

WHO releases an open letter to G20 leads to accelerate vaccine availability

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Aims to help save the lives of citizens, migrants, refugees, and other displaced people who are facing barriers accessing vaccinations, testing, treatment, care, and even reliable information.



WHO is emphasizing the poorest countries which are struggling to procure a reliable and adequate supply of vaccines and other critical supplies to stabilize their fragile and overburdened health systems, to help save the lives of their citizens, migrants, as well as refugees and other displaced people they host.

WHO iterates that the current vaccine equity gap between wealthier and low resource countries demonstrates a disregard for the lives of the world's poorest and most vulnerable. For every 100 people in high-income countries, 133 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered, while in low-income countries, only 4 doses per 100 people have been administered.

Vaccine inequity is costing lives every day, and continues to place everyone at risk. Coordinated action with equitable access to public health resources is the only way to face down a global public health scourge like COVID-19. It urges for a strong, collective push to ensure a sustainable global recovery.

WHO suggests G20 leaders of the world's largest economies to help stem the pandemic by expanding access to vaccines and other tools for the people and places where these are in shortest supply.

WHO collectively calls G20 leaders to commit to:

1. **Increase vaccine supplies for the world's poorest:** calls the world's leading economies to fully fund and implement the Strategic Plan and Budget for the ACT Accelerator, and to distribute vaccines, tests and treatments where they are needed most.
2. **Ensure access to vaccines for all people on the move:** calls on every country to ensure that everyone on its territory regardless of legal status – including refugees, migrants, internally displaced people, asylum-seekers, and others on the move – have access to COVID-19 vaccines, tests and treatment for COVID-19.
3. **Support low- and middle-income countries to combat COVID-19 with all available means** Low- and middle-income countries need comprehensive support – financial, political, technical, logistical – to vaccinate people quickly and effectively to expand access to tests and treatments, to implement tailored public health measures.