

Thank you, President,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of Argentina, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kenya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, México, Mongolia, Mozambique, Netherlands, Norway, Panamá, Perú, Portugal, Spain, Timor Leste, Uruguay and my own country Costa Rica cosponsors of the Solidarity Call to Action of the CTAP. Almost two years ago our countries joined forces to launch the *Solidarity Call to Action to realize equitable global access to COVID-19 health technologies through pooling of knowledge, intellectual property and data*, based on the principle of health as an international public good.

We believed then, as we do today, that multilateralism, cooperation and solidarity should lead us to fight health emergencies by saving lives and livelihoods, improving prospects for young generations, and giving hope for a better future to people in all countries.

The emergence of new and more transmissible variants of SARS-CoV-2, has made it clear that there is a need to increase production and diversify manufacturing locations of treatments and diagnostics, as well as vaccines, to assure equal access and distribution to all.

Voluntarily sharing know-how and intellectual property may increase manufacturing capacity, especially in developing countries, allowing equitable distribution globally and hence closing the access gap we have witnessed since the breakthrough of the first vaccines, the first treatments and throughout this crisis.

A world initially split, where some received vaccine doses while others had to wait for too long or are even waiting for their first dose, hinders the achievement of our common present goal to end the pandemic. We are equally concerned with the high costs and limited distribution and access to Covid-19 therapeutics. We now know that pandemics do not end for anyone until they end for everyone. This premise will also be true for possible future sanitary crises.

We invite on technology holders to join the CTAP and to license their technologies non-exclusively and transparently to manufacturers in all regions, so that life-saving tools can protect all peoples. This will ensure a faster suppression of pandemics and contribute to better global preparedness in the event of future health emergencies.

We also call on governments that have fully or partially financed research to incentivise companies holding patents on publicly funded inventions to share their technologies; on the basis of the understanding that publicly funded research and science should serve all, especially in the context of a public health emergency.

We commend those countries and public research institutions that have shared their technology through the CTAP or have pledged to do so in the near future and those who have contributed financially to the mechanism, and we call on Member States to support the principles on which the CTAP stands. Finally, we urge the industry to contribute by voluntarily sharing their patents and knowhow through CTAP for the good of all humankind.

Thank you, President,