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**19 May 2021**

Excellencies,

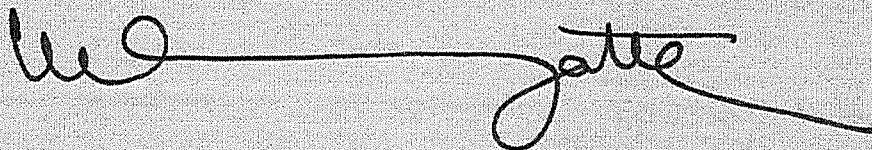
Today, the world faces an unprecedented crisis, which has exposed the vulnerabilities of international preparedness and cooperation to address global health threats. In particular, the lack of equitable access to vaccines poses an enormous risk to the health of our citizens, and to the global recovery. Nobody is safe until everyone is safe.

It is clear that we need an incremental shift in the global health architecture, to ensure access not only access to vaccines, but also to the other indispensable pandemic counter-measures such as medicines, diagnostics and protective equipment. We must develop and scale up manufacturing capacity at global level, but also at regional and local level. This is particularly important to the Members of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), where today, we are dependent on supply chains in the rest of the world. Moreover, scientists increasingly caution that this pandemic will be with us for years to come. We therefore need to put in place sustainable mechanisms and solutions in place to protect the health of our populations and the economies of our nations. And we need to act today.

As Heads of State and Government, we have a responsibility towards our citizens, to restore the credibility of the global health governance, and regain their trust. I therefore invite you to support the proposal for a Treaty on Pandemic Preparedness and Response, in the framework of the World Health Organisation. I urge you to work, together with me, to ensure that our countries and regions have a leading role in the development of new health rules. Vaccines are a global public good, but without diversifying supply and building up production at local and regional level, we will never achieve equitable access.

**EN**

I look forward to us working together to translate the principles of solidarity, fairness, transparency, inclusiveness and equity into concrete actions. Pandemic preparedness and response need global leadership for a global health system fit for this millennium.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'U Kenyatta', with a long horizontal line extending from the middle of the signature.

**Uhuru Kenyatta**  
**President of the Republic of Kenya**  
**and**  
**President In Office of the 9<sup>th</sup> ACP Summit**