

El Presidente de la República de Costa Rica

San José, September 16th, 2020
DP-P-081-2020

Dear Prime Minister Rutte,

I am pleased to invite you as keynote speaker at the High-Level Virtual Event "The challenge of a lifetime: Ensuring universal access to COVID-19 health technologies", organized by the Government of Costa Rica at the margins of the High-Level Week of the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly, which will take place on September 25, 2020, from 10.00 am to 11.30 am (EST).

On May 29th, Costa Rica, the WHO, and more than 40 countries, including the Kingdom of the Netherlands, launched the COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP), an initiative based on the highest aspirations of solidarity, cooperation and collective will to overcome this dire pandemic for our countries and most importantly for our peoples.

The COVID-19 crisis has demonstrated the fragility as well as the inter-dependency of our humanity. It has also shown how the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health rests upon the principle that we are only healthy when we are all healthy.

To realize the promise of a new healthy, inclusive and just normality for all, as well as the commitment of "universal, timely and equitable access to and fair distribution of all quality, safe, efficacious and affordable essential health technologies and products" required in the response to COVID-19, Costa Rica is committed to leverage our collective efforts to call upon the collective need and benefit to realize equitable global access to COVID-19 health technologies.

His Excellency
Mark Rutte
Prime Minister of the Netherlands
The Hague

El Presidente de la República de Costa Rica

With your support and leadership, and with the voice of a collective movement of Member States from all regions, UN System, academia and civil society, the High-Level Virtual Event will feature a presentation of the vision and status of C-TAP, a strong call for such a repository of intellectual property and other forms of knowledge, as well as making the case and call for a paradigm shift towards Global Public Goods in COVID-19 health technologies.

We will be honored to count on your crucial contributions to the discussion. In the meantime, I have instructed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to share the Concept Note and finalize the organizational details with you.

Please accept, Your Excellency Prime Minister Rutte, the assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.

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