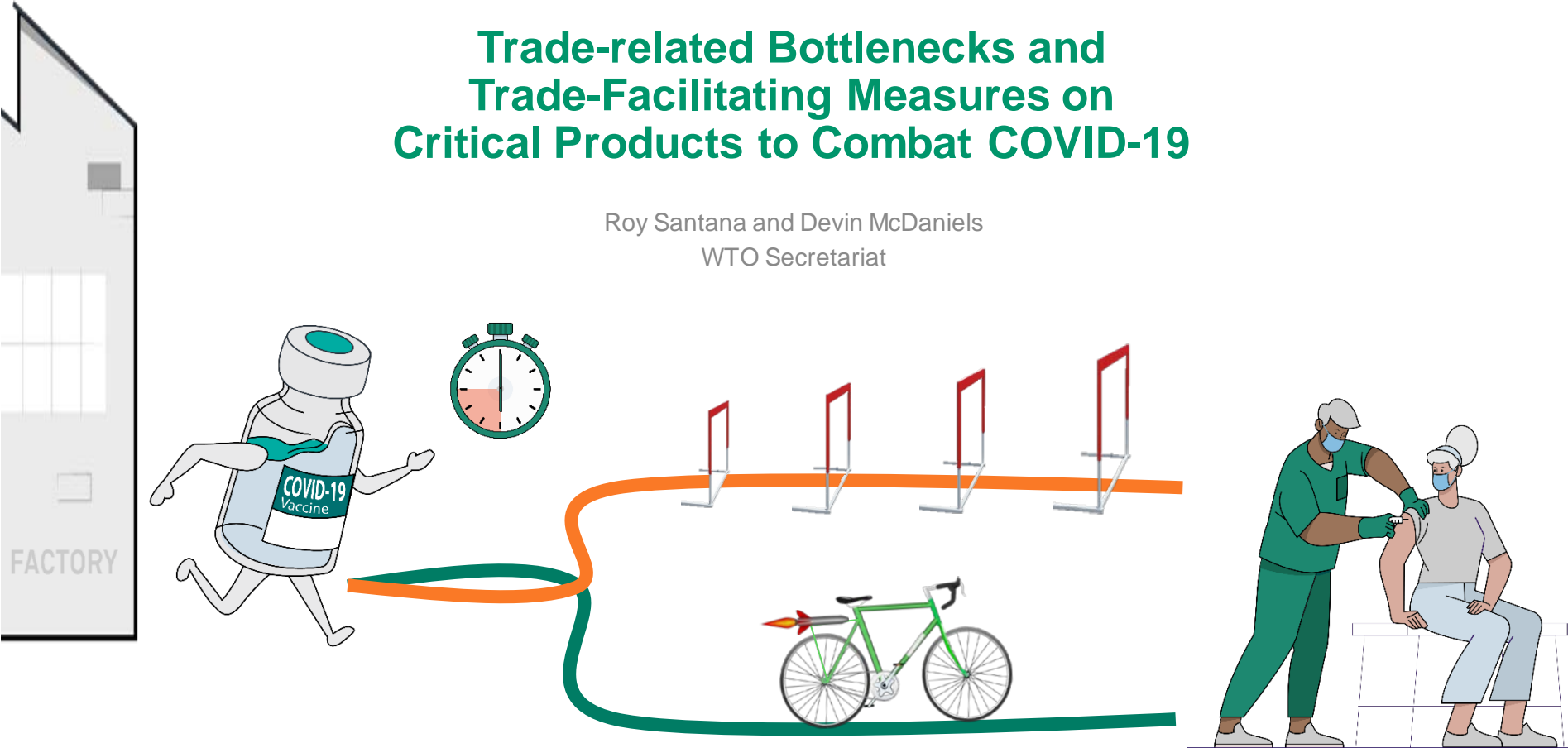


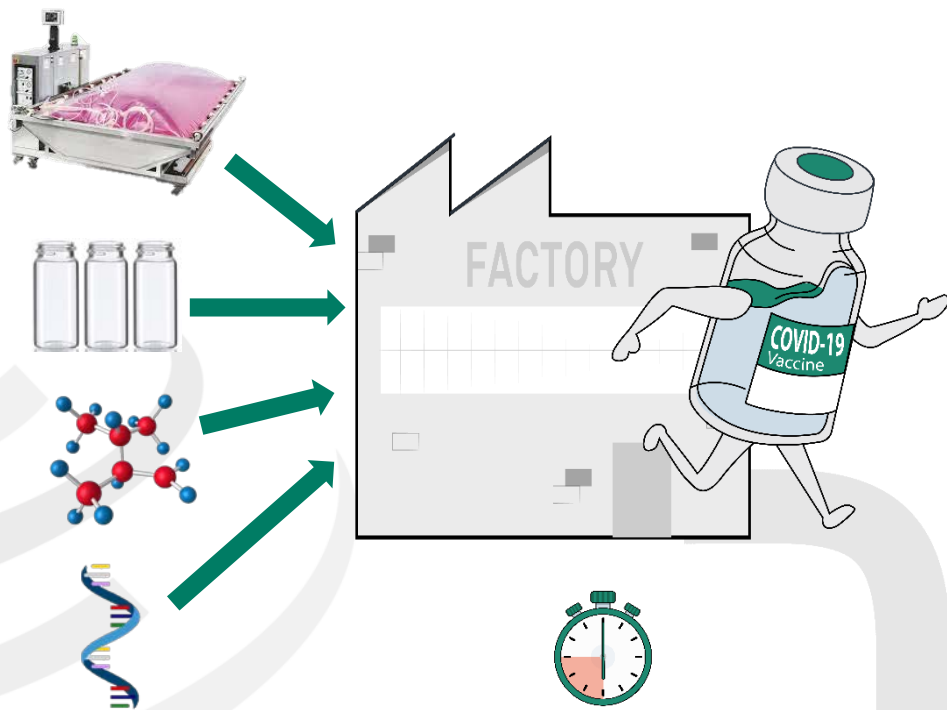
Geneva, Switzerland
12 October 2021

Trade-related Bottlenecks and Trade-Facilitating Measures on Critical Products to Combat COVID-19

Roy Santana and Devin McDaniels
WTO Secretariat



Background



See: [Joint indicative list of critical vaccine inputs](#)
(07.2021)

Shelf-life of COVID vaccines
is 6-9 months

Indicative list of trade-related bottlenecks and trade-facilitating measures on critical products to combat COVID-19

[First version](#) 20.07.2021 /  [Revision](#) 08.10.2021

- **Key message:** Goods and inputs need to flow efficiently and expeditiously to support the rapid scaling up of COVID-19 production capacity worldwide. Therefore, *trade policy matters!*
- **Source:** Information gathered during WTO organized events & [Multilateral Leaders Task Force](#) outreach with stakeholders.
- **Methodology:** Compiling and categorizing possible bottlenecks and trade facilitating measures
- **Disclaimer:** Information is presented in no particular order, and no judgement is made on the effect or significance of the reported bottlenecks.

