Voluntary licensing and sharing of know-how and knowledge is also being championed by WHO together with 43 countries the C-TAP initiative.

And you are aware that WHO issued a call for Expressions of Interest to establish technology transfer hubs for OOVID-19 mRNA vaccines - we received more than 50 proposals, about half of which were from companies or institutions interested in receiving technology, and half were interested in providing the technology, or acting as the training hub, or both.

I must say that the active engagement of WTO in pushing for greater access to COVID-19 products is very welcome by WHO, as is the organization of this technical symposium on Vaccine Supply Chain and Regulatory Transparency.

To close - we must ensure that the information shared during this symposium can result in actionable and achievable contributions from industry and governments alike. WHO stands ready to support the collaboration with our partners.

Thank you.

Mariângela Smão