



COVID-19 Situation Update - 121

19 February 2021

This situation update is on the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) reported cases and deaths, Globally, Regionally, for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries, French Territories, and the United Kingdom Overseas Territories.

PAHO Director calls for equitable access as new vaccines cleared for delivery



Washington, D.C., February 17, 2021 (PAHO) With COVAX delivery of new vaccines expected soon in the Americas, Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Director Carissa F. Etienne called for overcoming barriers to ensure “fair and equitable access.”

“As we start delivering COVAX vaccines, and as we prepare for the steep scale-up ahead, we must be guided by our vision of fair and equitable access at every step of the way. We must overcome the structural barriers that prevent the most vulnerable from being immunized and we can only do that by working together.”

(PAHO) Director Carissa F. Etienne

On Monday, WHO issued Emergency Use Listing (EUL) for two versions of the Oxford AstraZeneca vaccines, one from AstraZeneca-SKBio of Korea and the other from the Serum Institute of India.

The approval cleared the way for distribution to the

37 countries in the Americas that are participating in COVAX. The countries will receive confirmation from COVAX regarding the timeline and number of doses within days or weeks, Dr. Etienne said.

“Over the coming days, countries will face important tasks as they prepare for the arrival of vaccine doses,” she said. “Any small delays could set vaccinations back weeks, so countries must make vaccine readiness their number one priority.”

She said there are two vital areas of preparation – the legal and regulatory frameworks required to deliver the vaccines and hiring and training staff needed to conduct mass immunization. “We urge all countries to act quickly, be ready, and save lives,” she said.

For months PAHO has worked to help countries prepare, negotiating directly with manufacturers to streamline agreements and reduce the burden on national governments. [Read more...](#)

Region of the Americas

49,126,365
cases

1,165,711
deaths in

56
countries, areas, or territories

Global

110,165,960
cases

2,441,002
deaths in

236
countries, areas, or territories

COVID-19 highlights:

COUNTRY	COVID-19 HIGHLIGHT
Antigua and Barbuda	As of Wednesday, 17th February 2021, 23 new cases were confirmed. The COVID-19 vaccination rollout commenced on 17th February, with health care workers the first to be vaccinated.
Barbados	30 new positive cases were reported as of Thursday, 18th February 2021. One more death was reported, a 93 year old woman, bringing the total deaths to date to 30. The vaccination program in Barbados has started, to date over 14,000 persons have been vaccinated.
Saint Lucia	For the period February 1-13, 2021, 44 new cases of COVID-19 were reported. One COVID-19 related death was reported on 17 February, bringing the total number of deaths to 25
Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	20 new cases were reported for the period January 19 - 17 February, 2021.

Classification of transmission scenarios

WHO recommends using the following categories to describe transmission patterns at national and sub-national levels (wherever possible) to guide decisions for preparedness, readiness and response activities.

CATEGORY NAME	DEFINITION
No cases	Countries/territories/areas with no cases
Sporadic cases	Countries/territories/areas with one or more cases, imported or locally detected
Cluster of cases	Countries/territories/areas experiencing cases, clustered in time, geographic location and/or by common exposures
Community transmission	Countries/territories/areas experiencing larger outbreaks of local transmission defined through an assessment of factors including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large numbers of cases not linkable to transmission chains • Large numbers of cases from sentinel lab surveillance • Multiple unrelated clusters in several areas of the country/territory/area

Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries, French Territories and United Kingdom Overseas Territories

