Facilitating Cross-border Vaccine Delivery

WTO
Seminar on Delivering Medical Technologies and Vaccines
May 2021
Express delivery chain

TIME DEFINITE DELIVERY (overnight to 72 h)

> 220 countries and territories
An order of magnitude...

- Estimates
  - 60K tons of air freight
  - 15,000 flights
  - 15 M deliveries in cool boxes
  - 200,000 pallets
Vaccination depends on open trade lanes

Majority of vaccines will originate from manufacturing sites in a few countries, for world-wide distribution.
‘Getting Ready’ checklist (issued Oct 2020)

- Avoid border bottlenecks
- Coordination by all levels of Gov’t (central, regional/federal, local)
- Identify regulatory hurdles early on
  - Vaccine authorisation (new strains, new vaccines...)

www.global-express.org
No issues with the first shipments

- Highly publicised events
- Top-level political support
- Government as importer of record
No issues with the first shipments
But that was just the start. Support must continue throughout the campaign.
Vaccination depends on open trade lanes

Taking ancillary products into account, need for airlift capacity might be twice as much.
Air cargo is essential

WHO / ICAO Joint Statement 25.3.2021

• ‘Application of stringent public health rules to air crew, including quarantine, has resulted in hindered connectivity, operational complexity and significant cost.’
Air cargo is essential

WHO / ICAO Joint Statement 25.3.2021

• ‘Designate (...) aircrew as key workers.’
• ‘Safe cross border movement of (...) aircrew must be facilitated.’
Thank you

Q&A