



# THE PEOPLE'S VACCINE

Available to everyone, everywhere, free of charge

African Civil Society Meeting

April 30, 2021

# What we'll cover today

1. What is the People's Vaccine Alliance?
2. What is the role of the African Union and Africa CDC on COVID-19 vaccine access on the continent?
3. Highlights from the last few months across the continent
4. Advocacy opportunities for the rest of Q2 2021 (May & June)
5. Next steps



# What is the People's Vaccine Alliance?

The People's Vaccine Alliance is a coalition of organizations and activists united under a common aim of campaigning for a 'people's vaccine' for COVID-19. This would be based on shared knowledge and **freely** available to everyone everywhere – a global common good.

44 organizations (and counting) all over the world have signed up as official members of the Alliance. The call for a people's vaccine is backed by past and present world leaders, health experts, faith leaders and economists.



# What are we calling for?

- A free of charge vaccine for everyone, everywhere, distributed according to need. No exceptions.
- Open sharing of vaccine science, technology and know-how (WHO & C-TAP)
- A global manufacturing and distribution plan for cost-price vaccines – investment in production capacity and health workers



# What is the current state-of-play?

## **LMIC countries**

- 9 in 10 people in the majority of LMIC countries set to miss out this year
- COVAX will reach 20% coverage at best
- Countries left to bid in the open market – paying high prices for small volumes

## **Rich countries**

- 3 times more vaccines than they need – bought up vast majority of supply
- Supply delays which means further delays for LMICs
- Fiercely defending pharmaceutical monopolies
- Distracting from real solutions with charitable crumbs – COVAX and donations



# The TRIPS Waiver

Countries' positions on waiving monopolies for COVID-19 medical tools



[Last updated: 28 April 2021 – Data Source: KEI, TWN, WTO]



# Who is the PVA trying to influence?

- **Rich country governments:** to demand they do everything in their power to pressure pharma companies to share the science and technology, and enable the WTO TRIPS waiver process
- **Pharma companies:** to pressure them to share the science and technology, and stop putting profits before people's lives.
- **Low and middle-income countries:** For those wavering, support the TRIPS waiver. All to raise their voices more assertively.
- **The public:** Recent polling shows immense support for shared science and technology on the vaccine(s) even amongst more conservative publics. But we need them to be vocal about it.
- **The media:** Changing the narrative



# What's our plan for influence?

## We need:

- Mass public pressure –especially in rich countries.
- Mass media attention – in as many countries as possible
- Targeted advocacy – in as many countries as possible.
- Integration of priorities from the Global South (Africa, Asia, Latin America)

This campaign is fast-paced, ever-changing and evolving, so the Alliance is trying to be flexible and responsive.





# Recent achievements

- **People's Vaccine Alliance Global Day of Action** – March 11 to mark the one year anniversary of the pandemic: [online rally](#), global actions, global webinars.
- **Global Epidemiologist's Survey** – PVA press release and [global media](#)
- **Open letter to US President Biden** – signed by over 175 global leaders, printed by Financial Times and picked up by [global media](#).
- Various opinion pieces in newspapers around the world (global leaders, economists, researchers)
- [Global petition](#) signed by over 1M people
- [Call to action by faith leaders](#) from around the world



# Upcoming opportunities

- **May 3-6<sup>th</sup>:** G7 Foreign & Development Ministers mtg
- **May 5<sup>th</sup>:** full WTO General Council Meeting
- **May 11<sup>th</sup>:** AstraZeneca closed-door shareholder AGM
- **May 21<sup>st</sup>:** G20 Global Health Summit
- **May 23-26<sup>th</sup>:** G7 Trade Ministers Meeting
- **May 24 – June 1:** UN World Health Assembly
- **May 25:** Africa Day
- **June 8 & 9: Now TBC:** formal meeting of the WTO TRIPS General Council
- **June 11-13:** G7 Summit with vaccines one of two priorities on the agenda.



# PVA Coordination

- Shared document files with data, graphics, organizational contacts of other members for collaboration
- Bi-weekly Alliance –wide meetings and subgroups for strategizing and planning:
  - Policy & Advocacy, Influentials, Campaigns & Media, Stats, Pharmaceuticals Advisory Group
- Active Twitter campaign with #PeoplesVaccine hashtag and boosting of members' feeds



Thank you!

FREELY AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE.

**I WANT A PEOPLE'S  
VACCINE, NOT A PROFIT  
VACCINE.**

[#PEOPLESVACCINE](#)



THE  
PEOPLE'S  
VACCINE



# Africa PVA Coordination

- Monthly meetings?
- Best way to communicate?
- Best way for people to share documents?
- Steering Committee?
- Any groups who would like to join the PVA? Not required but we can facilitate.

