

Media Update

11 August 2021

United Nations

SECRETARY-GENERAL MESSAGE

Secretary-General's Video Message International Youth Day, 12 August 2021

Young people are on the frontlines of the struggle to build a better future for all.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the dire need for the kind of transformational change they seek – and young people must be full partners in that effort.

This year's International Youth Day highlights solutions developed by young innovators to address challenges to our food systems. They are tackling inequities in food security, biodiversity loss, threats to our environment and much more.

We see that same drive, creativity, and commitment in many other areas – from gender equality to education and skills development.

But young people cannot do it on their own. They need allies to make sure they are engaged, included and understood.

Guided by the United Nations system-wide Youth Strategy, Youth2030, the UN is strengthening its work for and with young people worldwide.

I urge everyone to guarantee young people a seat at the table as we build a world based on inclusive, fair, and sustainable development for all.

Thank you.

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UNICEF-WHO PRESS RELEASE

COVAX delivers first tranche of 6 million doses of Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccines to Pakistan

This latest shipment will bring the total of number of doses of COVID-19 vaccines delivered to Pakistan by the COVAX Facility to 14 million.

ISLAMABAD, 11 August 2021 – Today the first tranche of 6.1 million doses of Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine (BBIBP-CorV) procured through COVAX, the global COVID-19 vaccine equity scheme, reached Pakistan.

Early this morning 976,782 doses of the vaccine landed in Islamabad; the remaining 5.1 million doses will arrive within the next four days. All will support the Government's national vaccination drive, which recently hit the milestone of one million doses of vaccine administered in a day.

Nearly 8 million people have received two doses of COVID-19 vaccine, and 30 million have received one dose since the start of the vaccination campaign, which began one year after the first case of COVID-19 was reported in Pakistan. The Government has used doses of COVID-19 vaccines procured through COVAX and through bilateral purchases.

This is the first Sinopharm vaccine consignment to arrive in Pakistan through COVAX, bringing the total number of doses delivered by the Global Facility to the Government to more than 14 million over the past three months. This includes the 6.1 million doses Sinopharm, 5.5 million doses of Moderna donated by the United States under COVAX' dose-sharing mechanism, 100,160 doses of Pfizer and 2.4 million doses of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine.

“WHO applauds the Government of Pakistan for its massive countrywide efforts to get people vaccinated. With this increased large supply, through COVAX Facility, we can boost the national COVID-19 response and keep everyone safe from the recent emergence of more transmissible variants. These vaccines supplied through the COVAX Facility will help in realizing our shared vision of vaccine equity. Accelerating vaccine equity is not only critical to saving lives but also to driving a faster and fairer recovery from the pandemic with benefits for all, **said Dr Palitha Mahipala, WHO Representative in Pakistan.** WHO has been and will continue working hard alongside the Government of Pakistan to attain the capacity and infrastructure needed to safely delivery the vaccines across the country.”

So far one million cases of COVID-19 have been reported in Pakistan and at least 24,004 people have succumbed to the disease.

“UNICEF appreciates the concerted efforts by COVAX partners to accelerate the delivery of COVID-19 vaccines to Pakistan. These latest shipments of 6.1 million doses of vaccines will contribute to the NCOC's plan to vaccinate at least 70 million people by the end of this year, having now reached the milestone of vaccinating more than one million people per day, **said Aida Girma, UNICEF Representative in Pakistan.** “UNICEF will continue to support the Government in ensuring an efficient roll-out of the campaign so that no one is left behind. This includes closing the gender gap as currently barely more than one-third of people vaccinated are women. COVID-19 vaccines are safe for pregnant and breastfeeding women, and they do not disrupt fertility. Women are as much exposed to the virus as men, they need to be vaccinated to prevent COVID-19 and stay healthy.”

Strictly complying with COVID-19 public health and social measures remains as critical as ever to stop the spread of virus. These include regularly washing hands with soap for at least 20 seconds or use a sanitizer; wear a mask; remain at least six feet away from other people; avoid crowded places; and stay home when having COVID-19 symptoms.

