



WTO Virtual Information Session

12th October 2021

ACT now, ACT together to accelerate the end of the COVID-19 crisis



ACT-A Council VMWG Objectives

Overarching: Support COVAX Taskforce by addressing political bottlenecks and barriers

- Address supply chains for raw materials and vaccines
- Identify and address all barriers, including legal and political, to utilize existing and new production capacities in LMIC
- Facilitate identification of under-utilized/idle capacity for viral vector, mRNA and other Vx technologies
- Facilitate solutions for tech transfer of approved products
- Unlock political barriers for increased manufacturing at the regional level
- Increase information availability on Vx production and deliveries
- Increase transparency on the affordability of vaccines, encourage Vx supplied to COVAX AMC are priced at the cost of goods and production
- Increase political dialogue and build global political consensus

ACT-A Council VMWG Members





Co-chair: Zane Dangor

Special Advisor to the Minister of International Relations and Development



Brazil

João Lucas de Almeida

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National COVID19 Supply Coordinator, White House



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ACT-A Council VMWG in G20 and G7 communique

G20 Rome Declaration



- We affirm our support for efforts to strengthen supply chains and boost and diversify global vaccine manufacturing capacity
- We ask the Working Group and Task Force to report on their progress to the G20 in time for the Leaders' Summit in October. This report will be informed by the WTO and other international stakeholders and organisations, consistent with their mandates and decision-making rules, on how to improve equitable access in the current crisis.

G7 communique

... we will support the ACT-A Facilitation Council Working Group together with the World Health Organisation (WHO), the World Trade Organisation (WTO), Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), Gavi, UNICEF and other partners such as the Medicines Patent Pool and the private sector, to coordinate a global vaccine supply network to optimise manufacturing capacities ...



Workplan Overview | WG workstreams & core-areas of work*

1

Improve supply

- Request suppliers & manufacturers engage in marketplace
- Support WTO/WCO expedition of customs*
- Facilitate agreements –
 easing of import/ export
 restrictions*
- Unblock general supply issues e.g. hoarding, backstopping measures

Immediate/short-term

2

Increase manufacturing capacity

- Advocate to postpone shift to single dose vials in acute phase
- Create manuf. awareness & outreach to CEPI for F&F / underutilized capacity
- Lift travel restrictions for critical vaccine production workers

Mid-term

3

Sustainable capacity in LMICs

- Encourage producers to participate in tech transfer hub network
- Support integration of parallel initiatives in expanding production*
- Support in-country needs & programs



Longer term



Issues related to WTO in VMWG Workplan | Mainly in WS1

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Activity

- 1.2: Articulate the demand and supply of critical/essential inputs for vaccine manufacturing at the regional level
- 2.1: Advocate to increase LMIC manufacturing related supply issues in WTO forums
- 2.1: Support dev. of standard customs protocols for supplies (WCO/WTO)
- 3.1: Promote dev. of bilat/ multilat agreements ease import/ export restrictions
- 3.2: Facilitate identification of supply barriers &prevent export huddles
- 3.3: Advocate w/ WTO to expedite longer term system tracking supplies

Still to be discussed



G20 Report | Outline



- Executive summary and Recommendations
- Background
- ACT A Council VMWG mandate, way of working and processes
- Key Deliverables COVAX MFTF and VMWG
 - Improve input supply availability short-term action
 - Maximize medium-term manufacturing capacity
 - New and expanded sustainable capacity in LMICs – long-term action
- Recommendations to G20
- Annex