Cross border movement

Exporting country



Export authorizations & licenses

SLOW TRACK

Can also affect:

- Exports to “fill & finish” manufacturing sites
- Non-commercial samples for quality testing
- Reagents and equipment used for clinical trials

FAST TRACK



Standard export and transit procedures can take time (“business as usual” can be slow)

Green Channel



Simplification / waiving of export procedures, e.g. requirements, licenses, certificates



Export prohibitions

Cross border movement

Importing country



- Full implementation of the TFA
 - Prearrival processing
 - Electronic payments, etc
- TFA plus measures
 - Digitalization & simplification
 - 24/7 working hours

Green Channel

SLOW TRACK



Reduced or short working hours in some government agencies



FAST TRACK



Tariffs and other taxes can be high

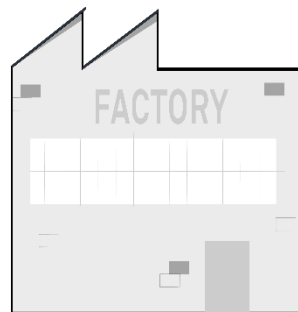
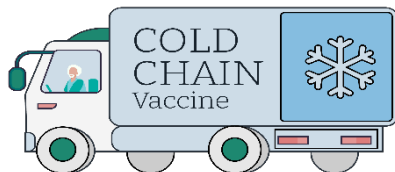


Reduce / eliminate / waive
Tariffs and other taxes
(See also [G/MA/W/168/Rev.1](#))