“The COVAX Facility and Gavi are proud to support this delivery of COVID vaccines and commend the Government of Pakistan for their continuing efforts to ensure that vulnerable populations in Pakistan are protected from COVID-19,” **said Alexa Reynolds, Gavi Senior Country Manager for Pakistan.**

The goal of COVAX is to help address the acute phase of the global pandemic by the end of 2021 by providing rapid, fair and equitable access to safe and effective vaccines for all participating countries and territories regardless of income level.

The COVAX Facility, co-led by Gavi, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) and WHO, together with UNICEF, aims to provide access to quality-assured COVID-19 vaccines, enabling the protection of frontline health care and social workers, as well as other high-risk and vulnerable groups.

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Notes to editors

So far donors to the COVAX Advance Market Commitment include Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, European Union, Australia, Bhutan, Canada, Colombia, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Monaco, New Zealand, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, Anonymous Foundation, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, KS Relief/Gamers Without Borders, Mastercard, Medline International, Nikkei Inc., Reed Hastings and Patty Quillin, Shell, Thistledown Foundation, TikTok, Transferwise, Soccer Aid.

The list of donor pledges to COVAX AMC is available [here](#).

About COVAX

COVAX, the vaccines pillar of the [Access to COVID-19 Tools \(ACT\) Accelerator](#), is co-led by CEPI, Gavi and WHO – working in partnership with developed and developing country vaccine manufacturers, UNICEF, the World Bank, and others. It is 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.

CEPI is leading on the [COVAX vaccine research and development portfolio](#), investing in R&D across a variety of promising candidates, with the goal to support development of three safe

and effective vaccines which can be made available to countries participating in the COVAX Facility. As part of this work, CEPI has secured first right of refusal to potentially over one billion doses for the COVAX Facility to a number of candidates, and made strategic investments in vaccine manufacturing, which includes reserving capacity to manufacture doses of COVAX vaccines at a network of facilities, and securing glass vials to hold 2 billion doses of vaccine. CEPI is also investing in the 'next generation' of vaccine candidates, which will give the world additional options to control COVID-19 in the future.

Gavi leads on procurement and delivery at scale for COVAX: designing and managing the [COVAX Facility](#) and the [Gavi COVAX AMC](#) and working with its traditional Alliance partners UNICEF and WHO, along with governments, on country readiness and delivery. As part of this role, Gavi hosts the Office of the COVAX Facility to coordinate the operation and governance of the mechanism as a whole, holds financial and legal relationships with 193 Facility participants, and manages the [COVAX Facility deals portfolio](#): negotiating advance purchase agreements with manufacturers of promising vaccine candidates to secure doses on behalf of all COVAX Facility participants. Gavi also coordinates design, operationalisation and fundraising for the Gavi COVAX AMC, the mechanism that provides access to donor-funded doses of vaccine to 92 lower-income economies. As part of this work, Gavi provides funding and oversight for UNICEF procurement and delivery of vaccines to all AMC participants – operationalising the advance purchase agreements between Gavi and manufacturers – as well as support for partners' and governments work on readiness and delivery. This includes tailored support to governments, UNICEF, WHO and other partners for cold chain equipment, technical assistance, syringes, vehicles, and other aspects of the vastly complex logistical operation for delivery. Gavi also co-designed, raises funds for and supports the operationalisation of the AMC's [no-fault compensation mechanism](#) as well as the [COVAX Humanitarian Buffer](#).

WHO has multiple roles within [COVAX](#): It provides normative guidance on vaccine policy, regulation, safety, R&D, allocation, and country readiness and delivery. Its Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on Immunization develops evidence-based immunization policy recommendations. Its Emergency Use Listing (EUL)/prequalification programmes ensure harmonized review and authorization across member states. It provides global coordination and member state support on vaccine safety monitoring. It developed the target product profiles for COVID-19 vaccines and provides R&D technical coordination. WHO leads, along with UNICEF, the support to countries as they prepare to receive and administer vaccines. The [Country Readiness and Delivery](#) (CRD) workstream includes Gavi and numerous other partners working at the global, regional, and country-level to provide tools, guidance, monitoring, and on the ground technical assistance for the planning and roll-out of the [vaccines](#). Along with COVAX partners, WHO is also developing a no-fault compensation scheme as part of the time-limited indemnification and liability commitments.

