LAMUN VI

WHO — TOPIC

COVID 19 IMMUNISATION: GLOBAL TRADE AND VACCINE STRATEGIES

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About us

The Lahore Alma Model United Nations, or more commonly known as LAMUN to all those who wish to participate and attend, is a three day event held at The Lahore Alma. LAMUN is not only a MUN but is a platform where young delegates can show their talents and polish their skills. They're able to gain information on the workings of the United Nations by assuming the roles of UN representatives and members of other international bodies and national cabinets.

Seeking to integrate the students of today into problems and issues involved at a global scale is what LAMUN strives to achieve. It does so by providing its participants the opportunity to categorize, debate, and engage themselves with the dilemmas faced by the world today. Passionate about what they do, the participants will work alongside their peers, in both passion and motivation, in order to face these challenges together.

From heated debates in classrooms to the most amazing social events, it's a lifetime experience where delegates open up and learn, along with a lot of entertainment and gossip. With our Host Team on its feet at all times ensuring that everything moves in a smooth manner, we can assure you that LAMUN will be the most ideal event one could go to.

World Health Organization

Introduction to the committee

Committee History:

The World Health Organization was established on April 7th, 1948 as specialized agency under the United Nations principal organ of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Its headquarters is located in Geneva, Switzerland but operates fully in 150 countries. The WHO acts as an advisor on matters of public health as well as a research facility that collaborates with other UN related agencies, NGOs such as MSF (Doctors without borders), and prestigious medical research facilities.

Committee Mandate:

The main role of the WHO is to provide expertise for health related issues. Recently, the WHO is widely known for their key role in the fight against Ebola, Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and recent pandemic of COVID-19. The organization has also been a key player in combating the spread of HIV/AIDS, establishing UNAIDS in 1996. The WHO has many projects focusing on a wide variety of health-related areas including:

- Establishing research agendas of centers all around the world

- Preparation of emergency capacities in developing and third world countries
- Preventing and treating communicable and noncommunicable diseases
- Publicizing major risks to public health and raising awareness about public health issues

Topic:

Covid-19 Immunization: Global Trade and Vaccination strategies

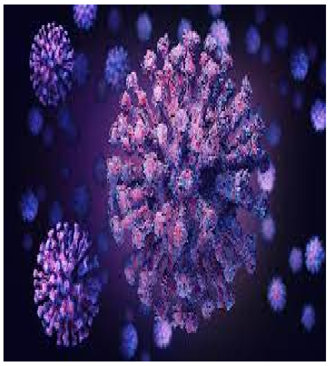
Key Terms:

- Immunization: The process of making you immune or resistant to an infectious disease, typically via vaccination
- Vaccination: The use of vaccines to stimulate your immune system to protect you against infections or diseases
- Global Trade: Global trade, also known as international trade, is simply the import and export of goods and services across international boundaries.
- Strategy: Strategy is a plan of action to achieve short, middle and long term desired goals. Companies and organizations need to have a strategy to survive.

Intro to the COVID-19 Pandemic:

The COVID-19 pandemic is an ongoing global pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019 caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus. The novel virus was first identified from an outbreak in the Chinese city of Wuhan in December 2019, and attempts to contain it there failed, allowing it to spread across the globe. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30 January 2020 and a pandemic on 11 March 2020. The pandemic has caused more than 394 million cases and 5.7 million deaths, making it one of the deadliest in history.

By driving the ongoing pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019, coronaviruses have become a significant change in twenty-first-century medicine, healthcare systems, education, and the global economy. This chapter rapidly reviews the origin, immunopathogenesis, epidemiology, diagnosis, clinical manifestations, and potential therapeutics of COVID-19.



Current Situation of COVID-19:

Globally, during the week of 24 to 30 January 2022, the number of new COVID-19 cases remained similar to that reported during the previous week, while the number of new deaths increased by 9%. Across the six WHO regions, over 22 million new cases and over 59 000 new deaths were reported. As of 30 January 2022, over 370 million confirmed cases and over 5.6 million deaths have been reported globally.

At the Regional level, increases in the number of new cases were reported by the Western Pacific (37%), the Eastern Mediterranean (24%), and the European (7%) regions, while a decrease was reported by the Region of the Americas (20%) and the South-East Asia Region (8%). The number of new cases reported in the African Region remained similar to the previous week. The number of new weekly deaths continued to increase in the South-East Asia Region (41%), the Eastern Mediterranean Region (32%) and the Region of the Americas (16%), while the African Region reported a decrease of 7%. The incidence of deaths remained similar to the previous week in the European and the Western Pacific regions.

