

COVID-19 Summit Participant Statement

Asian Development Bank

Across Asia and the Pacific mobilizing and administering vaccines has become the top priority. To prepare for this reality, in December 2020, the Asian Development Bank approved a \$9 billion Asia Pacific Vaccine Access Facility (APVAX) to provide support to Developing Member Countries (DMCs). APVAX has three goals, to i) procure safe and effective vaccines, ii) ensure the deployment of the vaccines and iii) facilitate regional and country level coordination. Given the variable vaccine coverage across the Asia and Pacific region, USD 2.74 billion has been approved to date across 13 DMCs. APVAX has partnered with COVAX to ease the supply constraints for quality-assured vaccines. In addition, ADB has provided technical assistance aimed at health system strengthening to enhance planning, address vaccine hesitancy, increase vaccine uptake in the population, and work on building vaccine manufacturing capacity in the region. To strengthen its own capacity, ADB established the Regional Vaccine Advisory Group comprising of regulatory experts from Asia and the Pacific, Europe and North America to provide ongoing advice. ADB will continue to expand coverage of vaccination and plans to commit another USD 2.25 billion of financing before the end-2021.