



## COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME FOR UN PERSONNEL

The arrival of safe & effective COVID-19 vaccines has brought hope to people all over the world. While the UN is on the forefront of the effort to ensure equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines globally, it also is committed to ensuring the protection of its personnel. Tasked by the Secretary-General, the Department of Operational Support (DOS) is leading a coordinated, UN system-wide approach to ensure the availability of vaccine to UN personnel, their dependents and implementing partners. Complementing other existing mechanisms, the roll-out of the **COVID-19 Vaccination Programme for UN personnel** will provide a significant boost to the ability of personnel to stay and deliver on the Organization's mandates, to support beneficiaries in the communities they serve, and to contribute to our on-going work to recover better together from the pandemic. Every effort is being made to align the efforts of the vaccination programme for UN personnel with the [COVAX](#) rollout of vaccines to populations within countries.

### National vaccination efforts

The UN has reached out to Member States to seek their assurances that all UN personnel and dependents will be included in the national vaccination programmes in the countries in which they serve. As the list of countries willing to do so expands, it is expected that the vast majority of UN personnel and dependents will be vaccinated in this manner, following the prioritization guidelines in their respective countries. National vaccination programmes will be progressing with different speed however, and we cannot expect everyone to be vaccinated at the same time.

### COVID-19 Vaccination Programme for UN Personnel

In countries where the vaccination of UN personnel and dependents will not be possible within an acceptable timeframe or with a WHO-approved vaccine<sup>1</sup> through a national vaccination program, the UN will organize a vaccination roll out to its personnel directly. The Office of Supply Chain Management (within DOS), has been tasked with coordinating the vaccination programme for UN personnel. The Global Vaccine Deployment Working Group works directly with UN Country Teams, UN entities and partners across the UN system to ensure that all eligible<sup>2</sup> personnel and partners are included in this programme and to prioritize those eligible individuals based on occupational and medical risk criteria in each country. Where initial vaccine supplies are insufficient to cover the entire eligible population in a given country, subsequent shipments will be arranged as supply increases. The exact modality of vaccine distribution and administration will depend on the situation and capacities in individual countries.

The **Global Vaccine Deployment Working Group** is working with country teams to develop plans and enable the delivery and administration of initial doses in April 2021.

### Deployment & coordination

The Global Vaccine Deployment Support Team (GVDST) has been set up to provide hands-on support to the UN personnel vaccination efforts carried out by UN country teams, throughout the development of local vaccination plans and during the execution phase. GVDST is composed of UN partners such as the UN Medical Directors network, the Field Communications Working Group as well as medical, IT and logistics specialists within DOS. At the country level, **Local Vaccine Deployment Coordinators** (LVDC) are being nominated to develop local deployment plans and are responsible for local coordination, logistics and administration of the vaccines.

### Eligibility

All UN Personnel and their dependents (over the age of 18) are eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccination. However, due to limited supplies of the vaccine, certain segments of the population – those at highest risk of contracting and getting severely ill will be given priority. As supplies increase, the vaccine will be provided to other segments of the population until everyone is provided with an option to be vaccinated. Please see the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more specific eligibility details.

### Information & resources

[UN Website & iSeek](#)

Contact details: [covidvaccines@un.org](mailto:covidvaccines@un.org)

<sup>1</sup> Or two Stringent Regulatory Authorities (SRAs)

<sup>2</sup> See FAQs: [https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/coronavirus\\_vaccinefaq.pdf](https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/coronavirus_vaccinefaq.pdf)