



From: SANTE CONSULT-C4
Sent: vendredi 6 novembre 2020 18:53
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: SANTE CONSULT-C4
Subject: Your letter to the Commission's Directorate General for Health and Food Safety

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your letter of 13 July 2020 to the Director General of the Commission's Directorate General for Health and Food Safety, who asked me to reply to you directly.

In your note to refer to the work of World Health Organization (WHO) to establish a framework towards ensuring global equitable access and allocation of COVID-19 health products, starting with vaccines, as stated in the draft World Health Organization's (WHO) proposal, 'Towards Equitable Access and Fair Allocation of Covid-19 Health Products'

The European Commission is deeply concerned about the pandemic caused by COVID-19 and its devastating impact of people's health and well-being, freedom of movement and economic prosperity, here in Europe and globally. The Commission has, therefore, taken a leading role in the Global Coronavirus Response where so far nearly EUR 16 billion have been pledged for universal access to tests, treatments and vaccines against coronavirus and for the global recovery.

The Commission also fully supports the ground-breaking and innovative cooperation under the Access to COVID Tools Accelerator (ACT-A), to accelerate development, production, and equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments, and vaccines. The EU Health Commissioner, Ms Stella Kyriakides, is our representation in the recently established Facilitation Council, that will advise and further promote the activities of the ACT-A. We fully support the principles of equity, affordability, transparency and transparent, inclusive and accountable governance you underlined in your letter.

In this regard, it is very important to ensure and preserve the necessary incentives to develop innovative solutions and technologies that will be critical to overcome the ongoing pandemic. Intellectual property plays a key role in this respect. To promote global access as well as a fair return on investments, the Commission fully supports voluntary pooling and licensing of intellectual property related to COVID-19 diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines. Furthermore, the Commission has published a Manifesto for EU COVID-19 research to encourage recipients of EU funding to make research results accessible to all. Recent Horizon 2020 COVID-19 calls have also included a temporary obligation to license results on a non-exclusive basis and at fair and reasonable conditions.

I would also like to inform you that the European Commission has decided to participate in the COVAX Facility for equitable access to affordable COVID-19 vaccines everywhere, for everyone who needs them. As part of a Team Europe effort, we contribute €400 million in guarantees to support COVAX and its objectives in the context of the Coronavirus Global Response.

The availability of an effective and universally available vaccine against COVID-19 will surely mark the turning point in overcoming this global crisis.

We need to keep the momentum and bring an end to COVID-19. Only by joint and global efforts we will succeed and I thank you again for your engagement and outreach.

Yours sincerely,



European Commission

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