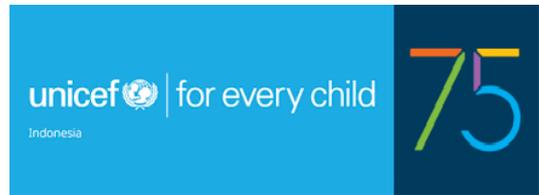




Embassy of Italy
Jakarta



Indonesia receives 796,800 COVID-19 Vaccines from the Government of Italy

PRESS RELEASE

Jakarta, 30 September 2021 – Indonesia received a further 796,800 COVID-19 vaccine doses today in the latest COVAX arrival. As part of their efforts to promote equal and universal access to vaccines, treatments and tests, Italy is the third country to donate vaccine doses via COVAX to Indonesia. This shipment is part of the 45 million doses that Italy has pledged to donate to low- and middle-income countries by the end of 2021.

To date, UNICEF has facilitated the arrival of nearly 38 million vaccines in Indonesia through the COVAX facility, a global initiative, co-led by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), with UNICEF as a key implementing partner. Italy is one of the main supporters of the COVAX facility, with a contribution of over 385 million Euros.

“with this donation, Italy intends to show its friendship and support to the Indonesian Government in its fight against the spread of COVID-19 throughout the Country. We hope that these vaccines will help sustain the efforts put in place by Indonesian Authorities to curb the recent, severe epidemic wave and to accelerate the widespread vaccination of its population,” said Italian Ambassador to Indonesia, Benedetto Latteri.

The commitment to eradicate the pandemic and to be better prepared to cope with future ones is also at the core of Italy’s 2021 Presidency of the G20, which has identified the “One Health” approach as a key priority, insisting on the need to implement the commitments already made in terms of vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and to continue working on the issues of future governance and financing.

“Only 2 per cent of people in low income countries have received the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine,” said Debora Comini, UNICEF Indonesia Representative. “Today’s donation of doses from Italy is an important contribution to vaccine equity, which is the only way to end the pandemic on a global scale.”

As part of UNICEF’s global role in procurement and supply, UNICEF has also supported the delivery of 17 ultracold chain units via Covax. UNICEF is also collaborating with the Government and WHO at the national level and in all 34 provinces to address forecasting and policy needs, vaccination microplanning, financing, quality, and strengthening cold chain; risk communication and community engagement for vaccine acceptance; data & analytics for registration and monitoring of vaccine recipients; and ensuring continuity of routine immunization to safeguard children’s health from vaccine-preventable diseases.

As Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi recently said at the UNGA76, “globally, we face dramatic differences in the distribution of vaccines. [...] These disparities are morally unacceptable: fewer vaccinations mean more

deaths. [...] We need to increase the availability of vaccines for poor countries and overcome logistical hurdles to distribute them where they are most needed”.

As an ASEAN development partner, Italy is also one of the main supporters of the ASEAN Covid-19 Response Fund, with a contribution of 2,5 million Euros. The Italian aid strengthens the collective action of the European Union in Indonesia as part of the "#TeamEurope" project.

About UNICEF: UNICEF promotes the rights and wellbeing of every child, in everything we do. Together with our partners, we work in 190 countries and territories to translate that commitment into practical action, focusing special effort on reaching the most vulnerable and excluded children, to the benefit of all children, everywhere.

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