Why is discussing this topic important?

The world was shook down by the COVID 19 pandemic and it resulted in loss of lives and economic damage. The first year was very dark and catastrophic all around the world. Immunization against COVID 19 is of utmost necessity right now for each and every person out there, to lead their life normally just like they did in pre Corona times.

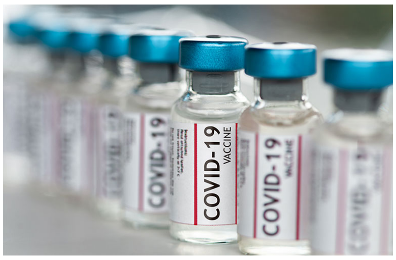
Now to ensure this, provision of vaccines to each and every country for every citizen is important. The global trade of vaccines is important medically, politically and economically, so it is important to discuss its distribution around the world especially in countries where there aren't enough resources to make their own vaccine.

Why should we go towards Vaccines?

The world is in the midst of a COVID-19 pandemic. As WHO and partners work together on the response - tracking the pandemic, advising on critical interventions, distributing vital medical supplies to those in need. They are racing to develop and deploy safe and effective vaccines.

Vaccines save millions of lives each year. The development of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines is a huge step forward towards ending the pandemic and getting back to doing more of the things we enjoy with the people we love.

WHO reports that unvaccinated people have at least 10 times higher risk of death from COVID-19 than someone who has been vaccinated. There is also evidence that being



vaccinated can help prevent you from spreading the virus, so it protects people around you. It is important to be vaccinated as soon as it's your turn, even if you already had COVID-19. Vaccines offer more reliable protection than natural immunity. Getting vaccinated is a safer way for you to develop immunity from COVID-19 than getting infected.

As of 12 January 2022, WHO has evaluated that the following vaccines against COVID-19 have met the necessary criteria for safety and efficacy:

- AstraZeneca/Oxford vaccine.
- Johnson and Johnson
- Moderna as a a
- Pfizer
- Sinopharm
- Sinovax
- COVAXIN
- Covovax
- Nuvaxovid.

After Effects of Vaccination on Countries:

Immunization has led to spectacular reductions in mortality in both developed and developing countries. The effectiveness of vaccines in reducing Covid-19 transmission is well established, but less is known about the effect of vaccine rollouts on economic activity. This column quantifies the economic effects using data on vaccines administered, containment measures, and indicators of economic activity. An increase in vaccination rates per capita has significant economic effects, as measured by increases in daily nitrogen dioxide emissions. Country-specific conditions affect the economic impact of vaccines, with lower economic gains in case of a severe outbreak or if containment measures are in place.

What are the measures WHO has taken in the past to ensure that vaccines are available to people around the world?

WHO believes that everyone, everywhere who could benefit from safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines should have access as quickly as possible, starting with those at highest risk of serious disease or death.

WHO's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) released two key documents to help guide the allocation and prioritization of populations to receive COVID-19 vaccines.

The Values Framework for the allocation and prioritization of COVID-19 vaccination, which offers high-level guidance globally on the values and ethical considerations regarding allocation of COVID-19 vaccines between countries, and offers guidance nationally on the prioritization of groups for vaccination within countries while supply is limited.

The Roadmap for Prioritizing Population Groups for Vaccines against COVID-19, which recommends public health strategies and target priority groups for different levels of vaccine availability and epidemiologic settings, the SAGE Roadmap, has now been updated and offers recommendations on how vaccines should be prioritized in countries with limited supply for maximum public health impact, taking into account the most recent evidence on COVID-19 vaccines and on the ongoing supply constraint issues faced by the COVAX facility. COVAX has allocated more than 170 million vaccines across 138 countries according to the framework. This update reflects data that has become available from clinical vaccine studies, as well as lessons learned from the early implementation of programmes.

The recommendations include expanding the groups included in Stage II of the prioritization roadmap to include pregnant women and children with underlying health conditions, and updates regarding clinical trials for lactating women.

In addition, WHO led the development of a Fair Allocation Framework that aims to ensure that successful COVID-19 vaccines and treatments are shared equitably across all countries. This framework is a key part of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, a global collaboration to accelerate development, production, and equitable access to

COVID-19 tests, treatments, and vaccines. The framework advises that as safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines are authorized for use, all countries should receive doses in proportion to their population size to immunize the highest-priority groups. In the second phase, vaccines would continue to be deployed to all countries so that additional populations can be covered according to national priorities.

