

# Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) Facilitation Council Co-Chair's Update

Member States COVID-19 Briefing

19 November 2020

# Goals

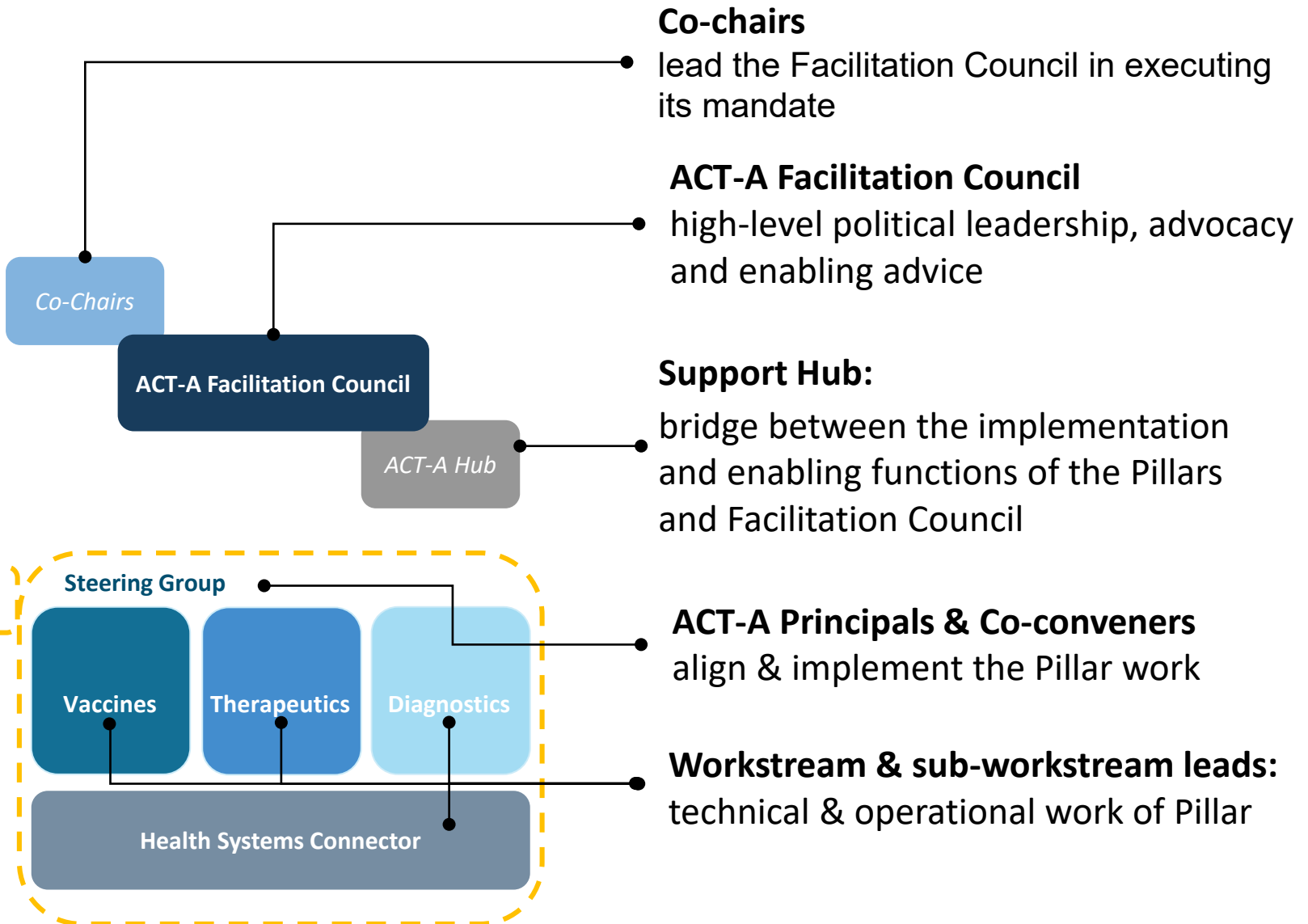
1. Share outcomes of **2<sup>nd</sup> Council Meeting** (3 Nov)
2. Update on the **intersessional work** of the co-Chairs
3. Highlight next steps to **3<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting**  
(Jan/Feb 2021)

