Realizing Equitable Global Access

Solidarity Call to Action

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Solidarity Call to Action

Making the response to COVID-19 a public common good

Solidarity Call to Action

To realize equitable global access to COVID-19 health technologies through pooling of knowledge, intellectual property and data.
Solidarity Call to Action

40 Member States have joined the Solidarity Call to Action so far

Argentina Bangladesh Barbados Belgium
Belize Bhutan Brazil Chile Costa Rica
Dominican Republic Ecuador Egypt El Salvador
Honduras Indonesia Lebanon Luxembourg
Malaysia Maldives Mexico Mongolia
Mozambique Norway Oman Pakistan
Palau Panama Paraguay Peru Portugal
Saint Vincent and Grenadines South Africa Sri Lanka
Sudan The Netherlands Timor-Leste
Turkmenistan Uruguay Zimbabwe
International organizations

OHCHR     UNDP     UNAIDS     UNESCO     UNITAID
C-TAP implementing partners

• **The Technology Access Partnership (Tech Access Partnership)** - UN Technology Bank with UNDP, WHO and UNCTAD - promoting technology transfer to, and local production of, personal protective equipment (PPE), medical devices such as ventilators and other oxygen related technologies and diagnostics

• **The Medicines Patent Pool (MPP)** – mandate expanded to include any health technology that could contribute to the global response to COVID-19. Vast experience in public-health driven licensing

• **The Open COVID Pledge (OCP)** - repository for mainly soft and hard technologies relevant to COVID-19 - a mechanism whereby companies make available a non-exclusive, royalty-free, time-limited world-wide license
C-TAP implementing partners

**Global Initiative on Sharing All Influenza Data (GISAID)** - enables the unprecedented sharing of genomic and associated data from cases of COVID-19

**The WHO Global Observatory on Health R&D** - ‘one-stop shop’ for up to date information and analysis on health R&D, including resources, processes, outputs and capacity. It supports evidence-informed decisions related to health R&D gaps and funding based on public health needs

**WHO C-TAP platform** will act as a hub mechanism and will connect to other data-sharing platforms and databases where Covid-19 related health technology information is already available
C-TAP – overall objectives

- To promote open science in order to accelerate product development by pooling intellectual property, data and manufacturing processes and other kinds of 'know-how’ – (a platform bringing together existing initiatives)

- To facilitate more affordable access to new tools, through non-exclusive and public health-driven licensing accompanied by enhanced arrangements for technology transfer

(ACT-A and C-TAP are complementary initiatives)
C-TAP concept paper

- Why C-TAP?
- Role of C-TAP and objectives
- Complementarity with ACT-A
- Information about implementing partners
- Governance
- Consultancy arrangements

https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/c-tap-a-concept-paper
C-TAP “governance”

Steering committee – UN organizations and implementing partners - regular meetings since the launch

Technical Advisory Group – to be selected through WHO standard processes

WHO C-TAP Secretariat – partnership between Access to Medicines and Health Products Division and the Science Division

Consultative arrangements - Member States and other stakeholders
C-TAP – engagement with private sector

Although private sector recognizes the value of collaboration to address COVID-19, concrete commitments are needed in terms of sharing Knowledge, IP and data.

The draft engagement strategy includes:

- Exploring some incentives to overcome reliance on confidentiality as a competitive advantage
- Engaging with private sector according to prioritized needs in different areas

Further discussion with MS and funders is planned to discuss potential incentives to engage private sector – information session and bilaterals.

Consultations with industry and with civil society organizations is planned for December 2020.
WHO is establishing a WHO-hosted and led “COVID-19 Technology Access Pool” to compile, in one place, pledges of commitment made under the Solidarity Call to Action and to voluntarily share COVID-19 health technology related knowledge, intellectual property and data for existing or new therapeutics, diagnostics and vaccines.
C-TAP objectives will only be achieved with Member States’ active engagement:

- Costa Rica has invited co-sponsors and other interested countries to discuss about how governments could identify and implement national incentives to motivate the private sector to join

- Incentives could come in the form of regulatory fast tracks, price and reimbursement, tax credits or deductions, importation facilitation and/or duty reduction, or cash.
Conclusions

Sharing data and information which is normally kept secret or protected by IP could materially advance the speed at which technologies are developed and avoid, for example, the repetition and duplication of research carried out by others and reducing transaction costs in negotiations.

C-TAP represents mid-term and long-term a more sustainable solution to promote access to innovation in health technologies.

TIME IS NOW
We need to promote the sharing of knowledge and IP licensing now to shorten the time for safe, efficacious and affordable new technologies to get into the market of all countries, for all people who need them.