Vaccine Trade leaders:

Little is known about the capacities of different countries to produce vaccines. Official data on global production volumes is not available and trade data only gives an incomplete picture of production capacity. The United States and China, for instance, import and export low levels of vaccines relative to their population sizes, suggesting that major parts of vaccine production are not reflected in trade data. Pre-pandemic, the EU was the world's largest producer of vaccines. The pre-pandemic market for vaccines was divided into two spheres: rich countries are supplied by EU and US production capacity (with the latter mostly producing for itself), while India was the main producer for developing countries. China produced almost exclusively for its own market.

Evidence since the start of the pandemic indicates that while broadly COVID-19 has not changed these production patterns, there have been modifications. China has become a major supplier of COVID-19 vaccines to developing countries, using its vaccines as political leverage and benefitting from the fact that the US has yet to export its production, while India has stated explicitly that it will prioritize its own population. In this context, with its substantial production capacity, the EU will play a major role as a global COVID-19 vaccine supplier as the world continues to tackle the pandemic.

Among vaccine producers, the EU pre-pandemic exported the greatest (estimated) volumes of the vaccines it produced, apart from South Korea, which also has a high export-intensity, but from only a small (estimated) production capacity. A significant change can be observed in China's vaccine policy. While China exported hardly any vaccines before the pandemic, it is now the largest exporter of COVID-19 vaccines. Chinese vaccines are mainly exported to a handful of LICs in central and South-East Asia, South America and North Africa. The US, meanwhile, is yet to export any COVID-19 vaccine, as it has prioritized vaccinating its own population first.

The pressing question currently is how to increase the volume of COVID-19 vaccines available to the world and, more specifically, to low-income countries. The developing world until now has relied on India for vaccines. China has significantly increased its capacity and now exports massively to low-income countries, but will be constrained by the willingness of countries to take up China's vaccines, which use the older inactivated virus technology. Even if the US changes policy and exports more of its unused capacity, this capacity is not so sizable.

The head of the World Health Organization says the continuing surge of COVID-19 cases is a result of the unequal distribution of vaccines.
The WHO chief said that while more than 8.5 billion doses have been administered globally (the largest vaccination campaign in history), only 8% of Africa's eligible population is fully vaccinated. The European Union and the U.S., meanwhile, have fully vaccinated around 67% and 58% of their populations respectively.

The unequal distribution of Covid vaccines worldwide could have a dampening effect on the economic recovery, the World Trade Organization chief warned on Thursday, saying she is "very concerned" about the matter.
Richer nations have hoarded the highest number of limited Covid shots, while many low-income nations have struggled to get their hands on the much-needed vaccines.

Data collected by the WTO, the World Trade Organization and the International Monetary Fund shows that whereas the U.S. has secured 248% of produced vaccines as a percentage of its population, this rate is only 30% for Mali and 56% for Kenya.

COVID Vaccine Statistics:

61.3% of the world population has received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.
10.16 billion doses have been administered globally, and 19.8 million are now administered each day.
Only 10% of people in low-income countries have received at least one dose.

3 Feb 2022	Total	% of population
At least 1 dose	4,824,828,969	61.9%
Fully vaccinated	4,098,352,669	52.5%
Booster given	997,232,672	12.8%

Delegates are advised to go through these following links:

https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/covid19_e.htm

https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/05/how-global-trade-can-save-lives-and-livelihoods/

https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/35244/The-Covid-19-Vaccine-Production-Club-Will-Value-Chains-Temper-Nationalism.pdf

https://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/policy-responses/using-trade-to-fight-covid-19-manufacturing-and-distributing-vaccines-dc0d37fc/

https://voxeu.org/article/economic-effects-covid-19-vaccines

https://www.bruegel.org/2021/07/a-world-divided-global-vaccine-trade-and-production/

https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/statement/2021/11/09/international-organizations-vaccine-manufacturers-take-stock-of-covid-19-vaccine-rollout-share-views-for-2022

https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/vaccinate-with-confidence/community.htm

https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/immunization/covid-19/strategy-to-achieve-global-covid-19-vaccination-by-mid-2022.pdf

https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications-data/overview-implementation-covid-19-vaccination-strategies-and-deployment-plans

https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/vaccine_checklist_e.pdf

https://www.who.int/news/item/16-09-2021-international-organizations-vaccine-manufacturers-agree-to-intensify-cooperation-to-deliver-covid-19-vaccines

Questions a resolution must answer:

1. How has vaccination affected countries' economies?
2. How do low income countries access COVID-19 vaccines?
3. Strategic planning for the future?
4. How can first world countries help the third world?