## RECAP on the main functions of the ACT-Accelerator Facilitation Council:

- Assist the ACT-A in addressing **major strategic, policy & financial challenges**
- Actively engage in and champion at the highest levels, the **political advocacy and mobilization of resources** needed for ACT-A to deliver

Full Terms of Reference: <https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/act/act-a-facilitation-council-terms-of-reference-21-september-2020.pdf>

# ACT-A structure: high level overview of roles



# 1st High-Level Facilitation Council (10 Sept)

- [Live broadcast](#) of high-level HoS segment
- Kicked-off the **ACT-A Advocacy Campaign**
- Endorsed the **ACT-A Plan & Investment Case** for its scale-up phase
- Harnessed **strong political support for ACT-A**: [Council Outcome Statement](#)



# HIGHLIGHTS: 2nd Council, 3 Nov on the theme of:

## *Addressing a macroeconomic crisis through the ACT Accelerator*

### Session I – **Access to ACT-A's New & Emerging Tools**

- Keynote: Sir Witty, WHO Special Envoy
- Panel: Dr Nsanzimana (Rwanda), Sir Farrar (Wellcome)
- Speakers: St Kitts & Nevis, Singapore, Japan, China, Republic of Korea, Russia, Vietnam, Spain, Saudi Arabia

### Session II – **Urgent Macroeconomic Case for ACT -A**

- Keynote: Lord Jim O'Neill & Petya Koeva (IMF)
- Panel: Ms Murthi (World Bank), J Denton (ICC), Dr Gomes (CSO rep)
- Speakers: Canada, India, Brazil, Dr Rahman (CSO rep)

### **Closing Call to Action**

- France & Saudi Arabia (Paris Peace Forum & G20)
- UK & Italy (incoming G7 & G20)

*'Midway into the scale-up phase, ACT-A's promise of equitable access is under threat due to serious financing gaps...'*

**Minister Ulstein, Norway**

*'Every country will need to play a part in financing an end to this crisis. Every leader has political choices to make.'*

**Minister Mkhize, South Africa**

*'The time for talking is over. There is an exit strategy through WHO & ACT-A.'*

**Jeremy Farrar, Wellcome**

*'ACT-A needs < 1/10 of 1% of global GDP; this is the easiest decision for world leaders.'*

**Lord Jim O'Neill**

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Council Meeting: co-Chair's Summary

## We reiterated:

- **Significant & concrete progress** made by ACT-A
- **Multilateral collaboration & solidarity** is key to ending the pandemic
- **Urgent & stronger political & financial support** for ACT-A is needed

## We emphasized the need for: *(as a matter of urgency)*

- **collectively securing the financial resources** required to scale-up for impact and **to change the course of the pandemic.**
- honouring and realizing our shared commitment to **fair & timely allocation to leave no one behind in this crisis**
- **all countries** (whether through domestic stimulus or the use of concessional loans) to consider **global investments in controlling the pandemic through ACT-Accelerator** as a very cost-effective form of macroeconomic stimulus

The full summary can be found here: [https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/act/act-a-fc2-chairs-summary-17nov2020-final.pdf?sfvrsn=90899d77\\_2](https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/act/act-a-fc2-chairs-summary-17nov2020-final.pdf?sfvrsn=90899d77_2)



