

## **Parliamentarians call on world governments for "A dose of solidarity"**

On May 5, 2023, the WHO lifted its highest level of alert for COVID-19 after four years under the most significant health threat in recent decades. It's a glimmer of hope, but it's also critical to remember that a new pandemic is inevitable. We cannot predict the moment it will happen, or the virus which will cause it, but one thing is certain: vaccines are among the most effective public health tools, and will therefore continue to be a pillar of our response, saving millions of lives each year. Vaccines are also an undeniable human right.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in a two-tiered world, where Northern countries enjoyed accelerated access to vaccines, whilst Southern countries faced considerable delays. Although progress was made on this during the pandemic, inequalities between the Global North and the Global South persist.

In the exercise of our parliamentary duties, we have firmly committed to prioritising health in our policies, both nationally and internationally. We have pledged to increase the resources allocated to this vital sector, particularly concerning vaccination, in order to meet the needs of our countries, of our continent, and of the world. We are committed to protecting the world, because it is the only way our own citizens will be protected as well.

Today, significant challenges remain, and the fading of the pandemic from our debates must not decrease our mobilisation and attention paid to this issue. Only a new global pact on pandemics and vaccination efforts can ensure that future generations are better equipped to face a crisis similar to that caused by COVID-19. Despite the fragmentation and division our world faces, international cooperation remains the one and only path to finding global solutions to global challenges. It is time to act to ensure true progress in the fight against diseases, by strengthening global access to vaccines.

We, current and former parliamentarians of the world, are calling, during this World Immunisation Week and beyond, on governments worldwide:

- To advocate for these positions in ongoing negotiations, which must accelerate if we are to achieve the very first international agreement on pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response;
- To support the replenishment of resources for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, in order to ensure equitable access to vaccines and the launch of the African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator (AVMA);
- To mobilise funding for research for the development of new vaccines

For further information, please visit our page [A dose of solidarity](#)

April 2025

2025 is of paramount importance. On June 25th of the year will take place in Brussels the high-level donors' summit, which will be the culmination of Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance's resource replenishment for the 2026-2030 period. The event will bring together leaders from around the world to secure significant investments in crucial vaccination programs. The renewal of Gavi's resources for an additional four years will accelerate the pace of vaccinations, reach more unvaccinated children, strengthen health systems, and collectively protect us against new health threats linked to climate change.

As parliamentarians, we will play our full role on this occasion to mobilize our governments and public opinion, as well as continuing to collectively champion this voice for a more solidary and healthier world.

**First signatories:**

Ricardo B. Leite, Founder & President of the UNITE network

Guillaume Gouffier Valente, French Member of Parliament, member of the parliamentary club Unis pour la santé and of the UNITE network

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