



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Japan Contributes US\$1 billion to the COVAX Facility**

On June 2nd, the COVAX AMC Summit was held virtually. The Summit was co-hosted by the Government of Japan and Gavi, and co-chaired by Prime Minister SUGA Yoshihide and Mr. José Manuel Barroso, Gavi Board Chair. Japan has led the discussion to establish the COVAX Facility mechanism and was the first country to disburse its contribution to the Facility.

During the Summit, Prime Minister SUGA called for further solidarity and commitments from the international community in the fight against COVID-19, and expressed Japan's full support for ensuring equitable access to safe and effective vaccines for as many people as possible with a view to achieving Universal Health Coverage guided by the principle of human security. Prime Minister SUGA also explained that Japan has continuously supported the efforts by the COVAX Facility, and announced an additional contribution of 800 million USD, which brings the Japanese total contribution of 1 billion USD to the COVAX Facility. Furthermore, Prime Minister SUGA expressed Japan's intention to provide, when circumstances allow and at an appropriate time, around 30 million doses of vaccines manufactured in Japan to other countries and regions, including through the COVAX Facility.

Nigeria is one of the 92 low- and middle-income economies which are eligible to participate in the COVAX Facility supported by the COVAX AMC. Japan will continue to support the delivery of vaccines down to the last person through its "Last One Mile Support"; including improving cold chains and leveraging strengths the country has gained through its experiences in health and medical related assistance.

Many additional pledges were announced from governments and the private sector during the Summit. As a result, funds well beyond the target of \$8.3 billion USD were realized to secure 1.8 billion vaccine doses to protect nearly 30 percent of the population in AMC-eligible economies.

The Summit was held as follows:

<COVAX AMC Summit>

Venue: Virtually  
Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021

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