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**Seventy-fifth session**

Agenda item ##

**Strengthening of the United Nations system**

**Draft Resolution to declare COVID-19 Vaccines as People's Vaccines for Global Common Good (also known as global public good) to be adopted by the General Assembly in September 2020**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 74/274 of April 21, 2020, [74/270](#) of 2 April 2020 and [74/2](#) of 10 October 2019,

Noting with grave concern the rapidly growing threat to human health, safety, employment, economic security, and other dimensions of human security and well-being caused by the global coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, which has spread all around the globe, as well as the unprecedented and multifaceted effects of the pandemic, including the severe disruption to societies, economies, global trade, education, democratic processes, international relations and travel and the devastating impact on the livelihoods of people,

*Recognizing* that the speed with which the virus is spreading and the rapidly mounting death toll in countries around the world present unprecedented challenges to global governance and the urgent need to strengthen multilateral cooperation,

*Recognizing* the dedicated efforts of scientists, research institutions and companies around the world to develop vaccines capable of stopping the spread,

*Recognizing* the right of every human being, without distinction of any kind, to access to life-saving, health-preserving medical care,

*Reaffirming* that the poor and the most vulnerable people are the most affected and that the impact of the pandemic will have repercussions on development gains, hampering progress in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, including target 3.8,1

*Reaffirming* that equitable access to health products is a global priority and that the availability, accessibility, acceptability and affordability of quality assured health products are fundamental to tackling the pandemic,

*Underscoring* that the effectiveness of the upcoming vaccination campaign and hence controlling the virus will depend on its universal accessibility to all populations: urban or rural, men or women, living in rich or poor countries,

*Recognizing* the importance of international cooperation and effective multilateralism in helping to ensure timely and effective access to vaccines to all citizens in all States without discrimination,

*Recognizing* that treatment of COVID-19 vaccines under intellectual property rights will impede the production and distribution and make prohibitively expensive access to life-saving vaccination for tens of millions of people around the world,

*Recognizing* that the cost of medical research required to develop effective COVID-19 vaccines has been mainly financed through public funding and that research institutions need a fair return of the cost they incurred in exchange for placing proven vaccines in the public domain,

*Recognizing* that the total cost of universal vaccination for all humanity is unlikely to exceed 10% of total global military spending while total global fatalities resulting from COVID-19 by Spring 2021 are forecast to exceed 1.8 million if no effective vaccines are available, which is 12 times greater than total global fatalities resulting from violent conflicts during 2019,2,3

*Recognizing* the incalculable cost of the continuation of the pandemic in terms of wellbeing, human security, human capital, and social productivity,

*Recognizing* also that the COVID-19 global pandemic requires a global response based on unity, solidarity and multilateral cooperation,

*Reaffirms* the fundamental role of the United Nations system in coordinating the global response to control and contain the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and in supporting Member States, and in this regard acknowledges the crucial leading role played by the World Health Organization;

*Reaffirms* the request to the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the World Health Organization and other relevant agencies of the United Nations system, including the international financial institutions, to identify and recommend options, including approaches for rapidly scaling manufacturing and strengthening supply chains that promote and ensure fair, transparent, equitable, efficient and timely access to and distribution of preventive tools, laboratory testing, reagents and supporting materials, essential medical supplies, new diagnostics, drugs and future COVID-19 vaccines, with a view to making them available to all those in need, in particular in developing countries;

*Reaffirms* the request to Member States to work in partnership with all relevant stakeholders to increase research and development funding for vaccines and medicines, leverage digital technologies, and strengthen scientific international cooperation necessary to combat COVID-19 and to bolster coordination, including with the private sector, towards rapid development, manufacturing and distribution of diagnostics, antiviral medicines, personal protective equipment and vaccines, adhering to the objectives of efficacy, safety, equity, accessibility, and affordability;

Calls upon Member States to:

- 1) ensure adequate supplies of the people vaccine by enabling wider production via sharing of data, know-how, biological material, and intellectual property resulting from publicly funded research and development are licensed to the WHO COVID-19 Technology Access Pool,
- 2) declare COVID-19 vaccines a global public good (also known as a global common good) and to take all necessary measures to ensure that production, sale and supply of COVID-19 vaccines are not encumbered by monopolies including those derived from patent, regulatory exclusivities, and trade secrets

covering knowledge including technology, processes, know-how and necessary biological material such as cell lines and other inf;

- 3) make COVID-19 vaccines available for free at point of care;
- 4) support and implement WHO fair allocation of the vaccine and avoid hoarding. Nobody in the world is safe until everybody is safe.

Calls upon World Health Organization to

1. work with member states to implement a fair allocation of the vaccine;
2. continue to monitor vaccine research

*Calls upon* the Secretary General and the World Health organisation to work with Member States, international financial institutions, private sector and CS to establish transparent and equitable systems for assessing a fair return to research institutions for vaccines declared as global common goods (or global public goods) and to devise means to compensate them,

*Calls upon* world leaders, Secretary-General of the United Nations, Director General of the World Health Organization, religious leaders, social leaders, moral leaders, leaders of research laboratories, universities, charitable organisations, institutions connected to global public health, pharmaceutical companies, and media leaders to support and advocate for universal access to potential COVID-19 vaccines, within a concurrent global timeframe, far ahead of its actual production and distribution.

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Footnotes:

1. See resolution [70/1](#).
2. [Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project](#)
3. [MIT Forecast of total fatalities](#)