Constant public-private
dialogue to identify and
solve problems

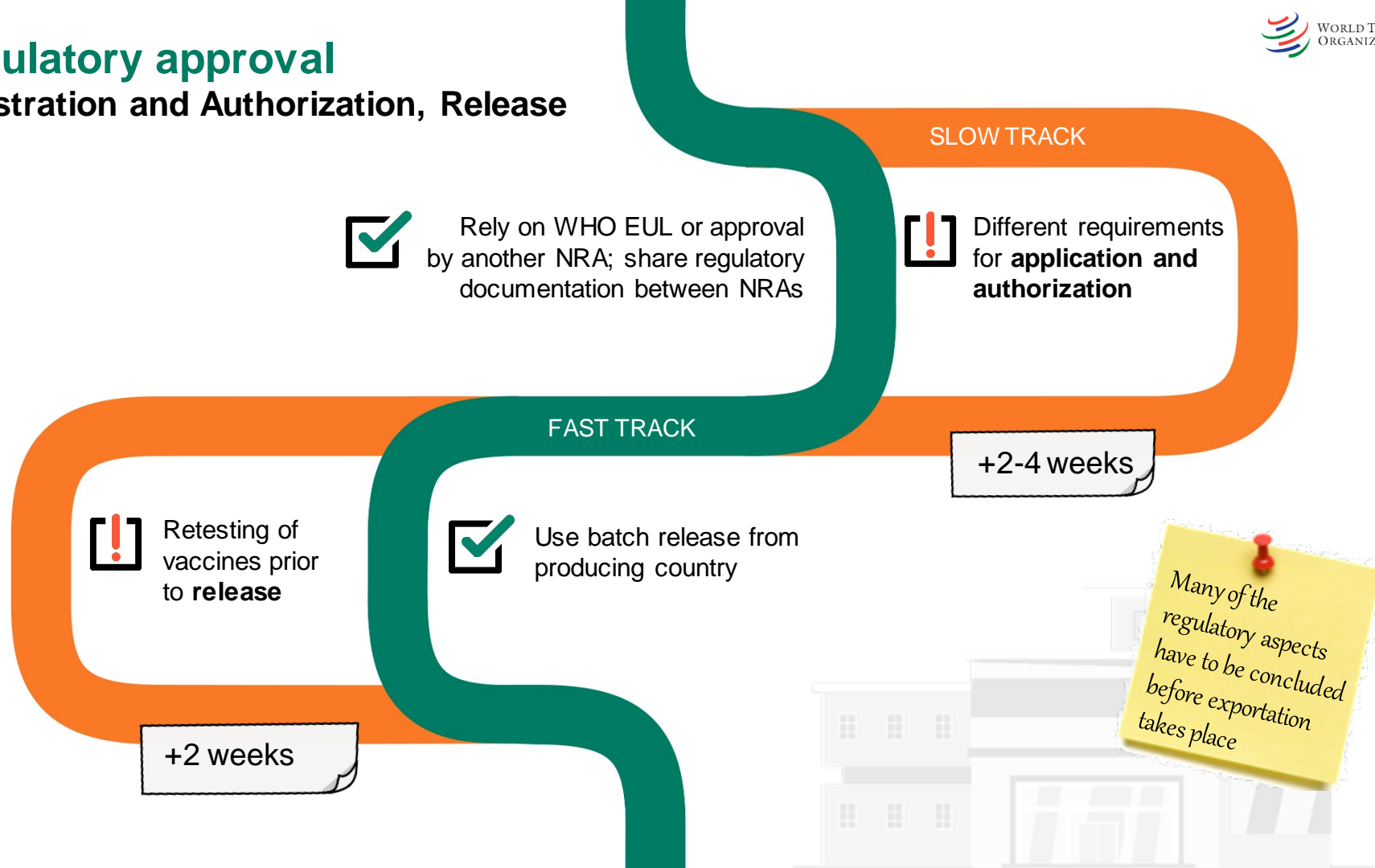
Finished vaccines don't
face many problems...



... but vaccine inputs and ancillaries
for vaccination probably do.

