



## NATIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE (NHC)

### COVID-19 TASK FORCE

Statement (3/2021)

20 November 2021



### Statement on COVID-19 Vaccination Progress

1. We have great concern for the imminent COVID-19 Fourth Wave as we have lost several lives in COVID-19 Third Wave. CTF is seeking all possible means for everyone in Myanmar regardless of their ethnicity, locations and regions to have access to COVID-19 vaccines in order to prevent further loss of lives.
2. CTF is negotiating with COVAX facility, UN agencies and international organizations to secure COVID-19 vaccines. Although there is some progress, significant challenges against safe and harmless vaccination program still remain.
3. The CTF has initiated a Pilot Program of COVID-19 vaccination in Mon, Karen, Karenni and Shan border areas. The program covers (1,000) population, mainly frontline health workers and other priority groups of people. First doses of Sinopharm were already completed, second doses will be administered soon, and vaccine certificates will be provided. Ethnic Health Organizations have been providing vaccinations for children residing in their territories for decades and thus this project was operated and completed as planned.
4. In addition, this border based COVID-19 Vaccination Program is the first joint program where vaccinations are provided in four states with close collaboration among each other EHOs and with the national level coordination under the CTF. The CTF provided necessary trainings and discussions on micro planning, standards of safety, registration and issuing the vaccination certificates which can allow those vaccinated to travel freely. The implementation of this project is managed by the EHOs from concerned areas.
5. With experiences and lessons learnt from this pilot project, the CTF will expand the COVID-19 vaccination program to a larger scale in order to cover all the target population in ethnic areas. In this regard, the CTF urge the United Nations Agencies, Donors, International

Organizations, Charity Organizations, national and international well wishers to kindly provide support and to contribute in-kind or in-cash supplies for the successful completion of the vaccination against COVID-19.

**For Further Information, please contact**

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