# Key ACT-A landmarks



**New Rapid Tests** approved & volume/price guarantees for LMICs (120m @ \$3-5)



**1<sup>st</sup> life-saving therapy** (Dexa) in rollout in LICs & **monoclonal antibodies** under evaluation



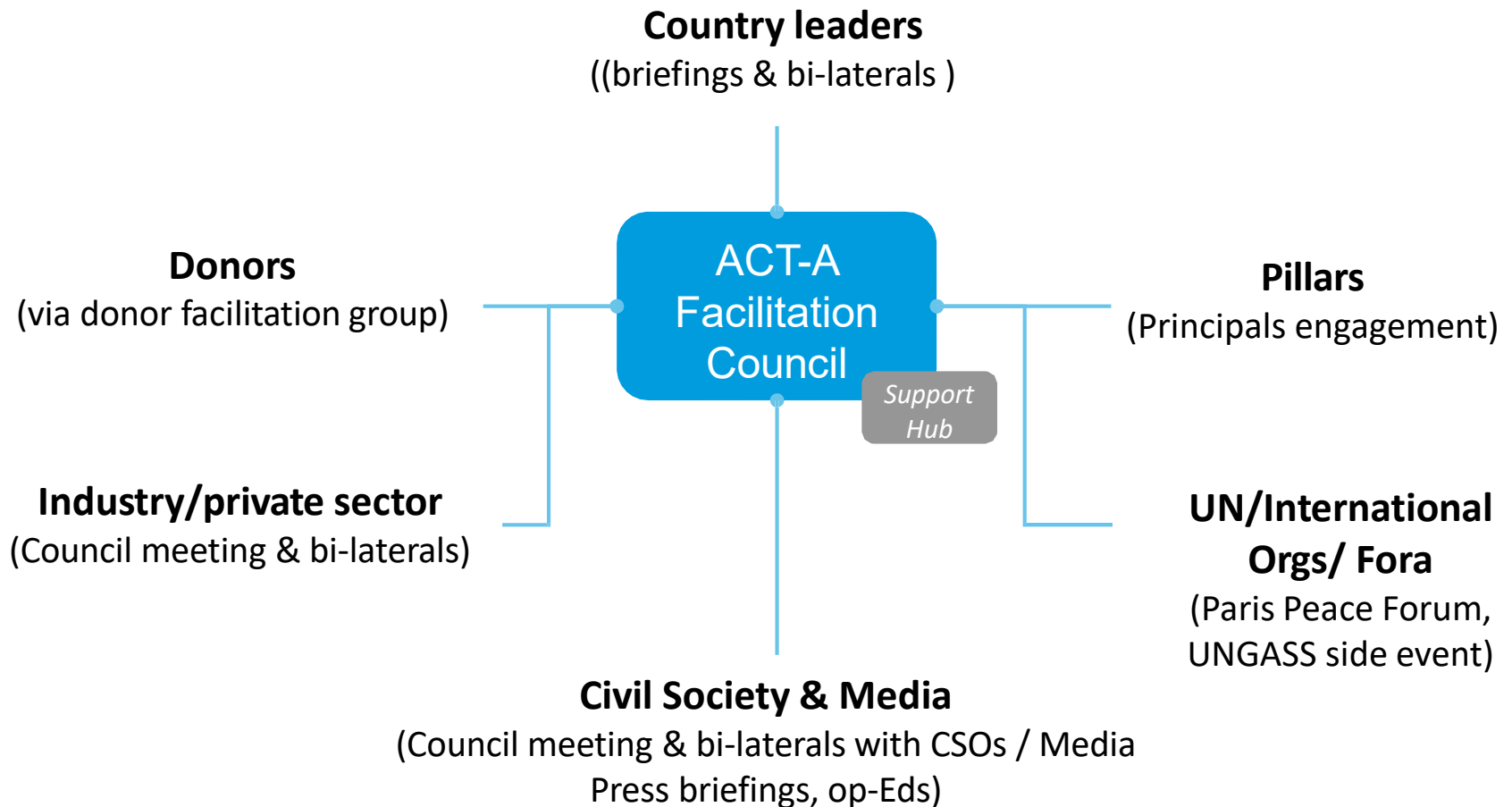
**COVAX Facility ‘in business’** with **187+** economies & dynamic vaccine portfolio



