



# GLOBAL TASK FORCE ON **CHOLERA CONTROL**

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## **Oral Cholera Vaccine WG meeting 2021**

The large scale deployment of OCV over the recent years proved effective in controlling both endemic cholera and outbreaks in all settings, it is a key element of the Global Roadmap which plays an important role in outbreak prevention and control, and in long term control of cholera.

To date, over 98 million doses of OCV have been delivered in 23 countries, including 25 million doses in 2021 which represent the highest number of doses delivered in a year. This year, containment of outbreaks has been possible with the implementation of reactive campaigns in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Nepal, Niger and Nigeria. The Global Task Force on Cholera Control (GTFCC) has received vaccine requests for preventive campaigns from Ethiopia and Yemen and 12 million of doses were delivered for the implementation of planned campaign in several countries.

Furthermore, OCV plays a significant role in the commitment of countries to identify their hotspots and develop their national cholera plan (NCP): thus, Cameroon, DRC, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sudan, are in the process of identifying their hotspots for cholera in order to- among others -implement their vaccination plans for the coming 5 years.

Many outbreaks occurred this year particularly in West Africa, and despite the great efforts made from producers to speed up their production plan, responding to vaccine demand represented a major challenge and led to important discussions around strategies to meet the demand for response and planned campaigns. In total, the demand exceeded the overall OCV availability (30.8 million), and the emergency stockpile was depleted for 47 days in 2021.

This year we are finally able to meet in person and we have opted for a hybrid meeting (Engage virtual and in-person attendees). In the morning, sessions will be organized with those present to provide opportunities for discussions between partners, countries and the GTFCC secretariat. In the afternoon, sessions online will be organized to review, debate, and propose next steps for the use of OCV. This year, the OCV working group will discuss on the outbreaks and emergency response, address critical issues in the implementation of the campaigns, review the supply availability and demand forecast, provide a calendar of planned campaigns, and provide an update on the partners activities conducted or planned.

An overview summary of 3 sessions for this topic is as follows:

**Session 1 (Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December):** Updates on outbreaks and emergency campaigns conducted in 2021- discussion on challenges of implementation (stockpile, time of implementation, M&E...). The **goal** is to address and recommend solutions to specific issues that will permit better time implementation of campaigns for emergency response.

**Session 2 (Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December):** Demand forecast and supply update/planned campaigns. The **goal** is to provide an update of the implemented preventive campaigns, on the current production of vaccines and discuss the needs of production for the coming years.

**Session 3 (Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December):** Research update. **The goal** is to provide an update on partners activities, discuss on the priority for research agenda for next year, and define the workplan of OCV WG in 2022.