

Fight Vaccine Inequity. End the Pandemic.

**#TRIPSWaiver
Now!**

No one in any country will be safe until the entire world has access to the vaccines, treatments and tests needed to end the COVID-19 pandemic.

While COVID-19 vaccination rates soar in the U.S., most people in low-income countries have not had their first shot. Instead of enjoying a return to normal life, they face terrifying new waves of preventable sickness and death.

Outbreaks anywhere mean new COVID-19 variants can develop. The whole world can end up back in lockdown, and those of us who have had vaccines can be at risk again unless we win the global race of vaccines against variants.

That's why we are fighting for an emergency waiver of World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights. These so-called "TRIPS" rules grant monopoly rights to Big Pharma companies that are hindering the world's ability to produce enough vaccines and other materials to end the pandemic.

A "TRIPS waiver" is needed to allow COVID vaccines, treatments and diagnostics to be produced in as many places as possible as quickly as possible.

The campaign for a TRIPS waiver:



In May, The Biden administration reversed Trump's waiver blockage after two million-plus activists petitioned the White House and engaged Congress with tens of thousands of letters and dozens of meetings with representatives.



With more than 130 countries worldwide, including the U.S., supporting the waiver, the European Union stands almost alone in blocking progress on behalf of Big Pharma.



Big Pharma lobbyists are swarming world capitals to kill, weaken or delay the waiver. Big Pharma spent a record \$92 million on U.S. lobbying in the first quarter of 2021.

Getting the Waiver Enacted!

There is no way to end the pandemic except by greatly boosting COVID-19 medicine production, and there are world-class producers who could be making billions more doses if Big Pharma's monopolies were temporarily waived.

To end the pandemic, it is critical that an emergency TRIPS waiver is:



COMPREHENSIVE: Waiving *all* intellectual property barriers for *all* COVID-19-related medical technologies, including tests and treatments — not just vaccines.



SWIFT: We need this waiver in a matter of weeks, not months. The Trump administration caused enough delays.



LONG-LASTING: The suspension of Big Pharma monopoly rights has to be long enough to incentivize and sustain increases in manufacturing capacity worldwide until COVID-19 is crushed.

The U.S. should also:

Use all possible means to convince the European Union, especially Germany, to agree to a timely and effective waiver.

Use all existing legal authorities, tools and funds to scale up production in the U.S. and around the world by promoting know-how sharing and technology transfer.

A comprehensive TRIPS waiver will save countless lives and help end the pandemic.



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