Meeting the global COVID-19 challenge: effects of the waiver of the WTO TRIPS Agreement on COVID-19 vaccines, treatment, equipment and increasing production and manufacturing capacity in developing countries

Amendment 8
Sara Matthieu, Anna Cavazzini, Francisco Guerreiro, Rosa D’Amato, Kim Van Sparrentak, Michèle Rivasi, Piernicola Pedicini, Tilly Metz, Rasmus Andresen, Alviina Alametsä
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Joint motion for a resolution
PPE, S&D, Renew, Verts/ALE

Recital B a (new)

Joint motion for a resolution

Ba. whereas vaccines are a textbook case where huge positive externalities require them to be treated as global public goods and to be provided for free;
whereas in developed countries, all citizens are getting free vaccines; whereas it would be ethically unconscionable if that principle did not apply to much poorer people in developing countries;

Or. en
Joint motion for a resolution
PPE, S&D, Renew, Verts/ALE
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Paragraph 1

1. Expresses its strong concern about the development of the pandemic, in particular in low- and middle-income countries; recalls that the COVID-19 pandemic is not yet over and that new vaccines will need to be developed to combat mutations; underlines that the international community must do whatever it takes to get the COVID-19 pandemic under control and that exceptional circumstances require exceptional solutions; stresses therefore that a holistic approach is required, prioritising the availability and affordability of COVID-19 related health products, the scaling-up of COVID-19 vaccine production and the global geographical distribution of manufacturing capacity;
intellectual property rights for future pandemics; calls for support for proactive, constructive and text-based negotiations for a temporary waiver of the WTO TRIPS Agreement, aiming to enhance global access to affordable COVID-19-related medical products and to address global production constraints and supply shortages;

Or. en
Amendment 10
Sara Matthieu, Anna Cavazzini, Francisco Guerreiro, Rosa D’Amato, Kim Van Sparrentak, Michèle Rivasi, Piernicola Pedicini, Tilly Metz, Rasmus Andresen, Alviina Alametsä
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

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PPE, S&D, Renew, Verts/ALE
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Joint motion for a resolution
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Joint motion for a resolution

Amendment

1a. Recalls that the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health affirms that the TRIPS Agreement does not and should not prevent Members from taking measures to protect public health;

Or. en
Amendment 11
Sara Matthieu, Anna Cavazzini, Francisco Guerreiro, Rosa D’Amato, Kim Van Sparrentak, Michèle Rivasi, Piericola Pedicini, Tilly Metz, Rasmus Andresen, Alviina Alametsä
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Joint motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4

Joint motion for a resolution

4. Underlines that, in the long term, global production of vaccines must urgently be expanded to meet global demand, and that investment in the production capabilities of developing countries is therefore needed to make them more self-sufficient; points out the need for effective transfer of technology and know-how to make this happen; recognises that incentivising voluntary licensing agreements and voluntary technology and know-how transfer to countries with pre-existing vaccine-producing industries should be the most important way to achieve this;

Amendment

4. Underlines that, in the long term, global production of vaccines must urgently be expanded to meet global demand, and that investment in the production capabilities of developing countries is therefore needed to make them more self-sufficient; points out the need for effective transfer of technology and know-how to make this happen; recognises that incentivising voluntary licensing agreements and voluntary technology and know-how transfer to countries with pre-existing vaccine-producing industries should be the most important way to achieve this; underlines that the current TRIPS rules significantly limit exports and imports of compulsory licensed products and therefore have only been used once to help developing countries with no manufacturing capacity; calls for a revision of the international rules for compulsory licensing in order to enhance global affordable access to health products; calls on the Commission to assess the TRIPS+ commitments in EU
trade agreements in order to ensure they are effectively in line with the 2001 Doha Declaration; calls on the Commission to come forward with a legislative proposal to simplify and harmonise compulsory licensing at EU level;

Or. en
Amendment 12
Sara Matthieu, Anna Cavazzini, Francisco Guerreiro, Rosa D’Amato, Kim Van Sparrentak, Michèle Rivasi, Piernicola Pedicini, Tilly Metz, Rasmus Andresen, Alviina Alametsä
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Joint motion for a resolution
PPE, S&D, Renew, Verts/ALE
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Joint motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Joint motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Amendment

