

(max :60)

On behalf of the Netherlands, President Von der Leyen, I thank you again for taking this new initiative to boost global cooperation and solidarity to counter the COVID-19 pandemic.

We must act swiftly and decisively. This requires global collaboration for the accelerated development and sufficient availability of new essential COVID-19 vaccines and other health technologies.

I'm happy to support you in this and I want to make an additional financial and political commitment towards international cooperation and solidarity.

The Netherlands pledged on the 4th-may-event 192 mln to develop and implement new tools against the Covid 19 pandemic including 50 mln for CEPI, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations.

On the GAVI-Vaccine Summit 2020 on the 4th of June we committed us to support GAVI with 325 mln euro.

In addition to these amounts we pledge for this year an additional 25 mln euro for procurement of COVID-19 vaccines for countries in need.

We remain extremely committed to work together to speed up research and development and global manufacturing capacity for vaccines, treatments and diagnostics.

The Netherlands took the initiative with Italy, France and Germany for the "Inclusive Vaccine Alliance". We welcome the recent initiative of the European Commission for further European cooperation to make vaccines quickly available.

We look forward to a close cooperation between the Inclusive Vaccine Alliance, the EU and the ACT-A actors.

*We believe that international cooperation - pooling resources and expertise - will be the fastest, most effective way to beat COVID-19.*

*Where you live shouldn't determine whether you live. We will work together to agree a mechanism for global COVID-19 vaccine procurement, to maximise access around the world to safe and effective vaccines, which will ensure that no one is left behind.*

No - Is -Ue- Is. No one is safe until everyone is safe.