

To the representatives of the EU Member States in the Netherlands

Re: The Inclusive Vaccine Alliance (TIVA)

Dear Ambassador,

You will probably have heard about the initiative of Germany, France, Italy and the Netherlands to join forces in the "Inclusive Vaccine Alliance".

The aim of this cooperation is to make a good and safe COVID-19 vaccine available to the Member States of the European Union and their citizens as quickly as possible.

Since the development of a vaccine is expensive and complex and as we are not sure which of the ongoing initiatives will lead to a working vaccine, we believe that collaboration and risk sharing are of great importance.

However, it is also important to act quickly, since many countries worldwide are also busy buying themselves into different schemes. Germany, France, Italy and the Netherlands, as leading countries in Europe in the field of vaccine development and production, have therefore joined forces. Not just for ourselves, but for all member states of the European Union, so the entire European population can benefit from an effective and safe vaccine against COVID-19. In addition, the alliance strives to make some of the vaccines available to lower-income countries, including Africa.

We are currently discussing how to work with the European Commission on future negotiations. Further details will follow in the coming days. The primary goal is in all cases to reach so-called Advanced Purchase Agreements (APA). (10)(2a)

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Last week, the Alliance signed a first contract with pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca (AZ). This agreement ensures that if AZ's efforts lead to a safe and effective vaccine, 300 to 400 million vaccines will become available to the participating EU Member States at cost price by the end of 2020. All EU Member states can opt-in, under the same legal conditions as the initiators.

We realize that some Member States have questions and even doubts about this process. The purpose of this letter is to give you more information about the initiative. If you should have any further questions, or if parties in your country wish to get in touch with The Inclusive Vaccine Alliance, please contact (10)(2e) of the International Affairs Department of VWS (10)(2e) (10)(2e) / (10)(2e) @minvws.nl).

Yours sincerely

DGV