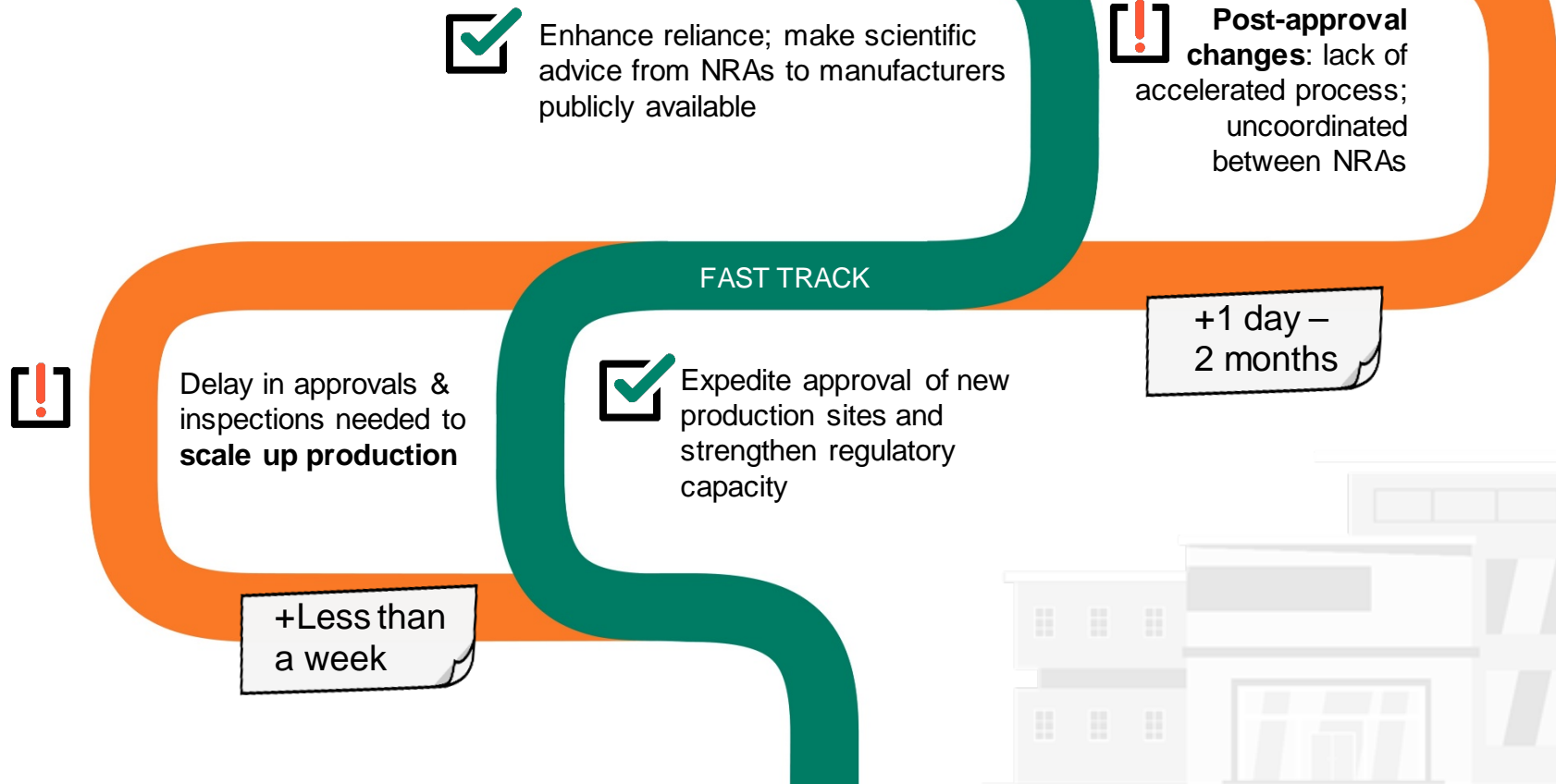
Regulatory approval

Registration and Authorization, Release



Regulatory approval

Post-approval changes and scaling-up production

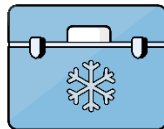


Regulatory approval

Donations



Is the country
ready to vaccinate?



