European Council (Brussel) 15 October 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/european-council/2020/10/15-16/>.

²⁰⁸⁵ G20 summit, 21-22 November 2020, European Council (Brussel) 21-22 November 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/11/21-22/>.

²⁰⁸⁶ G20 summit, 21-22 November 2020, European Council (Brussel) 21-22 November 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/11/21-22/>.

²⁰⁸⁷ G20 summit, 21-22 November 2020, European Council (Brussel) 21-22 November 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/11/21-22/>.

²⁰⁸⁸ EU-Australia leaders' meeting via video conference, 26 November 2020, European Council (Brussel) 26 November 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/11/26/>.

²⁰⁸⁹ EU-Australia leaders' meeting via video conference, 26 November 2020, European Council (Brussel) 26 November 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/11/26/>.

²⁰⁹⁰ EU-Australia leaders' meeting via video conference, 26 November 2020, European Council (Brussel) 26 November 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2021. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2020/11/26/>.

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).”²⁰⁹¹ 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.”²⁰⁹²

On 19 February 2021, the EU joined other G7 members in funding the ACT-Accelerator partnership.²⁰⁹³ 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.”²⁰⁹⁴ The European Commission committed USD363 million for the COVAX Advance Market Commitment.²⁰⁹⁵ 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.”²⁰⁹⁶

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).²⁰⁹⁷

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.

Analyst: Tanmaya Ramprasad

²⁰⁹¹ 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.

²⁰⁹² 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.

²⁰⁹³ G7 leaders commit US\$ 4.3 billion to finance global equitable access to tests, treatments and vaccines in 2021, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/news/item/19-02-2021-g7-leaders-commit-us-4.3-billion-to-finance-global-equitable-access-to-tests-treatments-and-vaccines-in-2021>.

²⁰⁹⁴ G7 leaders commit US\$ 4.3 billion to finance global equitable access to tests, treatments and vaccines in 2021, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/news/item/19-02-2021-g7-leaders-commit-us-4.3-billion-to-finance-global-equitable-access-to-tests-treatments-and-vaccines-in-2021>.

²⁰⁹⁵ G7 leaders commit US\$ 4.3 billion to finance global equitable access to tests, treatments and vaccines in 2021, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/news/item/19-02-2021-g7-leaders-commit-us-4.3-billion-to-finance-global-equitable-access-to-tests-treatments-and-vaccines-in-2021>.

²⁰⁹⁶ G7 leaders commit US\$ 4.3 billion to finance global equitable access to tests, treatments and vaccines in 2021, World Health Organization (Geneva) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 27 February 2021. <https://www.who.int/news/item/19-02-2021-g7-leaders-commit-us-4.3-billion-to-finance-global-equitable-access-to-tests-treatments-and-vaccines-in-2021>.

²⁰⁹⁷ G7: EU to support COVID-19 vaccination strategies and capacity in Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 19 February 2021. Access Date: 28 February 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_701.