UNICEF is leveraging its experience as the largest single vaccine buyer in the world and working with manufacturers and partners on the procurement of COVID-19 vaccine doses, as well as freight, logistics and storage. UNICEF already procures more than 2 billion doses of vaccines annually for routine immunization and outbreak response on behalf of nearly 100 countries. In collaboration with the [PAHO Revolving Fund](#), UNICEF is [leading efforts](#) to procure and supply doses of COVID-19 vaccines for COVAX. In addition, UNICEF, Gavi and WHO are working with governments around the clock to ensure that countries are ready to receive the vaccines, with appropriate cold chain equipment in place and health workers trained to dispense them. UNICEF is also playing a lead role in efforts to foster trust in vaccines, delivering vaccine confidence communications and tracking and addressing misinformation around the world.

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About Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance is a public-private partnership that helps vaccinate half the world's children against some of the world's deadliest diseases. Since its inception in 2000, Gavi has helped to immunise a whole generation – over 822 million children – and prevented more than 14 million deaths, helping to halve child mortality in 73 lower-income countries. Gavi also plays a key role in improving global health security by supporting health systems as well as funding global stockpiles for Ebola, cholera, meningitis and yellow fever vaccines. After two decades of progress, Gavi is now focused on protecting the next generation and reaching the unvaccinated children still being left behind, employing innovative finance and the latest technology – from drones to biometrics – to save millions more lives, prevent outbreaks before they can spread and help countries on the road to self-sufficiency. Learn more at www.gavi.org and connect with us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

The Vaccine Alliance brings together developing country and donor governments, the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the World Bank, the vaccine industry, technical agencies, civil society, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and other private sector partners. View the full list of donor governments and other leading organizations that fund Gavi's work [here](#).

About UNICEF

UNICEF works in some of the world's toughest places, to reach the world's most disadvantaged children. Across 190 countries and territories, we work for every child, everywhere, to build a better world for everyone. For more information about UNICEF and its work for children, visit www.unicef.org and www.unicef.org/pakistan. For more information about COVID-19, visit www.unicef.org/coronavirus. Find out more about UNICEF's work on the COVID-19 vaccines [here](#), or about UNICEF's work on immunization [here](#). Follow UNICEF Pakistan on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

About WHO

The World Health Organization provides global leadership in public health within the United Nations system. Founded in 1948, WHO works with 194 Member States, across six regions and from more than 150 offices, to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable. Our goal for 2019-2023 is to ensure that a billion more people have universal health coverage, to protect a billion more people from health emergencies, and provide a further billion people with better health and wellbeing.

For updates on COVID-19 and public health advice to protect yourself from coronavirus, visit www.who.int and follow WHO on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [TikTok](#), [Pinterest](#), [Snapchat](#), [YouTube](#). [Follow WHO Pakistan on Twitter and Facebook](#).

پریس ریلیز

کویکس نے پاکستان کو سینوفارم کووڈ-19 ویکسین کی 60 لاکھ خوراکوں کی پہلی قسط فراہم کر دی

اس تازہ ترین کھیپ سے کووڈ-19 ویکسین کی خوراک کی تعداد 14 ملین تک پہنچ جائے گی۔

اسلام آباد، 11 اگست 2021- آج سینوفارم کووڈ-19 ویکسین (بی بی آئی بی پی - کور-وی) کی عالمی کووڈ-19 ویکسین اکیویٹی اسکیم کوکس کے ذریعے خریدی گئی 6.1 ملین خوراکوں کی پہلی قسط پاکستان پہنچادی گئی۔

آج صبح سویرے اسلام آباد میں ویکسین کی 976,782 خوراکیں پاکستان پہنچادی گئیں؛ باقی 5.1 ملین خوراکیں اگلے چار دنوں کے اندر پہنچادی جائیں گی۔ ویکسین کی تازہ ترین کھیپ اس وقت حکومت کی طرف سے جاری ویکسین لگانے کی قومی مہم کا سلسلہ جاری رکھنے میں مدد دے گی۔ پاکستان میں جاری اس مہم نے حال ہی میں ایک دن میں ویکسین کی دس لاکھ لگانے کا اہم سنگ میل عبور کیا ہے۔

