## **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Health systems, medical products and innovation Digital Health and European Reference Networks

Brussels,

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Subject: Reply to your communication 21 January 2021 regarding vaccination certificates

Dear

On behalf of VP Vestager, I would like to thank you for your communication 21 January 2021 related to vaccination certificates. The topic is relevant in view of the current public health crisis of an unprecedented scale in the form of the global pandemic of COVID-19. We therefore greatly appreciate your willingness to help combat this crisis and for the information provided.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission has been supporting Member States through different platforms on the exchange of best practices and the use of common standards, including through the eHealth Network and the Health Security Committee.

The vaccination progress in Member States is a positive mark, but there are indeed still many challenges ahead. This includes certificates that can be used to prove vaccination. In its meeting on 21 January 2021, the European Council highlighted the importance of work on a standardised and interoperable form of proof of vaccination for medical purposes.

The Commission is closely collaborating with Member States, the World Health Organisation, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), and the European Medicines Agency in this regard. As this is highly topical at the moment, we are receiving many requests from companies, non-governmental organisations and associations proposing collaboration or meetings. While we are sincerely grateful for your interest in this topic and drawing our attention to your proposed solutions, we hope you can understand that we cannot accommodate all such requests. At the same time, we would invite you to provide us with additional written information, would you deem this relevant.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to refer you to the <u>official website</u> on Public Health of the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety, where you can find more information on the activities of the European Commission in the area of health.

Yours sincerely,

(e-signed)