The EU Vaccines Strategy\(^1\) has been successful in a way that very few thought possible back in 2020. It has allowed EU citizens to receive primary and booster vaccinations, saving millions of lives around the world, and mitigating the impact of the pandemic upon social and economic life.

Capacity to produce vaccines was ramped up at unprecedented speed, giving Member States access to safe and effective vaccines early, and at the scale needed. As a result of these efforts, global vaccine production is such that there is now little unmet demand for COVID vaccines globally.

The Commission and Member States are working closely with manufacturers to find solutions to align supply and demand better, and to minimise the risk of waste. On 13 May 2022, the Commission reached an agreement\(^2\) with BioNTech-Pfizer to better address Member States’ needs – the agreement with BioNTech-Pfizer will adapt the originally agreed contractual delivery schedules. Doses scheduled for June and throughout the summer will now be delivered in September and during the autumn and winter period 2022. A similar agreement\(^3\) was secured with Moderna on 2 June 2022 – some doses initially planned for the second quarter of 2022 will be postponed to later in the year.

These agreements ensure Member States have access to the vaccines when they need them – including future variant adapted vaccines if authorised, so that they can respond to any epidemiological developments later this year. Negotiations are ongoing on other such agreements and the Commission intends to finalise them in the near future.