پاکستان میں کووڈ-19 کے پہلے کویکس کی اطلاع ملنے کے ایک سال کے اندر شروع ہونے والی اس ویکسین مہم کے آغاز سے اب تک تقریباً 80 لاکھ افراد کو کووڈ-19 ویکسین کی دو خوراکیں اور 30 ملین افراد کو ایک جزوی خوراک دی جا چکی ہے۔ حکومت پاکستان نے اس دوران کوکس کے ذریعے اور دوطرفہ خریداری کے عمل سے حاصل ہونے والی کووڈ-19 ویکسین کی خوراک کا استعمال کیا ہے۔

پاکستان پہنچنے والی سینوفارم ویکسین کی یہ پہلی کھیپ ہے جو کوکس کے ذریعے پہنچی ہے اور اس سے گذشتہ تین ماہ کے دوران عالمی سہولت کی جانب سے حکومت کو فراہم کی جانے والی خوراکوں کی مجموعی تعداد ایک کروڑ 40 لاکھ سے تجاوز کر گئی ہے۔ اس میں سینوفارم کی 6.1 ملین، کوکس کے ویکسین کی تقسیم کے طریقہ کار کے تحت امریکہ کی جانب سے عطیہ کی گئی ماڈرنا کی 5.5 ملین، فائزر کی 100,160 اور کووڈ-19 ویکسین اسٹرازییکا کی 2.4 ملین خوراکیں بھی شامل ہیں۔

عالمی ادارہ صحت حکومت پاکستان کی جانب سے لوگوں کو اس وبا سے بچانے کے لئے ویکسین کے ٹیکے لگوانے کی وسیع پیمانے پر ملک گیر کوششوں کی بھرپور حمایت اور تہہ دل سے تعریف کرتا ہے۔ کوکس کی سہولت کے ذریعے ویکسین کی اس مزید فراہمی کی مدد سے ہم قومی کووڈ-19 کے خلاف قومی مزاحمت اور رد، عمل کو فروغ دینے میں کامیاب ہونگے اور ہر فرد کو حالیہ دنوں میں ظاہر ہونے والی وائرس کی مزید اقسام سے بھی محفوظ رکھ پائیں گے۔ کوکس سہولت کے توسط سے فراہم کردہ یہ خوراکیں ہمارے ویکسین کی مساوی اور منصفانہ تقسیم کے مشترکہ نصب العین کے حصول میں مددگار ثابت ہوں گی۔ پاکستان میں ڈیپو ایٹج او کی نمائندہ ڈاکٹر پلیٹیٹھا مہیپالانے مزید کہا کہ ویکسین کی مساوی اور منصفانہ تقسیم کے عمل کو تیز کرنا نہ صرف زندگیاں بچانے کے

لئے اہم اقدام ہے بلکہ اس سے سب کو یکساں فوائد بھی حاصل ہوتے ہیں۔ اس کے علاوہ اس اقدام کی مدد سے وبا کے بعد تیز رفتاری اور منصفانہ بحالی کا مقصد بھی حاصل ہو سکتا ہے۔ عالمی ادارہ صحت ملک بھر میں ویکسین کی تیز اور محفوظ تر فراہمی کے لئے درکار صلاحیت اور بنیادی ڈھانچے کے حصول کے لئے حکومت پاکستان کی مدد کرتا رہا ہے اور آئندہ بھی کرتا رہے گا۔"

