The implementation of the EU Vaccines Strategy\(^1\) is done in accordance with the Agreement between the Commission and the Member States on procuring Covid-19 vaccines on behalf of the Member States and related procedures\(^2\). This agreement established the mechanism for the negotiation of vaccine contracts. In particular, it established a Steering Board where all Member States are represented and a Joint Negotiation Team of Commission officials and Member State representatives to carry out the negotiations.

The Steering Board is tasked to discuss and review all aspects of the (advanced) purchase agreements, including the number of COVID-19 vaccine doses to be purchased under each contract, before signature.

Once the Steering Board agreed on the overall number of doses to be purchased based on the discussions, each Member State could purchase a percentage of the doses under each contract, that percentage being defined on a pro-rata basis (calculated according to population)\(^3\). However, in some cases, Member States agreed amongst themselves to purchase relatively less or more than this pro-rata share, depending on their particular demands under a given contract.

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\(^2\) [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/annex_to_the_commission_decision_on_approving_the_agreement_with_member_states_on_procuring_covid-19_vaccines_on_behalf_of_the_member_states_and_related_procedures_.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/annex_to_the_commission_decision_on_approving_the_agreement_with_member_states_on_procuring_covid-19_vaccines_on_behalf_of_the_member_states_and_related_procedures_.pdf)

\(^3\) Agreement between the Commission and the Member States on procuring Covid-19 vaccines on behalf of the Member States and related procedures, p. 6.