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Answer given by Ms Kyriakides  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(30.3.2022)

Global cooperation and solidarity is crucial to effectively fight the COVID-19 pandemic, ensure early access to vaccines, diagnostics and treatments everywhere. The EU is fully playing its part and has been leading the multilateral response. As part of the EU sharing efforts, the Commission with a Team Europe approach has originally committed to share at least 250 million doses of vaccines secured under the EU's advance purchase agreements to low and middle-income countries until the end of 2021, in particular through COVAX. This target has been reached. In total, 700 million doses are expected to be shared by the middle of 2022. In addition, the Commission with a Team Europe approach is an important contributor with over EUR 3.5 billion in grants and loans for the COVAX Facility to help secure access to fully donor-funded doses for 92 lower-income economies.

By 8 March 2022, EU Member States have shared over 401.3 million doses for donation, the majority through COVAX, to countries around the world of which more than 344 million were already delivered. 57 million doses by EU Member States have been delivered through bilateral donations. The decision to donate vaccine doses is the prerogative of the EU Member States which paid for and own the doses. Details about the donation in question should be asked to the Belgian authorities. The Commission works closely with manufacturers, the Member States and Gavi to ensure that donations are aligned as much as possible with the needs of recipient countries.