**Equitable Allocation Framework** & COVAX allocation mechanism established



# Co-Chair's Intersessional ACT-A activities

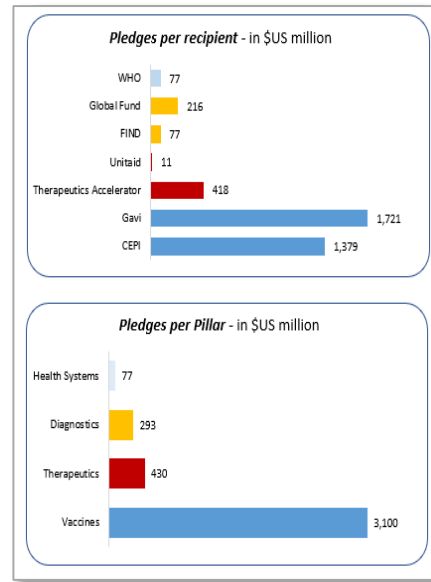


# Key new strategic ACT-A publications



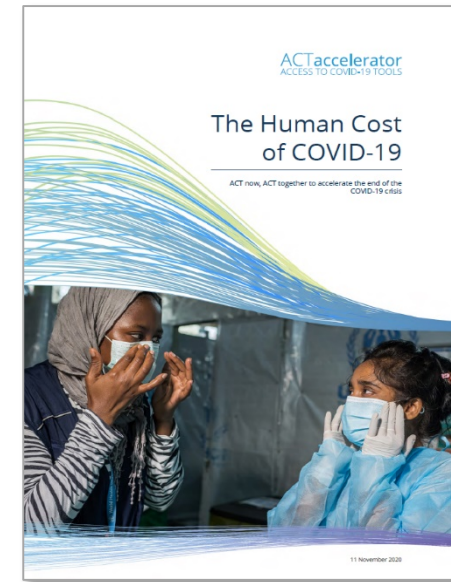
## ACT-A Urgent Priorities & Financing needs

*Provides sharpened near-term priorities & urgent financing needs as at 10 Nov 2020. [Link](#)*



## ACT-A Commitment Tracker

*Provides transparency on funding commitments, updated every 2 weeks. [Link](#)*



## The Human Cost of COVID-19

*Highlights relevance of ACT-A agenda through real stories [Link](#)*

# Context for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Council

## Where we stand:

- **Financing landscape for ACT-A has been mapped**
- Multiple events so far have raised \$US 0.5 – 1 Bn each (primarily ODA) – **great commitment but not sufficient to close ACT-A financing gaps**
- **Positive preliminary readouts on vaccines** – but no quick end to the crisis without real investment
- **Key implementation challenges ahead** that needs political support



## Path forward:

- **Fundamentally need to go beyond ODA** (e.g. Stimulus, concessional loans, private sector)
- **Real political leadership essential**, esp from G7/G20
- Council can **engage finance Ministries & influencers**
- **ACT-A Pillars need to continue to build confidence** esp. to ensure full financing across diagnostics, therapeutics & health systems

# Looking forward: a 3rd Council Meeting

GOAL: turning political commitment into financing additionality



"...if medical solutions can be made available faster and more widely relative to our baseline, it could lead to a cumulative increase in global income of almost \$9 trillion by end-2025"

*IMF World Economic Outlook, October 2020*

Addressing ACT-A's urgent needs = only **1 day** of that income and would save countless lives

**‘Investing now** *to ensure that effective diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines are developed and distributed to people around the world* **is not only the right thing to do; it is also the smart thing to do....** *so that global trade and growth can bounce back.’*

**Jim O’Neill**

*Read in full [here](#)*



**Back-up slide**

# Final ACT-A Facilitation Council composition<sup>1</sup>

## Governments

### Regional groups

- League of Arab States: Bahrain
- Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN): Vietnam
- African Union (AU): South Africa
- Caribbean Community (CARICOM): Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS): Uzbekistan
- Forum of Small States: Singapore
- New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD): Rwanda
- Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC): Mexico<sup>3</sup>
- Pacific Island Forum (PIF): Tuvalu
- South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation: Nepal

## Co-Chairs: Norway and South Africa

### Founding Donors

- Canada
- France
- Germany
- Italy
- Japan
- Norway
- Saudi Arabia
- Spain
- United Kingdom

### Market Shapers<sup>2</sup>

- Brazil
- China
- India
- Indonesia
- Republic of Korea
- Russia

## Co-hosts

- World Health Organization & European Commission

## Non-government partners

- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Wellcome Trust
- World Economic Forum

## Envoys & Invitees

- WHO Envoys x2
- CSO x 2
- ICC

<sup>1</sup> USA & World Bank observers to the Council meeting

<sup>2</sup> South Africa is also a market shaper & founding member

<sup>3</sup> founding member