24 February 2022

Excellencies,

Further to my letter dated 21 January 2022, regarding the convening of the High-Level Thematic Debate entitled “Galvanising Momentum for Universal Vaccination” on 25th February 2022, I have the honour to circulate herewith the final program.

In view of the limited time available, pre-recorded statements will be played without introductions by a representative physically present in the room. Also, in view of the time available for the plenary segment, the texts of statements submitted by speakers inscribed on the list that are not delivered by the end of the meeting will be posted on “eStatements” in the Journal of the United Nations. In this regard, delegations are encouraged to send their statements to estatements@un.org to facilitate interpretation and for posting on “eStatements”.

For further information on the meeting, you may contact Ms. Zeena Didi (zeena.didi@un.org) Team Lead, Humanitarian and Ms Isabel Avomo Sima (Isabel.avomosima@un.org), Adviser at my Office.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Abdulla SHAHID

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
Friday, 25th February 2022
General Assembly Hall

Opening Segment

10:00 – 10:35 Remarks by:
H.E. Mr. Abdulla Shahid, President of the General Assembly
H.E. Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General, United Nations
H.E. Mr. Collen Vixen Kelapile, President of the Economic and Social Council
Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, World Health Organisation
H.E. Ms Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Former President of Liberia and Co-Chair of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response
H.E. Rt. Hon Helen Clark, Former Prime Minister of New Zealand, and Co-Chair of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response
H.E. Ms. Michelle Bachelet Jeria, High Commissioner for Human Rights

Video: “A Look at the State of COVID-19 Vaccinations Available & Administered or State of Play.”

10:39 – 10:44 Remarks by Co-Chair of ACT-Accelerator
H.E. Mr Jonas Gahr Store, Prime Minister of Norway, and Co-Chair of the Access to Covid-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator

10:49 Remarks by Mr. Ted Chaiban, Global Lead Coordinator for COVID-19 Vaccine Delivery

10:49 – 11:15 Special Segment

11:20 - 13:00 Plenary Segment

[Break]

15:00 – 20:45 Plenary Segment

20:45 – 21:00 Closing Segment
Remarks by the President of the General Assembly
High-Level Roundtable Discussion I

Roundtable I will highlight and review existing challenges in vaccine production and distribution, optimizing quality, improving absorption capacity and delivery rates in low-coverage countries, and ensuring supply predictability.

The meeting will begin by the moderator introducing the topic and panelists, followed by a presentation by each panelist. The floor will then be opened for interventions by Member States and observers of the General Assembly.

There will be no pre-established list of speakers for the interactive discussions. Interventions in the round tables are envisaged for delegates physically present in the Chamber. Moderator will also read out questions received from the civil society.

Moderator:
- Zeid Ra’ad Hussein, President and Chief Executive Officer of International Peace Institute (IPI)

Panelists:
- Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, World Health Organisation
- Dr. Seth Berkley, CEO, GAVI, The Vaccine Alliance
- Dr. Nicole Lurie, Director of CEPI-US and Strategic Advisor to the CEO at the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)
- Dr. Tonya Villafana, Vice President, Global Franchise Head, Vaccine & Immune Therapies at AstraZeneca
- Mr. Kirill A. Dmitriev, Chief Executive Officer of the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF)
- Dr. Peter Hotez, MD, PhD, Co-Director of Texas Children’s Hospital Center for Vaccine Development and Dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine

Program Rundown:

11:00 – 11:02  Video remarks by Melinda Gates, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
11:02 - 11:04  Video remarks by UNDP Goodwill Ambassador, Padma Lakshmi
11:02 – 12:57  High-Level Roundtable Discussion I
12:57 - 1300  Video by GAVI, The Vaccine Alliance
High-Level Roundtable Discussion II

The second roundtable will identify innovations and solutions needed to overcome current challenges and work towards universal vaccination.

The meeting will begin by the moderator introducing the topic and panelists, followed by a presentation by each panelist. The floor will then be opened for interventions by Member States and observers of the General Assembly.

There will be no pre-established list of speakers for the interactive discussions. Interventions in the round tables are envisaged for delegates physically present in the Chamber. Moderator will also read out questions received from the civil society.

Moderator:
- Elizabeth M Cousens, President and CEO of United Nations Foundation

Panelists:
- Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, World Health Organisation
- Dr. Aboubacar Kampo, Director, Health, Programme Group, United Nations Children’s Fund
- Dr. Abdulaziz Mohammed, Head of Division, Disease Control and Prevention, Africa CDC
- Ms. Suchitra Ella, Co-founder and Director of Bharat Biotech International Limited
- Thomas B. Cueni, Director-General of the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA)

Program Rundown:

15:00 – 15:02 Video Remarks by UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, David Beckham
15:02 – 16:54 High-Level Roundtable Discussion II
16:55- 16:57 Video remarks by Thomas Bach, President of the Olympic Committee
16:57 – 17:00 Video remarks by Dr. Sandra Lindsay