پاکستان میں کووڈ-19 کے اب تک کے دس لاکھ کیسز رپورٹ ہوئے ہیں اور کم از کم 24 ہزار 4 افراد اس بیماری کا شکار ہو چکے ہیں۔ پاکستان میں یونیسف کی نمائندہ ایڈاگیرمانے کہا کہ یونیسف کویکس کے شراکت داروں کی جانب سے پاکستان کو کووڈ-19 ویکسین کی فراہمی کا عمل تیز کرنے کی مشترکہ کاوشوں کو سراہتا ہے۔ ویکسین کی 61 لاکھ خوراکیوں کی یہ تازہ ترین کھیپ رواں سال کے آخر تک کم از کم 70 ملین افراد کو ویکسین دینے کے این سی او سی کے اس منصوبے کے مقاصد کے حصول میں معاون ثابت ہوگی جو اب روزانہ دس لاکھ سے زائد افراد کو ٹیکے لگانے کا سنگ میل عبور کر چکا ہے۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ یونیسف اس مہم کے موثر آغاز کو یقینی بنانے میں حکومت کی حمایت جاری رکھے گا تاکہ کوئی ایک بھی شخص ویکسین سے محروم نہ رہ جائے۔ انہوں نے زور دیا کہ ہر شخص کو ویکسین کی فراہمی کے اس عمل میں صنفی تفریق کو ختم کرنا بھی شامل ہے کیونکہ ویکسین حاصل کرنے والوں میں خواتین کی تعداد بمشکل ایک تہائی ہے۔ اس موقع پر بات کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے واضح کیا کہ کووڈ-19 ویکسین کی ہر قسم حاملہ اور دودھ پلانے والی خواتین کے لیے محفوظ ہے اور ویکسین سے زچگی کی صلاحیت بھی ہرگز متاثر نہیں ہوتی۔ خواتین مردوں کی طرح اس وائرس کا شکار ہوتی ہیں، انہیں کووڈ-19 سے بچاؤ اور صحت مند رہنے کے لئے ویکسین فراہم کرنا ضروری ہے۔"

وائرس کے پھیلاؤ کی روک تھام اور کووڈ-19 سے تحفظ کے لئے صحت عامہ کے اصولوں اور سماجی اقدامات پر سختی سے عمل درآمد ہمیشہ کی طرح آج بھی ضروری ہے۔ ان اقدامات میں کم از کم 20 سیکنڈ تک باقاعدگی سے صابن سے ہاتھ دھونا یا سینٹائز یعنی ہاتھوں کو جراثیم سے پاک کرنے کا محلول استعمال کرنا؛ ماسک پہننا؛ دوسرے لوگوں سے کم از کم چھ فٹ کا فاصلہ رکھنا، پرہیز مقامات سے دور رہنا اور کووڈ-19 کی علامات ظاہر ہونے پر گھر میں رہنا شامل ہیں۔

پاکستان کے لئے گاوی کے سینٹر کنٹری منیجر الیکسارینا لڈز نے کہا کہ کویکس سہولت اور گاوی کا پاکستان کو کووڈ ویکسین کی فراہمی کا عمل ہمارے خوشی اور افتخار کا باعث ہے اور وہ حکومت پاکستان کی جانب سے اس بات کو یقینی بنانے کی کوششوں پر بے حد تعریف کرتے ہیں کہ حکومت زیادہ خطرات کا شکار آبادیوں کو کووڈ-19 سے محفوظ بنانے کے لئے اپنا کام کامیابی سے جاری رکھے ہوئے ہے۔ کویکس کی سہولت کا مقصد آمدنی کی سطح سے قطع نظر تمام شریک ممالک کو منظور شدہ ویکسین تک تیز رفتاری، مساوی اور منصفانہ رسائی فراہم کر کے 2021 کے آخر تک عالمی وبا کے شدید مرحلے سے نمٹنے میں مدد کرنا ہے۔

کویکس (کووڈ-19 ویکسین گلوبل ایکس) گاوی، اتحاد برائے وبائی صورت حال کے لئے تیاری اور جدت کی ذمہ دار (سی ای پی آئی) کی مشترکہ قیادت میں ڈیپلوماٹیج اور یونیسف کے ساتھ مل کر کام کر رہا ہے اور اس کا مقصد اعلیٰ معیار کی ویکسین تک رسائی ممکن بنانا، فرنٹ لائن ہیلتھ و سوشل ورکرز کے علاوہ زیادہ خطرات سے دوچار آبادیوں کا تحفظ کو یقینی بنانا ہے۔

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مزید معلومات کے لیے براہ کرم رابطہ کریں

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