4a. Urges the EU to forswear any recourse to legal proceedings in the WTO or under free trade and investment agreements against countries that infringe on TRIPS provisions when adopting policy measures to expand access to COVID-19-related medical products; asks the EU, therefore, to propose, as an interim measure before agreeing on a COVID-19-related TRIPS waiver, an immediate WTO political declaration on a ‘standstill’ on any action relating to vaccines and other essential medical products to tackle the pandemic;

Or. en
Amendment 13
Sara Matthieu, Anna Cavazzini, Francisco Guerreiro, Rosa D’Amato, Kim Van Sparrentak, Michèle Rivasi, Piernicola Pedicini, Tilly Metz, Rasmus Andresen, Alviïna Alametsä
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Joint motion for a resolution
PPE, S&D, Renew, Verts/ALE
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Joint motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 b (new)

Joint motion for a resolution

4b. Notes with strong concern that recent evidence has been provided that current producers of authorised COVID-19 vaccines have refused offers to expand production from several potential generic pharmaceutical producers in the EU and abroad; requests that the Commission use all powers and options at its disposal to ensure that companies share technology and know-how related to COVID-19 medical products, such as therapeutics, diagnostics and vaccines, with potential manufacturers worldwide, particularly in low- and middle-income countries; is of the opinion that the EU can and should unilaterally contribute to such an endeavour by making sure that future advance purchase agreements integrate binding provisions as regards open and non-exclusive global licensing, patent pools, sharing of know-how, non-applicability of trade secrets, proprietary data and commitments on technology transfers; asks the Commission to identify and support potential manufacturers that
have expressed interest in scaling up production of vaccines and other COVID-19-related medical products in order to allow these manufacturers to be granted non-exclusive licences and start producing as soon as possible; asks the Commission to report to Parliament by September 2021 on the outcome of these endeavours;

Or. en
Amendment 14
Sara Matthieu, Anna Cavazzini, Francisco Guerreiro, Rosa D’Amato, Kim Van Sparrentak, Michèle Rivasi, Piernicola Pedicini, Tilly Metz, Rasmus Andresen, Alviina Alametsä
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

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PPE, S&D, Renew, Verts/ALE
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Joint motion for a resolution
Paragraph 1 b (new)

Joint motion for a resolution
Amendment


1b. Regrets the fact that the international community was utterly unprepared to address the threat of a new global pandemic despite repeated warnings by prominent experts and the WHO over the past years and despite recent worrying alarm signals such as SARS-CoV-1, H1N1 and MERS; points out, furthermore, the negative consequences of austerity policies over the last decades which have severely affected public investment in the health sector and ultimately undermined the capacities and preparedness of several countries to tackle an acute health emergency;

Or. en
Amendment 15
Sara Matthieu, Anna Cavazzini, Francisco Guerreiro, Rosa D’Amato, Kim Van Sparrentak, Michèlè Rivasi, Piernicola Pedicini, Tilly Metz, Rasmus Andresen, Alviina Alametsä
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Joint motion for a resolution
PPE, S&D, Renew, Verts/ALE
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Joint motion for a resolution
Paragraph 1 c (new)

Joint motion for a resolution

1c. Underlines that compulsory licensing only applies to patents as one category of intellectual property rights (IPR), but that other IPR categories, such as data protection and trade secrets, which represent potential hurdles to the scaling-up of production of needed medical products, are beyond the scope of compulsory licences;

Or. en
Amendment 16
Sara Matthieu, Anna Cavazzini, Francisco Guerreiro, Rosa D’Amato, Kim Van Sparrentak, Michèle Rivasi, Piernicola Pedicini, Tilly Metz, Rasmus Andresen, Alviina Alametsä
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Joint motion for a resolution
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Joint motion for a resolution
Paragraph 1 d (new)

Joint motion for a resolution
Amendment

Id. Points out, furthermore, that as it is likely that new variants of COVID-19 and other zoonoses may become regular occurrences over the coming years, it is urgent and crucial to develop a funding model for the development and distribution of global public goods such as vaccines and other essential health technologies; stresses that this model should revisit the global framework for intellectual property rights for future pandemics and shift from a model based on exclusive rights to innovative approaches such as ‘prize models’ based on the decoupling of the serial production of goods from the costs related to research and development;