COUNTRY	CONFIRMED CASES	ACTIVE CASES	DEATHS	# OF TESTS	TRANSMISSION TYPE	STATUS OF SCHOOLS	TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS	MASKS MANDATORY	STATE OF EMERGENCY (CURFEW)	COVID-19 WEB ADDRESS AND HOTLINE
ANGUILLA	18	0	0	8,975	Sporadic cases	Open	Yes	No	No	https://beatcovid19.ai/ (264) 476-7627
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA	548	324	10	11,303	Sporadic cases	Open	Yes	-	Yes	https://ab.gov.ag/detail_page.php?page=42 (268) 462-6843
BARBADOS	2,677	789	30	119,338	Community transmission	Online	Yes	Yes	Yes	https://gisbarbados.gov.bb/covid-19/ (246) 536-4500
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	153	-	1	21,846	Clusters of cases	Both face to face & online	Yes	Yes	No	https://bvi.gov.vg/covid-19 (284) 852-7650
DOMINICA	134	-	0	10,917	Sporadic cases	Open	Yes	Yes	No	http://dominica.gov.dm/corona (767) 448-2151
FRENCH GUIANA	16,456	-	80	-	Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	
GRENADA	148	-	1	21,454	Sporadic cases	Varied stages of reopening	Lifted	Yes	Yes	https://covid19.gov.gd/ (473) 458-4787 / (473) 538-4787
GUADELOUPE	9,455	-	160	--	Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	https://www.guadeloupe.ars.sante.fr/
MARTINIQUE	6,593	-	45	122,755	Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	https://www.martinique.ars.sante.fr/
MONTSERRAT	20	-	1	996	No cases	Face to face sessions	Yes	No	No	https://www.gov.ms/covid-19/
SAINT BARTHELEMY	475	-	0	-	Sporadic cases	-	-	-	-	
ST KITTS & NEVIS	41	-	0	8,657	Sporadic cases	Open	Yes	Yes	Yes	https://www.covid19.gov.kn/
SAINT LUCIA	2,620	233	25	22,768	Community transmission	Online	Yes	Specific settings	Yes	https://www.covid19response.lc/
SAINT MARTIN	1,456	-	12	-	Community transmission	-	-	-	-	https://www.stmartinweek.fr/
ST VINCENT & THE GRENADINES	1,494	730	6	33,826	Community transmission	Online	No	Specific settings	No	http://health.gov.vc/health/index.php/c (784) 534-4325
TOTAL	42,288	2,076	371	382,835						

Table 1: COVID-19 status in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries, French Territories and United Kingdom Overseas Territories. 'Sporadic cases' indicates countries/territories/areas with one or more cases, imported or locally detected. 'Clusters of cases' indicates countries/territories/areas experiencing cases clustered in time, geographic location and/or by common exposures.

Data in red new. Disclaimer: Data is updated by 5:00PM each day and there could be delays in reporting. Any discrepancies from national data figures will be edited on the next issue.

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PAHO's Response



Diplomatic Community receives 4th update on COVID-19 pandemic and vaccine rollout in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries

Bridgetown, Barbados, February 17, 2021 (PAHO) – The PAHO/WHO Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries hosted a fourth meeting with Heads of Diplomatic Missions resident in Barbados, Heads of International and Regional Organizations, and the Honorary Consular Corps accredited to Barbados, to provide an update on covid-19 situation and progress.

Forty-one (41) participants in attendance were updated on the current situation of the covid-19 outbreak, SARS-CoV-2 virus variant and implication in the pandemic, the rollout of covid-19 vaccines, and the support and technical cooperation provided to member states by PAHO/WHO Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries during 2020.

Mr Didier Trebucq, UN Resident Coordinator, Barbados and OEC, in his remarks thanked PAHO for organizing the meeting and highlighted the importance of the session given that the region, since the end of the year, is facing a new wave of COVID-19 cases, resulting in more stringent public measures,” he said.

Mr Trebucq expressed concern about the socio-economic impact of countries in the region given the new wave of cases. He, however, noted that the vaccine rollout as a strong response to the crisis, informing that PAHO and the UN system is mobilized to make the

vaccination campaign a success.

Dr Yitades Gebre, PAHO/WHO Representative for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries after welcoming the participants, provided the global, regional and Caribbean specific overview of the pandemic focusing on the Caribbean islands that experienced a surge in covid-19 cases since the end of 2020.

Changes in the virus genomic sequence or mutations was explained by Dr Gebre and SARS-COV-2 variants of concern in the region of the Americas outlined.

The PAHO incident management team provided a comprehensive presentation including the progress on the execution of the COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (SPRP), under 9 thematic pillars. PAHO also presented the mobilization and execution of US\$ 9 million in response to the outbreak in the Eastern Caribbean countries.

The status of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout globally and in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries was highlighted. Seventy-three (73) days after the application of the first dose of the vaccine, 183.63 million doses of 8 different types of vaccines in three platforms are in use by countries. Barbados few other Eastern Caribbean countries and territories were able to commence vaccination of frontline workers.

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Participants were also informed on PAHO's support to countries during the vaccine rollout.

The dignitaries appreciated the update provided by the team of PAHO multi-country office. The discussion on monitoring the progress and status of covid-19 vaccine deployment and rollout attracted great interest and was discussed during the questions and answers session. The COVID-19

implications on non-communicable diseases and mental health were also addressed.

In closing Dr Gebre thanked dignitaries for their participation in the meeting, reassuring of PAHO's continued support and guidance. He further concluded that the start of vaccine delivery is hopeful step in the fight against the pandemic.

[Link to previous Situation Updates](#)



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