Shelf-life of COVID vaccines
is 6-9 months

SLOW TRACK



Full (re-) approval
of **donated vaccines**

FAST TRACK



Waive requirements for approval of
donations – on each supply chain
and facility

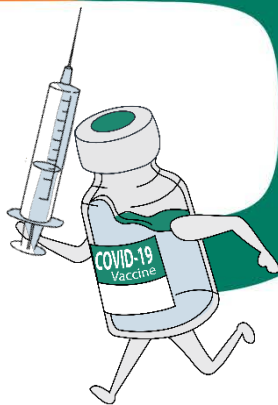
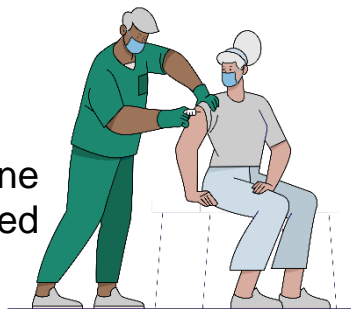
+ 2 days –
2 weeks

DID NOT FINISH

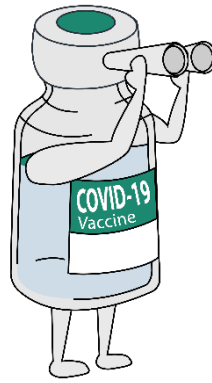


Shelf-life expiry
of vaccines doses

Vaccine
administered



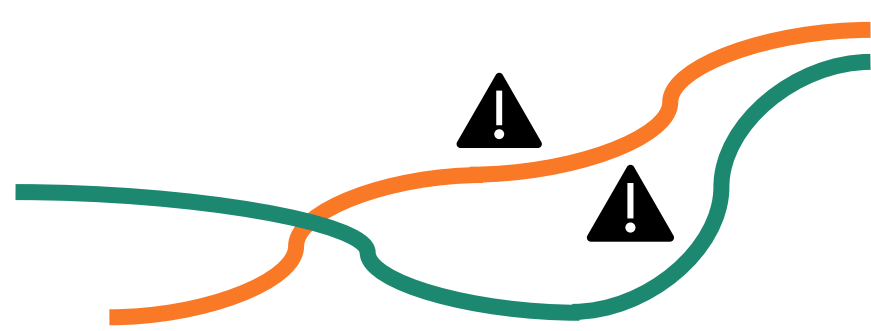
Emerging issues



Divergent approaches to approval of boosters

Mix and match approaches –
liability, data

Shortages of ancillary materials –
vials, vaccine vial monitors etc.



Variant vaccines – lack of guidance
from NRAs

Preparation for growing volumes of COVID-19 vaccine delivered to developing Members, delivery timelines, e.g. cold storage capacity

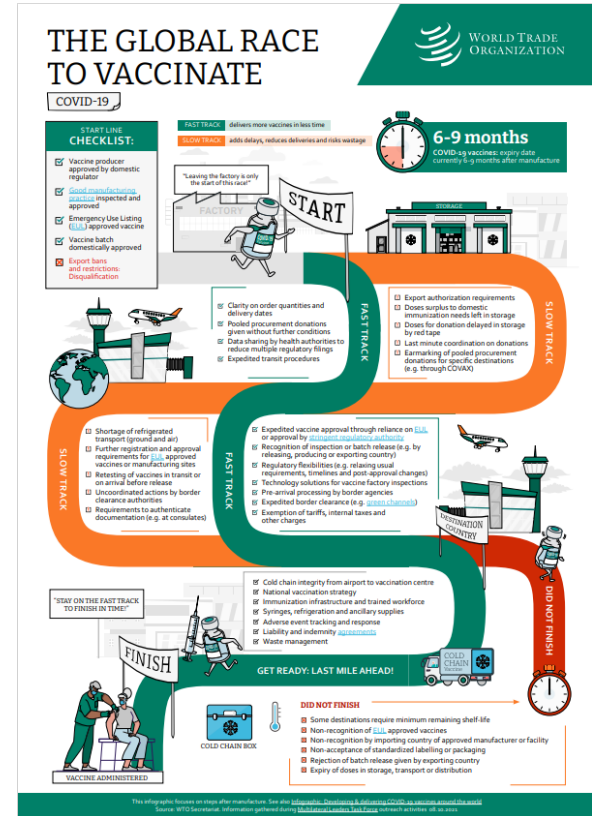
Thank you!

Resources:

WTO Reports on COVID-19: [Link](#)

Indicative list of trade-related bottlenecks and trade-facilitating measures on critical products to combat COVID-19 (10.2021): [Link](#)

Summary of notified export restrictions and trade facilitating measures relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic (10.2021): [Link](#)



Infographic – The global race to vaccinate: [Link](#)